

MASTER OF ARTS (HISTORY) – FIRST SEMESTER

First Semester			
S. No.	Name of Subject	Credits	Total Marks
1	Ancient Societies	6	100
2	Evolution of Indian Culture	6	100
3	History of North East India (From the Earliest time to 1947) (RGU)	5	100
4	The Practice of History	5	100
Total		22	

Subject Name: ANCIENT SOCIETIES

UNIT 1: Age of the Earth - the Evolution of Man in Africa, Europe and Asia - Origin and growth of Primitive cultures.

UNIT 2: The Hunter-gatherer, pastoral – Food-gathering to food production stage - agro-pastoralearly farming societies.

UNIT 3: Bronze Age Civilization; Economy; Society; Religion; State structure- Egypt (old kingdom); Mesopotamia (up to the Acadian Empire); China (Shang); Eastern Mediterranean (Minoan and Mycenaean).

UNIT 4: Vedic societies – clan based society – Mahajanapadas – chiefdoms.

UNIT 5: Slave societies in Ancient Greece and Rome; Agrarian economy; Athenian Democracy; Roman Empire; and the Roman and Greek cultures.

Suggested Readings:

1. Jones Arnold H.M., The Decline of the Ancient World.
2. Austin M.M & Vidal-Naguet. P, Economic and Social History of Ancient Greece
3. Bengston, H., Introduction to Ancient History.
4. Braidwood, R.J., The Near East and the Foundation of Civilization.
5. Chang,K.C., The Archaeology of Ancient China.
6. Childe,V.Gordon, Man Makes Himself.
7. Childe,V.Gordon, Social Evolution.
8. Childe,V.Gordon., What Happened in History.
9. Clark, Grahame & Piggot Stuart, Pre-Historic Societies.
10. Hawkes, J., The First Great Civilization: Life in Mesopotamia, the Indus and Egypt.

Subject Name: EVOLUTION OF INDIAN CULTURE
Prehistoric Society:

- a. Paleolithic to Mesolithic
- b. Neolithic
- c. Harappa
- Vedic Society :
 - a. Early Vedic Society
 - b. Post Vedic Society
- c. Literature
- Indian in 6th Century BC
 - a. Society
 - b. Religious Movements: Jainism, Buddhism, Ajivikism
 - c. Other sects
- Mauryan India
 - a. Ashokan Edicts and his Dhamma
 - b. Society
 - c. Literature
 - d. Art & architecture
- Kushana-Satavahana period
 - a. Society
 - b. Religion
 - c. Literature
 - d. Art & Architecture
- Gupta-Vakataka Period
 - a. Society
 - b. Religion:
 - c. Literature & Sciences
 - d. Art & Architecture
- Period of Harshavardhan :
 - a. Society
 - b. Religion
 - c. Literature
 - d. Art & Architecture
- Early Medieval Period
 - a. Society
 - b. Religion
 - c. Literature & Sciences: Emergence of Regional Languages
 - d. Art & Architecture

Suggested Readings:

1. Basham, A.L., The Wonder that was India, Mumbai, Rupa 1971.
2. Chakrabarti D.K., India an Archaeological History Paleolithic Beginnings to Early Historic Foundations, Delhi, Oxford University Press 1999,
3. Chakrabarti D.K., The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities, Delhi, OUP, 1997.
4. Champakalakshmi R., Trade, Ideology and Urbanization : South India 200 BCAD 1300, Delhi, OUP, 1996.
5. Chattopadhyaya B.D., A survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India, Kolkata, Manisha, 1984.
6. Gupta P.L., Coins, 4th Edn., Delhi 1996.
7. Jha D.N. (ed), Feudal Social Formation in Early India, Delhi Chanakya, 1988.
8. Kosambi D.D. An Introduction to the Study of Indian History, Mumbai, Popular Prakashan, 1975.
9. Lal B.B. and Gupta S.P. (ed.), Frontiers of the Indus Civilization, Delhi, Books and Books, 1984.
10. Ludden David, Peasant Society in South India, Princeton, 1985.
11. Maity S.K., Economic Life in Northern India in the Gupta Period 300 AD – 550 AD, Delhi, Motilal Banarsidass, 1970
12. Majumdar R.C. et. al (eds), History and Culture of the Indian People, Mumbai, 1974.
13. Mukherjee B.N., Rise and Fall of the Kushana Empire, Kolkata, Firma KLM, 1988.
14. Possohl G.L. (ed.) Ancient Cities of the Indus, Delhi, Vikas, 1979.
15. Ray Himanshu Prabha, The Winds of Change, Delhi, OUP, 1994.

16. Raychaudhuri H.C., Political History of Ancient India, Rev. Edn, with commentary by B.N. Mukherjee, Delhi, 1996.
17. Sahu B.P. (ed.), Land System and Rural Society in Early India, Delhi, Manohar, 1997.
18. Sastri K.A.N. (ed.), A Comprehensive History of India, Vol. II, with an update bibliography, Delhi, PPH, 1987.
19. Sharma R.S., Indian Feudalism ed. 2, Delhi, Machmilan, 1981.
20. Stein, Burton : Peasant, State and Society in Medieval South India, Delhi, OUP, 1980
21. Veluthat Kesavan, The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India, Delhi, Orient Longman 1993.
22. Winternitz M., History of Indian Literature, 3 vols (Indian reprint), Delhi, Motilal Banarsidass, 1985, 1988, 1996.

