



## Lahore University of Management Sciences

### From Farid to Farid: Introduction to Punjabi Poetry Fall 2016-17

Instructor	Sara Kazmi
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Course URL (if any)	

Course Basics			
Credit Hours	4		
Lecture(s)	28	Duration	14 weeks
Recitation/Lab (per week)		Duration	
Tutorial (per week)		Duration	

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an introduction to Punjabi poetry, from the classical to the contemporary period. Beginning with Baba Farid, the course will also look at selections from Guru Nanak Dev, Bhai Gurdas, Bulleh Shah, Waris Shah, Shah Hussain and Khwaja Ghulam Farid among others. The literary forms historically employed in the Punjabi tradition will be analysed in terms of their aesthetics, as well as their political and social context, some of which include the var, kafi, dohra and ba'et. The course argues that the literature surveyed forms part of a *tradition*, with recurrent patterns in literary form, linguistic use and thematic concern. We will thus seek to identify affinities between the thought and socio-political practice which accompanies these texts which span both time and the Sikh-Muslim-Hindu religious divide. We will be working with primary texts, and only rudimentary translations will be provided, with the aim that the course can serve as an opening point for Punjabi language learning as well.

Punjab's is an oral tradition, and the poetry we will be reading has reached us over the centuries in song, dance, theatre, through shrines rather than formal educational or state institutions serving as the spaces which have kept the tradition alive. Thus, our textual, academic approach must be supplemented by the performative and cultural, although the former shall take precedence for the purpose of this course. Towards this purpose, guest lectures by experts from all walks of life – poets, singers, actors, activists have been incorporated in addition to field trips to explore the cultural life of Punjabi poetry in Lahore as well as other cities of Punjab.

#### COURSE PREREQUISITE(S)

None

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES



## Lahore University of Management Sciences

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To acquaint students with the canonical poets of Punjabi</li> <li>• To familiarize them with key themes that animate the Punjabi poetic tradition</li> <li>• To inculcate a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of Punjabi literary texts, drawing on historical, cultural, political <i>and</i> religious context</li> <li>• To interrogate existing interpretive frameworks such as “Sufism,” “mysticism,” “Sikhism” and “Punjabiyaat”</li> <li>• To discover the linkages of text, performance and culture in Punjab</li> </ul>
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### LEARNING OUTCOMES

	<p>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read a classical Punjabi poem and interpret the broad thematic</li> <li>• Draw links between and compare the style, concerns and perspectives of the different poets studied</li> <li>• Identify key theoretical perspectives which scholars have adopted for studying Punjabi poetry</li> </ul>
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### Grading Breakup and Policy

	<p><b>Response assignments (in class): 15%</b> This will be a short response essay to be completed in class on an assigned poem. There will be a total of 5 such responses (3% each) throughout the semester</p> <p><b>Class Participation &amp; attendance: 10%</b> Of which attendance is 10% and class participation is 5%</p> <p><b>Projects: 25%</b> Over the course of the semester, students will work in groups on projects which involve a creative engagement with the course content. This can be in the form of a short skit/ theatrical production, musical performance, photography/ visual arts project, literary/ poetic work. Projects will be developed in consultation with the instructor.</p> <p><b>Essay 1: 25%</b> <b>Essay 2: 25%</b> Students will be required to write two short essays, 1500- 2000 words each. They will be due in the mid and final week respectively. Topics will need to be approved by the instructor.</p>
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### Examination Detail

Midterm Exam	NA
Final Exam	NA

### COURSE OVERVIEW



## Lahore University of Management Sciences

Week	Topics	Recommended Readings	Objectives/ Application
1)	<b>Aao rali mil kafi parhiay (Session 1) Introduction – course outline and overview (Session 2)</b>	<b>None</b>	
2)	<b>Frameworks – Pushing Sufism</b>	Schimmel, Anne-Marie, <i>Mystical dimensions of Islam</i> Sadarangani, <i>Bhakti poetry in Medieval India</i> (Session 3)  Syed, Hosain, Najam, “Recurrent Patterns in Punjabi Poetry,” <i>Recurrent Patterns in Punjabi Poetry</i> -, “Panj Pir” Shackle, Christopher, “From Farid to Farid,” in A. Malhotra & F. Mir (ed.s) <i>Punjab Reconsidered</i> (session 4)	
3)	<b>Khako jaid na koay – Fariduddin Ganjshakar</b>	Syed, Hosain, Najam, “Austere Rhythms of Farid,” in <i>Recurrent Patterns</i> Eaton, Richard, “The political and religious authority of the shrine of Baba Farid,” (Session 5) Selections (Session 6)	
4)	<b>Akheen dittha qissa keeta - Damoodar</b>	Guest Lecture: Maqsood Saqib, “Damoodar di Heer,” independent researcher and editor, <i>Pancham</i> (Session 7) Syed, Hosein, Najm, “The faqir as hero – Ranjha” in <i>Recurrent Patterns</i> Selections (Session 8)	
5)	<b>Hai bhi sach, hosi bhi sach – Guru Nanak Dev</b>	Albinia, Alice, “The Guru’s Army,” <i>Empires of the Indus</i> Mann, Singh, Gurinder, “Guru Nanak’s life and legacy,” in <i>Punjab Reconsidered</i> (Session 9) Selections (Session 10)	
6)	<b>Dar tere di kutti haan – Shah Hussain</b>	Guest Lecture: “Queering Shah Hussain” by Naveed Alam, author of <i>Verses of a lowly faqir, Madhu Lal Hussain</i> (Session 11) Selections (Session 12)	
7)	<b>Mazhabaan de darwazay uchay – Sultan Bahu</b>	Selections (Session 13 & 14)	



## Lahore University of Management Sciences

8)	<b>Kee jana mein koi ve arreya – Bulleh Shah</b>	Syed, Hosein, Najm, “Bulleh Shah” in <i>Recurrent Patterns</i> (Session 15) Selections (Session 16)	
9)	<b>Ishq guru, te jag sab chaelrra ee – Waris Shah</b>	Guest lecture: Huma Safdar, “Waris Shah as theatre,” Director, theatre production “Jogi hoeeke aa” (Session 17) Kaur, Dayal, Ishwar, <i>Society, religion and patriarchy: exploring medieval Punjab through Hir Waris</i> (Session 18)	
10)	<b>Sucha neer Chanhaan da – Mian Muhammad Buksh</b>	Syed, Hosein, Najm, “The author of Saif ul Mulook and his concept of criticism,” in <i>Recurrent Patterns</i> (Session 19) Selections from Saif ul Mulook (Session 20)	
11)	<b>Ishq bajhon beaa sabh koor – Sachal Sarmast</b>	Guest lecture and music session: Ayesha Nadir Ali and Shafqat Hussain, “The concept of <i>haal</i> in Sachal’s poetry,” Sangat Lahore (Session 21) Selections (Session 22)	
12)	<b>Aa chuno rall yaar – Khawaja Ghulam Fareed</b>	Guest Lecture: Nukhba Langah, “Ghulam Fareed and the Siraiki tradition,” faculty, Forman Christian College (Session 23) Selections (Session 24)	
13)	<b>Field trips – exploring the cultural life of Punjabi poetry</b>	Punjabi adabi sangat, Shrine of Baba Farid (Pakpattan) (Session 25 & 26, held out of class hours)	
14)	<b>Presentations</b>	Sessions 27 & 28	