CBCS Course Structure of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture

Semester I: Core Papers

Course I.1 – History: Concepts, Relationships with other Social Sciences and Historical Geography [KR + SG]

Course I.2 – Study on Pre-historic and Proto-historic Cultures [TKD + SR]

Course I.3 – Reading Sources: Epigraphy, Numismatics and Texts [SP + SBM + RC + MRC]

Course I.4 – Early Indian Art, Architecture and Paintings: An Overview [SR + SRB = PB]

Course I.5 – Introduction to Early Indian Society and Economy [RC + KR]

Semester II: Core Papers

Course II.1 – A Study of Empires of Early India [SG + PB]

Course II.2 – Deccan and Far South: Understanding Politico-Social and Cultural History [SBM + RC]

Course II.3 – Early History of Bengal and Assam [SG + SP]

Course II.4 – Heritage and Society [MRC]

Course II.5 – State and Religion: Early and Early Medieval India [MRC + SP]

Semester III: Core Papers

Course III.1 – Contours of Early Indian Thought [RC + PB]

Choose any three (3) Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) –

DSE: A
Course 1 – Buddhist, Jaina and Brahmanical Iconography [SR + TKD + SRB]

Course 2 – Art and Architecture of Central and South East Asia [SR + SRB]

DSE: C
Course 5 – Vedic Religion [PB + MRC]

Course 6 – Non-Brahmanical Sects – Buddhist, Jain and Ajivikas [MRC + SBM]
DSE: G
Course 13 – South Asian Epigraphy [SG + SP]
Course 14 – Writing and Scripts in South Asia [SP + SBM]

DSE: H
Course 15 – Gender Relations [RC + PB]
Course 16 – History of Subordinate and Marginal Groups in Early India [RC + PB]

DSE: I
Course 17 – Text and Context: Reading Literary and Epigraphic Texts [SBM]
Course 18 – History of Medicine [SBM]
Generic (GE) Course: Varna-Jati Tradition of Early India [RC + KR]

Semester IV: Core Papers
Course IV.1 – Environment and Early Indian History [KR]

Choose any three (3) Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) –

DSE: B
Course 3 – Sculptural Art of Early India upto 13th Century CE [SR + SRB]
Course 4 – Architecture of Early India upto 13th Century CE [SRB + TKD]

DSE: D
Course 7 – Puranas and the Making of the Brahmanic Religious Culture [MRC]
Course 8 – Brahmanical Cults [MRC]

DSE: E
Course 9 – Money and Money Matters [SBM]
Course 10 – Temple Economy and Early India [KR]

DSE: F
Course 11 – Agrarian Society [SP]
Course 12 – Urbanisation, Urbanity and Urban Culture [RC + SG]

DSE: J
Course 19 – Ethno-Archaeological Study of Early India [TKD]
Course 18 – Primitive Religion [RC]
Generic (GE) Course: Space, Region and Culture [SG + SP + PB]
## Course Structure Under CBCS for Master of Arts (M.A.) in Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta

All 4 Credit Courses (50 Marks Each)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
<th>SEMESTER 3</th>
<th>SEMESTER 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Course (CC)</td>
<td>CC I.1 – I.5 Marks 50×5 = 250 = 20 Credits</td>
<td>CC II.1 – II.5 Marks 50×5 = 250 = 20 Credits</td>
<td>CC III.1 Marks 50×1 = 50 = 4 Credits</td>
<td>CC IV.1 Marks 50×1 = 50 = 4 Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) – Choose any 3 Each From Semester III and IV (50 Marks Each) Out of five options</td>
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<td>—</td>
<td>A,C,G,H,I 50×3=150 =12 Credits</td>
<td>B,D,E,F,J 50×3=150 =12 Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generic (GE)</td>
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<td>GE I (50 Marks) = 4 Credits</td>
<td>GE I (50 Marks) = 4 Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Marks in Each Semester</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit in Each Semester</td>
<td>20</td>
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Total Aggregate Marks = 1000
Total Aggregate Credit = 80
Details of Generic (GE) Course Structure

Semester III – Varṇa-Jāti Tradition of Early India

1) Historiography
2) Social Stratification in Early Indian Society
3) Genesis if the Varṇa-Jāti System
4) Crystallisation
5) An Ethno-Sociological View of Caste
6) Varṇa and State Formation
7) Varṇa in Everyday Life

Select Reading Lists


Chanana, Devraj, *Slavery in Ancient India as Depicted in Pali and Sanskrit Texts*, Delhi, 1960.


Jha, D. N. (ed.), *Society and Ideology in India, Esays in Honour of Professor R. S. Sharma*, Delhi, 1996.


———, *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*, Delhi, 1983.

———, *Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Early India*, Delhi, 1983.

———, *Social Changes in Early Medieval India (circa A. D. 500-1200)*, Delhi, 1969.


———, *Cultural Pasts, Essays in Early Indian History*, New Delhi, 2000.

———, *From Lineage to State: Social Formations in the Mid-First Millennium B.C. in the Ganga Valley*, Delhi, 1984.

———, *Recent Perspectives of Early Indian History*, 2nd edition, Delhi, 1998.

Semester IV – Space, Region and Culture

1) Concepts of Space and Formation of Region
2) Defining Culture
3) Relationship Between Region and Culture
4) Orality and Literacy
5) Cultural Landscape: Sites and Sights
6) Ways of Seeing: Facets of Visual Culture
7) The Coast and the Sea
8) People and Spaces: Amusement, Fairs, Festivals

Select Reading Lists


Chandra Satish and Ray Hiamanshu Prabha (eds.), *The Sea, Identity and History from the Bay of Bengal to South China Sea*, New Delhi, 2003 (Relevant articles).


Cohn, Bernard, S., ‘Regions Subjective and Objective: Their Relation to the Study of Modern Indian History and Society’ in *An Anthropologist among the Historians and other Essays*, OUP, Delhi, 1990.


Subbarao, B. 1958. The Personality of India. M.S. University, Baroda.

Thapar, Romila, Cultural Pasts, New Delhi, 2000.