Subject Name: HISTORY OF NORTH EAST INDIA (FROM THE EARLIEST TIME TO 1947)

Unit-I: Rise of Territorial States:

- i) Foundation and consolidation of the Ahom kingdom
- ii) The kingdom of Kamrup-Kamata
- iii) Emergence of the Koch power

Unit-II: Ahom-Mughal Conflicts-

- i) Pratap Singha
- ii) Jayadhwaj Singha
- iii) Chakradhwaj Singha
- iv) Gadahar Singha

Unit-III: Zenith of the Ahom rule:

- i) Rudra Singha
- ii) Siva Singha
- iii) Rajeswar Singha

Unit-IV: Decline and downfall of the Ahoms:

- i) Moamaria uprising-factors and consequences
- ii) Burmese invasions and its repercussion

Unit-V: Political Institutions, Society and Economy:

- i) Outline of the administrative systems of the Ahom and Koch kingdoms
- ii) Society in medieval Assam
- iii) Economy medieval Assam

Unit VI: Advent of the British

- i) Administrative Reorganization under David Scott.
- ii) Annexation of Lower Assam
- iii) Anti-British uprisings (1826-1830)
- iv) Annexation of Upper Assam
- v) Repercussions of the Revolt of 1857.

Unit VII: Territorial Expansion: Cachar, Manipur, Jayantia Hills, Khasi Hills, Garo Hills, Naga Hills, Lushai Hills.

Unit-VIII: Changes in the Economic structure:

- i) Agrarian System
- ii) Growth of modern industries- Tea, Coal and Oil
- iii) Development of Transport and Communication

Unit IX:

- i) Political Awakening: Education, Press, Public Associations
- ii) National Movement in Assam-Swadeshi Movement, Non-Cooperation movement, Civil Disobedience movement, Quit India movement, Role of women

Suggested Books:

1. A.C.Bhuyan and : Political History of Assam Vol. II & III
2. P.Goswami : Assam in the Nineteenth Century; Industrialization and Colonial Penetration
3. K.N.Dutta : Landmarks of the Freedom Struggle in Assam
4. E. A.Gait : A History of Assam
5. S. L. Barua : A Comprehensive History of Assam
6. H. K. Barpujari : The Comprehensive History of Assam Vol. II
7. P. Gogoi : The Tai and Tai Kingdoms (Relevant Chapters)
8. R. G. Basak : History of North East India
9. N. N. Basu : Social History of Kamrupa Vols I-III

Subject Name: THE PRACTICE OF HISTORY

This foundation course aims to introduce students to important issues related to historical method by giving them a broad overview of significant, including recent, historiographical trends. The aim is to acquaint students with important historiographical interventions and issues related to the historian's craft. The themes selected for discussion may include the ones given below, and may vary from year to year; more themes may be added to the list. Select readings have been given here; detailed readings will be provided in the course of instruction.

Pre-modern historical traditions

1. Modern historiography: documents and the archives
2. Cultural history
3. Marxism
4. Annales
5. Gender
6. Archaeology
7. Art and history
8. The environment
9. Oral history
10. Intellectual history
11. History of emotions
12. Connected histories: peoples regions, commodities

Select Readings

1. Alier, Joan Martinez, Padua, Jose Augusto and Rangarajan, Mahesh eds. *Environmental History as if Nature Existed* (Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2010)
2. Aymard, Maurice and Mukhia, Harbans eds., *French Studies in History, vol. I* (Orient Longmans, New Delhi, 1989).
3. Bloch, Marc, *The Historian's Craft*, with an Introduction by Peter Burke (Manchester University Press, 2004).
4. Burke, Peter, *Varieties of Cultural History*, Cornell University Press, 1997. Carr, E.H., *What is History* (also available in Hindi) (Penguin [1961], 2008).

5. Davis, Natalie Zemon *The Return of Martin Guerre* (Harvard University Press, 1983)
6. Haskell, Francis, *History and its images: art and the interpretation of the past* (New Haven and London, Yale University Press, [1993] 3rd reprint edn. 1995).
7. Portelli, Alessandro, *The Death off Luigo Trastulli and Other Stories: Form and Meaning in Oral History* (CUNY Press, 1990, paperback).
8. Colin Renfrew and Paul Bahn, *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice* (5th edition, Thames and Hudson, 2008).
9. Roberts Alice, *The Incredible Human Journey: The story of how we colonized our planet* (London, Bloomsbury, 2009)
10. Sarkar, Sumit, *Writing Social History* (USA, Oxford University Press, 1995).
11. Stern, Fritz ed., *Varieties of History: from Voltaire to the Present* (2nd edn., New York, Vintage, 1973)
12. Thompson, E.P. *Customs in Common: Studies in Traditional Popular Culture* (The Free Press, New York, 1991); 'Folklore, Anthropology and History', *Indian Historical Review*, iii, no. 2, Jan 1977
13. Walach Scott, Joan, *Gender and the Politics of History* (Columbia, New York, 1988). Parts I-II