

Globalization and Literature

By Suman Gupta



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This book presents a state-of-the-art overview of the relationship between globalization studies and literature and literary studies, and the bearing that they have on each other. It engages with the manner in which globalization is thematized in literary works; examines the relationship between globalization theory and literary theory; and discusses the impact of globalization processes on the production and reception of literary texts.

Suman Gupta argues that while literature has registered globalization processes in relevant ways, there has been a missed articulation between globalization studies and literary studies. Some of the ways in which this slippage is now being addressed, and may be taken forward, are indicated. In the course of fleshing out this argument such themes as the following are discussed: the manner in which anti-globalization protests and world cities have figured in literary works, digitization has remoulded concepts of texts and text editing, theories of postmodernism and postcolonialism that are familiar in literary studies have diverged from and converged with globalization studies, English and Comparative/World Literature as institutional disciplinary spaces are being reconfigured, and industries to do with the circulation of literature are becoming globalized.

This book is intended for university level students and teachers, researchers, and other informed readers with an interest in the above issues, and serves both as a survey of the field and an intervention within it.



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Review

"This is a fascinating, ambitious and very timely book that tackles one of the hottest topics in literary studies today."

Susan Bassnett, University of Warwick

"Gupta sheds a clear light on this little explored field through his comprehensive coverage of the scholarship, his multipronged approach to the topic, and his sure-footed negotiation of theoretical issues."

Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, New York University

"In his book, Professor Gupta examines the relationship between globalization and literature via a historical approach, notably the self/inner differentiation in English studies. It is thought-provoking, full of insight and most cogent, and well worth recommending to everyone seriously interested in this area."

Yue Daiyun, Peking University

From the Back Cover

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Suman Gupta argues that, while literature has registered globalization processes in relevant ways, there has been a missed articulation between globalization studies and literary studies. Examples are given of some of the ways in which this slippage is now being addressed and may be taken forward, taking up such themes as the manner in which anti-globalization protests and world cities have figured in literary works; the ways in which theories of postmodernism and postcolonialism, familiar in literary studies, have diverged from and converged with globalization studies; and how industries to do with the circulation of literature are becoming globalized.

This book is intended for university-level students and teachers, researchers, and other informed readers with an interest in the above issues, and serves as both a survey of the field and an intervention within it.

About the Author

Suman Gupta is Professor of Literature and Cultural History at the Open University.

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