

## STAFF PROFILE



Dr. Vernum Cecilia is an Associate Professor in the PG & Research Department of English, Auxilium College (Autonomous), Tamil Nadu, Vellore – 632006. She joined the Department in 1989 after taking her MPhil. Degree from St. Joseph's College, Trichy and is the Head of the Department since 2014. Her Undergraduate & Post Grad Studies were completed at Holy Cross College, Trichy and she was a Rank holder in the Bharathidasan University, in 1987. During her teaching career Dr. Cecilia secured her Doctoral Degree from the University of Madras in 2009. She has specialised in Metafictional Studies.

1. Name: Dr. VERNUM CECILIA P.A.A.
2. Designation: Associate Professor of English & Head
3. Qualification: M.A. MPhil., Ph.D.
4. Mobile number: 9994308944
5. E-mail id: vcecilia@auxiliumcollege.edu.in
6. Teaching Experience: 36 years
7. Area of specialization: Meta fictional Studies
8. Research Experience and Guidance: several PG Projects, 33 MPhil. Dissertations
9. Projects Completed / Co- Guide: 1 Completed. Guide: Ongoing: 6 Ph.D. theses
10. No. of Papers Published: 2 earlier and 9 recent.
11. No. of sessions chaired in the National/International/Seminars/Workshops/Conferences: 7
12. No. of Seminars/Workshops/Conferences organized: 7
13. No. of Keynote address delivered: 1
14. No of International & National Webinars & Lecture Series attended: 20
15. No of FDP's Attended : 1
16. No. of Books/ Published/Edited & Co-edited: 2/11
17. **Subjects Taught:** Shakespeare, Fiction, Poetry, New literatures, Literature of the Commonwealth, Contemporary Writing, Criticism, Aesthetics, Literary Theory, Critical Approaches, Chaucer and the Elizabethan age, Romantic and Neo Classical Literature, Linguistics, Phonetics, Indian writing, American literature.

18. **Other Positions held:**

1. Chairperson of the PG English Board of Studies, Thiruvalluvar University, 2012-15 & Member of Tamil Nadu Council for Higher Education Meet (2013).
2. Chairperson of PG English Board of Valuation, Thiruvalluvar University, since 2019.
3. Member, Inspection Commission for the approval and sanctioning of New and Additional Courses in UG, & PG Depts. of English in the Constituent and Affiliated Colleges of Thiruvalluvar University.
4. Member, Subject Expert, Board of studies, Loyola College, Chennai (2019); Muthurangam Govt. Arts College, Vellore, (Univ. Nominee); Voorhees College & DKM (Autonomous) College Vellore.
5. External Examiner: Projects and Dissertations, Muthurangam Govt. Arts College, DKM College (Autonomous) Vellore, Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, Jain college, Vaniyambadi and Thiruvalluvar University.
6. Examiner for CAS in DKM (Autonomous) college, Vellore
7. Doctoral Committee Member: VIT University & Voorhees College, Vellore.
8. Adjudicator of Doctoral Thesis: Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, May2021.

19. **Positions held on campus:**

1. Member of the College Council, Anti-Ragging Committee, Curriculum Design, Cultural Activities.
2. Chief Editor of the College Magazine since 1989.
3. Editor of In-house Literary Journal "SIBYLLINE" since 1997.
4. IQAC Coordinator: 2012-16, during which the college secured an A+ grade with a CGPA of 3.55 out of 4, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle.
5. Head of the PG & Research Dept. since 2014
6. In-Charge of the MPhil. Programme
7. Member of the Research cell, in-charge of the Journalism club, college choir & choreography, theatre and fine arts and literary competitions for several years.

20. **Current Responsibilities:** Head of the PG & Research Dept. of English, Member of the Academic Council and other academic bodies, UGC Certificate course, Research & Curriculum Designing.

21. **Other Interests:** Script writing, Theatre, Poetry, Art & Music & Choreography

22. **Membership in Professional Bodies:**

1. Chairperson of the PG English Board of Studies, Thiruvalluvar University, 2012-15 & Member of Tamil Nadu Council for Higher Education Meet (2013).
2. Chairperson of PG English Board of Valuation, Thiruvalluvar University, since 2019.
3. Member, Inspection Commission for the approval and sanctioning of New and Additional Courses in UG, & PG Depts. of English in the Constituent and Affiliated Colleges of Thiruvalluvar University.
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5. External Examiner: Projects and Dissertations, Muthurangam Govt. Arts College, DKM College (Autonomous) Vellore, Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, Jain college, Vaniyambadi and Thiruvalluvar University.
6. Examiner for CAS in DKM (Autonomous) college, Vellore
7. Doctoral Committee Member: VIT University & Voorhees College, Vellore.
8. Adjudicator of Doctoral Thesis: Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, May2021.
9. Member of ELTAI
10. Personal Membership at BCL from '89 till '96 & availed Institutional Membership of BCL & USIS till 2009.
11. Member of the Association of University Teachers.
12. Member of Doctoral Committees in other institutions.
13. Other bodies: Subject Expert in other Boards of Studies in Vellore & Chennai; Viva voce Examiner for M Phil.; Ongoing Adjudication of Ph.D. thesis.

