

## TEACHING PHIL-LIT: METHODS FOR BRINGING PHILIPPINE LITERATURE UP TO

*by:*

**Christine Joy A. Villanueva**  
*Teacher I, Luakan National High School*

In teaching Literature in the Philippines, the classics such as *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo* stand as timeless pillars that echoed the rich cultural heritage and narrative tapestry of the nation. Yet, the challenge in modern education lies in ensuring that these literary gems remain not just residues of the past but dynamic, living entities that resonate with the hearts and minds of today's students.

Exploring methods to bring Philippine literature up to date is imperative for educators especially Filipino Teachers, in ensuring that the profound stories of the past seamlessly resonate with the present and future.

The first method involves integrating multimedia elements into the teaching of literature. By incorporating audio-visual aids, such as short films, podcasts, or digital storytelling, teachers can provide students with a multi-sensory experience that aligns with their media-rich environment. This method not only caters to diverse learning styles but also bridges the generational gap, making classical Filipino texts more accessible and relatable.

Another effective method is to encourage the creation of modern adaptations or reinterpretations of classic Filipino literary works. For example, GMA 7's *Maria Clara* and *Ibarra*, a modern take on the classic *Noli Me Tangere*. By challenging students to reimagine and update these stories in the context of contemporary society, teachers can instill a sense of ownership and relevance among the youth. This method not only fosters

creativity but also sparks critical thinking as students analyze the timeless themes that persist across different eras.

The incorporation of social media into literature studies is a third method that aligns with the digital age. Platforms like Instagram, X, or TikTok can serve as interactive spaces where students share their interpretations, engage in discussions, and even create collaborative projects. By leveraging social media, educators can tap into the social nature of learning, creating a virtual community that thrives on the immediacy and interconnectedness of modern communication.

Additionally, fostering connections between literature and current societal issues represents a powerful approach. By encouraging discussions that link classic texts to contemporary challenges, students can recognize the enduring relevance of Filipino literature. This method instills a sense of social consciousness, empowering students to see literature not as a relic of the past but as a mirror reflecting the complexities of the world they inhabit.

Finally, by connecting literature with contemporary methods, teachers can infuse fresh perspectives and relevance into the study of Philippine literature, ensuring its enduring allure for generations to come.

*References:*