

**Department of  
Postgraduate  
Studies and  
Research in  
English**

**CERTIFICATE  
COURSE**

**AN OVERVIEW  
TO CRIME  
FICTION**



**ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)**  
**DEPARTMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN ENGLISH**  
**CERTIFICATE COURSE - AN OVERVIEW TO CRIME FICTION**

**ONLINE MODE**

**30 HOURS**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Introduce the students to Crime Fiction as a genre
- To be able to critically analyse the various sub-genres of Crime Fiction
- To evaluate and construct interpretations by employing critical tools

**UNIT – I: INTRODUCTION**

**(5 Hours)**

Classical Crime Fiction – Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle  
The Golden Age - The Locked Room and Cozy Who-dun-it  
The Hard – Boiled Noir  
Police Procedurals and Legal Thrillers  
Psychological and Historical Crime Novels  
Anti Detective Novels

**UNIT – II: THE PIONEERS**

**(10 Hours)**

Edgar Allan Poe: “The Murders in the Rue Morgue”  
Arthur Conan Doyle: “A Scandal in Belgravia”, “The Speckled Band”

**UNIT – III: NOVELS**

**(15 Hours)**

Agatha Christie: *The Body in the Library*  
Dashiell Hammett: *The Maltese Falcon*  
John Grisham: *The Last Juror*

**REFERENCES**

Allan, Janice et al. *The Routledge Companion to Crime Fiction*, Routledge, 2020.  
Bradford, Richard. *Crime Fiction: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2015.  
Priestman, Martin (Ed) *The Cambridge Companion to Crime Fiction*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.  
Rzepha, Charles J and Lee Horsley. *A Companion to Crime Fiction*, Wiley Blackwell, 2010.  
Scaggs, John, *Crime Fiction: The New Critical Idiom Series*, Routledge, 2005.

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