14. **Honours & awards received:** Royalty received from Indiana Publications, New Delhi in 2013-14 & Bloomsbury Publications in 2020, for the Department.

#### **Publication Details:**

#### **Books Published:**

1. Indiana **Publications**, New Delhi, has published her Study-Aid Book of “17 Selected Masterpiece Short Stories” ISBN 81-8408-355-6, for which she is a recipient of Royalty.
2. The English Text book of the Department “Darts - A Voyage of learning English” 2017, ISBN 978-93-86643-76-6; Revised in 2020 has also garnered Royalty in 2020 under her auspices and contribution, by Bloomsbury Publications.

**Dr. Cecilia co-edited the following books:**

1. "Synchronising the Cognitive Perception and Emotional Response to Indian Literature in English", BRBS Consortium, ISBN 978-81-923897-9-0;
2. "The Interface between Language and Literature: Identity, Influence and Impact", L'Ordine Nuovo Publications and has to her credit 8 co-edited books of compiled articles, ISBN 938678268-1-8.

**Her other collaborated efforts as editor include (Eds.) Dr. Manimangai Mani, University, Putra, Malaysia, Dr. Venum Cecilia and Dr. K. Kaviarasu as in:**

3. "Twinning Women and Nature: The treatment of Women through the lens of Ecofeminism in Dipika Rai's *Someone Else's garden*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'Ordine Nuovo Publication, 2019, Pp.1-9.
4. "The Sense of Loss in Bernice Chauly's *Once we were there*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'Ordine Nuovo Publication, 2019.pp.37-49
5. "The Other and Obeah in Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea* and Marlon James's *The Book of Night Women*", Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'Ordine Nuovo Publications, 2019. Pp 50-62.
6. "The Concept of Culture in creating one's Identity as Woman in Select Works". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publication, 2019.Pp 167-182.
7. "Critical Multiculturalism as Post-Colonial Theory". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publication, 2019.Pp 189-194.
8. "Power and Ideology in Nihal De Silva's *The Road from Elephant Past*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publications, 2019.Pp 207-214.
9. "The Cosmopolitan Migrant in Farzana Doktor's *Stealing Nasreen*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publication, 2019.Pp 215-224.
10. "The Establishment of Belongingness in Agilan's *Paalmara Katriniley* and K.S. Maniam's *The Return*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publications, 2019.Pp 225-232.
11. "Recreating Home through Culinary in Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's *Before we visit the Goddess*". Social Consciousness in Literature. New Delhi: L'ordine Nuovo Publications, 2019 Pp.150-157.

**Recent Research Papers:**

1. Sharp, Subtle and Clear: The nuances of Language as manifested in the works of Mo Yan, ROOTS International Journal of Multidisciplinary Researches, Vol. 5, ISSN No. 2349-8684, February 2019.

2. Aesthetic Perceptions of Language, Style and Culture in Goldblatt's translation of Mo Yan's Works, Bodhi International Journal, Vol.3, Special Issue 3, E-ISSN 2456-5571, March 2019.
3. "Traces of Traumatic Experiences in the works of Mo Yan" JETIR, International Journal Vol. 6, Issue 4, ISSN No. 2349-5162, April 2019.
4. "Trauma to Transformation: A Deconstructed Psychological study on Mo Yan's *Red Sorghum* and *Frog*". *Gedrag & Organisatie*, ISSN/eISSN: 0921-5077/1875-7235, 2020.
5. "Deep-Rootedness and Empathy in Mo Yan's Depiction of Chinese Culture". The International Journal of Analytical and Experimental Modal Analysis Vol. XII, Issue II, ISSN No. 0886-9367, February 2020.
6. "A Foucauldian Power-Study in *10 Minutes 38 seconds in this Strange World* by Elif Shafak. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Mumbai, ISSN: 0972-0766, Vol.XCV, No. 33, 2022.
7. Elif Shafak's "*Honour* and the three forms of Intersectionality". Rabindra Bharati Journal of Philosophy. UGC Care Group I Journal, ISSN No. 0973-0087, Vol: XXIV, No:14, 2023 with IF: 6.986
8. Co- Presented a paper as second author: on the "Status of Women in Tamil Classical Tamilakam and Greece: A Comparative study of Ilangovalikal's Silapathikaram and Sophocles' Women of Trachis in the Two-day Hybrid Conference organised by the Research Dept. of English, Sri S. ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur in association with Sahitya Academi, New Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
9. Several PG **Projects** and 31 MPhil. **Dissertations** have been completed under her guidance since 2008. One PhD candidate has submitted and she has 6 **PhD** ongoing **Theses** now under supervision. Dr. Cecilia has delivered 8 Lectures in the neighbouring colleges, chaired paper presentations at Conferences; delivered the Key Note address at the National Conference at DKM College (Autonomous) on "The Female Imaginarium" on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and will be delivering a talk on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 at a Refresher course conducted by MKU, Madurai.

