

Course Work Syllabus for PhD Students
Department of Ancient Indian and World History

Total Credit 12

Compulsory course on research ethics – 2 Credits

Course 1: Historical Methods and Historiography (5 credit course)

Unit 1 (15 classes)

1. What is History?
2. Perceptions of History in the premodern world
3. Enlightenment and the Positivist turn

Unit 2 (15 classes)

1. Marxist perception of History
2. The British Marxist historians
3. The Annales school of History

Unit 3 (25 classes)

1. The Postmodernist challenge
2. Nationalism and History
3. Feminism and History
4. Psychoanalysis and History
5. Environmental History

Unit 4 (20 classes)

Historiography of early/medieval/modern India

List of Readings

Agarwal, Arun and Sivaramakrishnan, Kalyanakrishnan, eds., *Social Nature, Resources, Representations and Rule in India*, Delhi, 2000.

Alier, Joan Martinez, Padua, Jose Augusto and Rangarajan, Mahesh, eds., *Environmental History as if Nature Existed*, Delhi, 2010.

Arnold, David and Guha, Ramachandra, eds., *Nature, Culture and Imperialism: Essays on the Environmental History of South Asia*, New Delhi, 1995.

Aymard, Maurice and Mukhia, Harbans, eds., *French Studies in History*, Vol. 1, New Delhi, 1989.

Baviskar, Amita. "Tribal Politics and Discourses of Environmentalism". *Contribution to Indian Sociology*, 31. (July, 1997): 195-223.

- Bentley, Michael, ed., *Companion to Historiography*, New York, 1997.
- Bentley, Michael, ed., *Companion to Historiography*, New York, 1997.
- Bhattacharya, Neeladri, *The Great Agrarian Conquest: The Colonial Reshaping of a Rural World*, Permanent Black, September 2019.
- Bloch, Marc, *The Historian's Craft*, Manchester, 2004.
- Braudel, Fernand, *On History*, Chicago, 1982.
- Braudel, Fernand, *On History*, Chicago, 1982.
- Burke, Peter, *Varieties of Cultural History*, Cornell, 1997.
- Carr, E.H., *What is History?*, London, 2008.
- Cederlof, Gunnel and Sivaramakrishnan, K. eds. *Ecological Nationalisms: Nature, Livelihoods, and Identities in South Asia*. New Delhi: Permanent Black, 2005.
- Cederlof, Gunnel, *Landscape and the Law: Environmental Politics, Regional Histories, and Contests over Nature*, Delhi, 2008.
- Chakrabarti, Ranjan. ed. *Situating Environmental History*. New Delhi: Manohar, 2007.
- Chaudhuri, B.B. and Bandyopadhyay, Arun, eds., *Tribes, Forest and Social Formations in Indian History*, New Delhi, 2004.
- Collingwood, R.G., *The Idea of History*, Oxford, 2008.
- Elton, G.R., *The Practice of History*, Collins, 1969.
- Erikson, Erik H., *Young Man Luther: A Study in Psychoanalysis and History*, New York, 1993.
- Gadgil, Madhav and Guha, Ramachandra, *The Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India*, New Delhi, 1992.
- Gardiner, Patrick, *The Nature of Historical Explanation*, Oxford, 1979.
- Geyl, Pieter, *Debates With Historians*, Collins, 1962.
- Goldstein, Leon J., *Historical Knowing*, Texas, 1976.
- Guha, Ramachandra, *Environmentalism: A Global History*, New Delhi, 2000.
- Haskell, Francis, *History and Its Images: Art and the Interpretation of the Past*, New Haven, 1995.
- Himmelfarb, Gertrude, *The New History and the Old*, Cambridge Massachusetts, 1987.
- Hobsbawm, Eric, *On History*, London, 2011.
- Hobsbawm, Eric, *On History*, London, 2011.

Jenkins, Keith, ed., *The Post Modern History Reader*, London, 1997.

Kaye, Harvey J., *The British Marxist Historians*, New York, 1995.

Marwick, Arthur, *The New Nature of History*, London, 2001.

Perry, Matt, *Marxism and History*, New York, 2002,

Rangarajan, Mahesh, ed., *Environmental Issues in India: A Reader*, Delhi, 2006.

Rangarajan, Mahesh, ed., *India's Environmental History, Vols. I-II*, Hyderabad, 2013.

Reiner, G.J., *History: Its Purpose and Method*, Crown Nest, 1961.

Rigby, S.H., *Marxism and History: A Critical Introduction*, Manchester, 1988.

Roberts, Geoffrey, ed., *The History and Narrative Reader*, London, 2001.

Sarkar, Sumit, *Writing Social History*, Oxford, 1995.

Shafer, R.J., *A Guide to Historical Method*, Belmont, 1983.

Sreedharan, E., *A Textbook of Historiography*, Hyderabad, 2000.

Stern, Fritz, ed., *Varieties of History: From Voltaire to the Present*, New York, 1973.

Tripathi, Amallesh, *Itihas o Aitihasik*, Kolkata, 1960.

Turk, J., *Introduction to Environmental Studies*, Chicago, 1985.

Walsh, W.H., *Philosophy of History: An Introduction*, New York, 1968.

Course 2: Debates in Indian History (5 credits)

Unit 1: Debates on Early Indian History (24 classes)

1. The Aryan Question
2. Ancient India and Historical Consciousness
3. The nature of the state in ancient India
4. The Feudalism Debate

Unit 2: Debates on Medieval Indian History (24 classes)

1. Islam in Medieval India
2. The Mughal State
3. Trade in the Indian Ocean
4. The Eighteenth Century Debate

Unit 3: Debates on Modern Indian History (12 classes)

1. The nature of Indian national movement

2. Forest, Land, Environment and the State in colonial India

Unit 4: Debates on Contemporary Indian History (12 classes)

1. The Partition of India and its aftermath
2. Characterising the post-colonial Indian state

List of Readings

- Alavi, Seema, ed., *The Eighteenth Century in India*, Oxford University Press, 2008.
- Bhargava, Meena, ed., *The Decline of the Mughal Empire*, Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Dhar, Parul Pandya, *Indian Art History: Changing Perspectives*, DK Printworld, 2011.
- Kulke, Herman, *History of Precolonial India: Issues and Debates*, edited by B.P. Sahu, Oxford University Press, 2019.
- Lorenzen. David N., ed., *Religious Movements in South Asia 600-1800*, Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Mukhia, Harbans, ed., *The Feudalism Debate*, Manohar, 2003.
- Nath, Pratyay and Sengupta, Kaustubh Mani, eds., *Itihaser Bitarka, Bitarker Itihas*, Ananda, 2022.
- Roy, Kaushik, ed., *Partition of India: Why 1947?*, Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Sahu, B.P., ed., *Iron and Social Change in Early India*, Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Trautmann, Thomas R., ed., *The Aryan Debate*, Oxford University Press, 2008.

Exam structure

Full Marks – 50

Term paper writing and Presentation – 10

End semester exam – 40:

1 question of 5 marks (4 options): 1X5

2 questions of 10 marks (5 options): 2X10

1 question of 15 marks (4 options): 1X15