**National Conferences /International Conferences/ Workshops/FDPs organised:**

1. International Conference on the Interface between Language and Literature: Identity, Influence and Impact, August 2018.  
International Conference on English Language and Literary Studies, February 2017.
2. A **Workshop** on Art – "Revisiting the Sublime & the Beautiful", and Theatre.
3. Workshop on Communication through Story Telling and Fairy tale Therapy by Dr.Eric Miller, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.
4. Workshop on Communication skills in English, February 2019.

5. A Bodhi International Conference in Malaysia, co-organised in 2019, entitled “Insights and Innovations in Humanities, Arts and Science”, 22 -26 August, at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; an Abstract published in the Proceedings “Removing ‘The Fat Relentless Ego’ through Iris Murdoch’s Philosophy of Unselfing”: A Tribute (being Murdoch’s centenary year as a writer).
6. An International Faculty Development Programme was convened by her on “Contemporary ICT to Facilitate Constructivist Learning of Digital Natives”, May 22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> 2020.

#### **Webinars & Lectures Attended:**

1. Gender and race Burden in African –American Literature, Dr.Eugene Ngezem, Clayton State University, Georgia. 1.06.2020.
2. Lecture series: Crime Fiction, Gender Discourse in Folk & Classical Literatures. 29.5.2020.
3. IN-Depth Learning Workshop. June 2020.
4. The left Reflects on the Global Pandemic: Gayathri Spivak. 07.05.2020.
5. An International Webinar on “Post-Colonial Negotiations: History, Literature and Culture”, 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
6. “A Confluence of researching Minds 2020. Plagiarism Tools and Mendeley Reference Management Systems”. BGCW, Puducherry, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020.
7. “Contemporary Critical Theories”. Mar Gregorios College, Chennai. 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020.
8. “Cultural Appropriation and Cultural Conflict”. Providence College Conoor.13<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
9. “A Discussion on Structure: Poetics to Monomyth”. Sourashtra College, Madurai. 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
10. “Spiritualism in Literature”. Shikshan Prasarak Mandal’s Nabira Mahavidyalaya, Katol. 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
11. Web Lecture Series: BB Tudu Memorial College. 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
12. National Webinar on “Contemporary Reflections on Critical Theories and Aesthetics”. Higher Education and Research society. 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> June2020.
13. National Level E-Conference on “Contemporary Trends in Literature”. Munger University, Bihar. July 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
14. National Webinar on “Memory Studies: Research Possibilities”, Dr. Avishek parui. Bidan Chandra College, Rishra, Hooghly, W.B., India. 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020.
15. National Webinar on International Women’s Day: “Are women better Leaders”, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, J&K, India. 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

16. SB College Centenary Special Talk: “On the Material Existence of Ideology”, Prof. Slavoj Zizek. 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.
17. Indian Network for Memory Studies, IIT Madras. Lecture series. Prof. Astrid Erll on ‘The Pleasures of Memory Studies’, Frankfurt Univ., Dr. Hanna Teichler on ‘Transoceanic Entanglements in Memory Studies’, Goethe Univ. Frankfurt, Mr. Rajendra Prasad Narla, ‘The Genesis of an Archive’, Chief Archivist, Tata Central Archives, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
18. MHRD SPARC Supported Distinguished Lecture Series By Prof. Ann Cvetkovich, Professor, Feminist Institute of Social Transformation, Carleton University on “Grappling with Care”, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
19. A Two-Day National Hybrid Conference, Sri Ramasamy Naidu memorial college, Sattur in association with Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, Comparing Indian Classics with Classics in World Literature. Paper co- presented: The Status of Women in Classical Tamilakam and Greece: A Comparative Study of Ilangovadikal’s Silapathikaram and Sophocles’ Women of Trachis, 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023.
20. Special Lecture by Noam Chomsky, “The Corporate War on Science: From Tobacco to Silicon Valley, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023.

**Lecture Delivered:**

1. “Exploring Theodore Adorno’s Theory of Aesthetics through the language of Art, Music & Poetry” on 02.08.2023 at the UGC-HRDC Refresher Course in English organised by the dept. of English language Studies, Scholl of English & Foreign Languages, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-21, for University and College Professors from 21<sup>st</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023.

**FDP attended:**

1. A Five-day National Level Virtual Faculty Development Programme on “Recent Trends in Literary Research” from 25.09.2023 to 30.09. 2023 organised by the PG & Research Dept. of English, Holy Cross College (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli.