

Post-Graduate Syllabus
of the
Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture
University of Calcutta

[as per the Post Graduate Regulations, 2026, under National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020)/State Education Policy 2023 (SEP 2023)] vide CSR/59/2026

The 2-year PG. Course will be divided into Four Semesters of 20 credits each

Nomenclature of Compulsory Course: **(CC)**

Nomenclature of Optional Course: Discipline Centric Elective Course: **(DCEC)**

All 4 Credit =50 Marks Courses

COURSE	SEMESTER			
	1	2	3	4
Compulsory Course (CC)	CC-1.1--1.5 [4x5 Credits=20 Credits=250 Marks]	CC-2.1 and CC 2.2 [4x2 Credits=8 Credits=100 Marks]	CC-3.1--3.5 [4x5 Credits=20 Credits=250 Marks]	CC-4 [20 Credits=250 Marks]
Discipline Centric Elective Course (DCEC)---- Choose any 3 from [DCEC A –S]	_____	[4x3=12 Credits=150 Marks]	_____	_____
Total Credit in Each Semester	20	20	20	20
Total Marks in Each Semester	250	250	250	250

Total Aggregate Credit=80
Total Aggregate Marks=1000

SEMESTER I: Five Compulsory Courses (CC)
[4x5=20 Credits=250 Marks]

Semester I	Course-Name
CC-1.1	Early Indian History in Theory and as Practice
CC-1.2	Early Indian Texts, Inscriptions, Coins
CC-1.3	Religion, Art and Architecture in Early India
CC-1.4	Sites, Artefacts, Heritage and Tourism
CC-1.5	Early Indian Society and Economy

CC-1.1

Early Indian History in Theory and as Practice

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

- 1, Key Concepts: Meaning of History, Defining its Scope
2. Notions of Space and Time, Society and the Individual, Causation in History, Facts and Evidence, the Issue of Objectivity
3. Relationship with other streams of Social Science
4. Historical Geography: Definition, scope and methodology, Major studies in early Indian context, Study of place names
5. Changing methods of writing History: History as Narrative, Narratives and the making of History
6. Different Approaches to the Study of Early Indian History- The Colonial Impact and the unfurling of 'Ancient India' as a site of contestation- Orientalism and Early Indian History- The Nationalist Approach- Historical Materialism and the Marxist Perspective- The strands of Post-Colonial Critique- Uncovering the Small Voice of History- History from Below- People's History
7. Manipulation and Misappropriation of History

Select Reading List

Baker Alan R. H., *Geography and History: Bridging the Divide*, Cambridge, 2003

Bloch, Mark, *The Historian's Craft*, Manchester, 2004

Braudel, Fernand, *On History*, Chicago, 1982

Burke, Peter, *Varieties of Cultural History*, Cornell, 1997

Butlin, R. A., *Historical Geography through the Gates of Space and Time*, London, 1993

- Carr, E.H., *What is history?* London, 1961
- Collingwood, R.G., *The Idea of History*, Oxford, 2008.
- Chakravarti, Uma: *Beyond the Kings and Brahmanas of 'Ancient' India*, Delhi, 2007
- Chattopadhyaya B. D. *A Survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India*, Kolkata, 1991.
- Ghosal, UN. *The Beginnings of Indian Historiography and Other Essays*, Calcutta, 1944
- Hobsbawm Eric, *On History*, London, 2011
- Jha, D.N., *Against the Grain: Notes on Identity, Intolerance and History*, Delhi, 2018
- (ed.), *Contesting Symbols and Stereotypes: Essays on Indian History and Culture*, Delhi, 2013
- Pathak, V. S., *Ancient Historians of India: A Study in Historical Biography*, Bombay, 1966.
- Philips, C. H. (ed.), *Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon*, Vol. I. of Historical Writings on the Peoples of Asia, London, reprint, 1967.
- Southgate Beverley, *History: What and Why?*, London, 1996.
- Sharma, R.S., *India's Ancient Past*, New Delhi, 2005
- Sharma T. R., *Historiography*, New Delhi, 2005
- Singh, G. P., *Ancient Indian Historiography: Sources and Interpretations*, Delhi, 2003.
- Singh, G. P., *The Evolution of Historiographical Traditions in Ancient and Medieval India*, New Delhi, 2011.
- Stanford Michael, *A Companion to the Study of History*, Oxford, 1994
- Thapar Romila, *Cultural Pasts*, New Delhi, 2000 (Relevant Essays)
- Thapar, Romila, *The Past Before Us: The Historical traditions of Early North India*, New Delhi, 2013
- Thapar, Romila, *Time as a Metaphor of History: Early India*, Delhi, 1996
- Tosh John, *The Pursuit of History*, Second Edition, London and New York, 1998
- Tripathi Amales, *Itihas O Aitihasik* (History and Historians), (Bengali), Second Edition, Calcutta, 1988
- Tyagi, Jaya, *South Asia before the Common Era: Revisiting Sources and Historians' Approaches*, New Delhi, 2025.

CC-1.2

Early Indian Texts, Inscriptions, Coins

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Reading Texts, Understanding Genres

1. In Search of Early Indian Historical Traditions
2. Understanding Genres and their Historical Contexts
3. The historiographical importance and evaluation of Indian epics as sources of history: Mahābhārata, Rāmāyaṇa and some regional epics
4. The Dharma-Sāstras as sources of the history of juridical matters and socio-religious issues
5. Speech-acts, Addresses and Dialogues- the Making of the Buddhist Textual Collections
6. Biographies as 'History'
7. The Narrative Surface and the Narrative Intent: Reading Creative Literature as Source of History

Epigraphic Texts and Contexts

1. Introduction to Indian Epigraphy
2. Scripts: Early Brahmi and Kharoshthi
3. Inscriptions of the Mauryan rulers and contemporary records
4. Eulogies, Land grants and Memorial records
5. Literary texts

Early Indian Numismatics

1. Techniques of minting
2. Coinage: Origin, Continuity and Change
3. Foreign coins and coins issued by rulers of foreign origin
4. Scientific numismatics and application of sciences
5. Coins and Currency systems: Early historic, Guptas and Early Medieval

Select Reading List

- Altekar. A. S. *The Coinage of the Gupta Empire*, Banaras, 1957
- Basham. A. L., *The Wonder that was India*, London, 1969.
- Basham, A.L., (ed.), *A Cultural History of India*, Delhi, 1975.
- Basu Majumdar, Susmita., *Kalighat Hoard: The first Gupta coin hoard from India*, Kolkata, 2017
- Mahasthan Record Revisited: Querying the Empire from a regional Perspective*, Manohar, Delhi, 2023.
- Basu Majumdar, Susmita and S.K. Bose (ed.) *Money and Money Matters in Pre-Modern South Asia*, New Delhi, 2019
- Bopearachchi, Osmund, *From Bactria to Taprobane: Central Asian and Indian Numismatics*, New Delhi, 2015
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. Chattopadhyaya, B.D., *Coins and Currency Systems in South India, c. A.D 225- 1300*, New Delhi 1977
- Cribb, Joe., *The Indian Coinage Tradition: Origin Continuity and Change*, Anjaneri Nashik, 2005
- Dani, A. H., *Indian Palaeography*, New Delhi, 1986
- Das, Sudhir Ranjan, 'The Mahabharata and Indian Archaeology' in D.C.Sircar (ed.) *The Bharata War and Puranic Genealogies*, Calcutta, Calcutta University, 1969.
- Dasgupta, K. K. *Tribal History of Ancient India: A Numismatic Approach*, Calcutta, 1974
- Deyell, J.S., *Living without Silver Monetary History of early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1990.
- Ghosal, U.N., *The Beginnings of Indian Historiography and Other Essays*, Calcutta, 1944
- Gupta P. L. and Hardaker, T. R., *Indian Silver Punch marked Coins of the Indian Subcontinent: Magadha-Maurya Series*, 1985
- Gupta, P.L., *Coins*, New Delhi, 1969
- Handa, D., *Tribal Coins of Ancient India*, New Delhi, 2007
- Hopkins, E.W., *The Great Epic of India, Its Character and Origin*, New York, 2001.
- The Social and Military Position of the Ruling Caste in Ancient India*, reprint, Varanasi, 1972.
- Jha, A & Rajgor, D. *Studies in the Coinage of the Western Kshatrapas*, Nasik, 1994
- Keith, A.B., *History of Sanskrit Literature*, Oxford, 1920, reprint, Delhi, 1973
- Kosambi, D.D., *An Introduction to the study of Indian History*, Bombay, 1957.
- The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in its Historical Outline*, London, 1965.
- Majumdar, R.C. (General ed.), *The History and Culture of the Indian People* Vols. 1-V, Mumbai, 1953-66

- Mukherjee, B.N., *Kushana Coins of the Land of Five Rivers*, Calcutta, 1977
- Media of Exchange in Early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1992
- 'Media of Exchange: Reflections on the Monetary History', in, *The History of Bangladesh*, ed. Abdul Momin Choudhury and Ranabir Chakravarti, Dhaka, The Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, 2018
- Norman, KR, *Pali Literature*, Wiesbaden, 1983
- Olivelle, Patrick *Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Mānava Dharmaśāstra*, New York, Oxford, 2004
- Olivelle, Patrick (ed.), *Dharma: Studies in its Semantic, Cultural and Religious History*, Delhi, 2009.
- Pandey, Raj Bali, *Indian Palaeography*, Varanasi, 1957
- Pargiter, F. E., *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, reprint, Delhi, 1972.
- Pargiter, F. E.(ed.)*The Purana Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age*, London, 1913.
- Pathak, V. S., *Ancient Historians of India: A Study in Historical Biography*, Bombay, 1966.
- Pieper, W., *Ancient Indian Coins Revisited*, 2013
- Philips, C. H. (ed.), *Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon*, Vol. I. of *Historical Writings on the Peoples of Asia*, London, reprint, 1967.
- Pollock Sheldon, *Language of the Gods in the World of Men: Sanskrit, Culture and Power in Premodern India*, London, 2006
- Pollock Sheldon (ed.), *Literary Cultures in History: Reconstructions from South Asia*, London, 2003
- Ramesh, K.V., *Indian Inscriptions-A Study in Comparison and Contrast*, Bangalore, 2006
- Ray, N. R. (ed.), *Sources of the History of India*, Vol. III, Calcutta, 1980.
- Raychaudhuri, H.C., *Studies in Indian Antiquities*, Calcutta, Calcutta University, 1958.
- Political History of Ancient India*, New Delhi, 1996.
- Sharma, R.S., *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*, reprint Delhi, 1999
- Sinha, Kanad, *From Dāsarājña to Kurukṣetra: Making of a Historical Tradition*, New Delhi, 2021.
- Thapar, Romila, *Cultural Pasts*, New Delhi, 2000.
- The Past Before us: Historical Traditions of Early North India*, Ranikhet, 2013
- Winternitz, M., *A History of Indian Literature*, Vol. I, Calcutta, Calcutta University, 1959.

CC-1.3

Religion, Art and Architecture in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Religion and History: Conceptual and Methodological Issues

1. Approaches to the study of ancient religions: Philosophical, historical and sociological perspectives
2. Religion as a Source for the Study of Ancient Indian History
3. Textual Traditions and Historical Memory
4. Archaeology and the Material Culture of Religion
5. Historiographical Issues

Early Indian Art

1. Harappan Art
2. Mauryan Art
3. Gandhara Art
4. Mathura Art
5. Gupta Art
6. Pallava Art
7. Pala-Sena Art
8. Chola Art

Early Indian Architecture

1. Town Planning of Harappa
2. Buddhist Architecture: *Stupa* and *Chaityagriha*
3. Gupta Architecture
4. Orissan Temple Architecture
5. Central Indian Temple Architecture
6. Pallava Architecture
7. Chola Architecture

Select Reading List

Allchin, B. and R. Allchin, *The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*, Cambridge University Press, 1982.

Asher, F. M., *Art of Eastern India, 300-800*, Delhi, 1980.

Bary, W. T. de (ed.), *Sources of Indian Tradition*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1958.

- Basham, A.L., *The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism*, New Delhi, 1989.
 ----- *The History and Doctrine of the Ajivikas*, Delhi, 1981, Reprint.
- Basu, Jogiraj, *India of the Age of the Brahmanas*, Calcutta, 1969.
- Bhattacharya, N.N., *Ancient Indian Rituals and the Social Contents*, New Delhi, 1975.
- Bhattacharji, Sukumari, *Literature in the Vedic Age, 2 Volumes*, Calcutta, 1986.
- Brown, Percy, *Indian Architecture: Buddhist and Hindu Periods*, Bombay, 1971
- Dehejia, Vidya, *Early Buddhist Rock Temples*, NCROL, 1972
- Deva, Krishna, *Temples of Khajuraho*, Vol. I, New Delhi, 1990
 ----- *Temples of North India*, New Delhi, 2008
- Durkheim, E., *The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life*, London, 1964.
- Eliade, Mircea, *History of Religious Ideas*, Chicago, 1978.
- Ganguly, O.C., *The Art of the Pallavas*, Calcutta, 1957
- Huntington, Susan L. *Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*, New York, 1993, 2nd reprint.
- Macdonell, A.A., *Vedic Mythology*, Delhi, 1981
- Mitra, Debala, *Buddhist Monuments*, Calcutta, 1971, Reprint 1980
 ----- *Bhuvaneswar*, 4th Edition, ASI, New Delhi, 1978
- Pals, Daniel, L., *Eight Theories of Religion*, New York, 2006
- Ray, N.R. *Maurya and Sunga Art*, Calcutta, 2nd edition 1965
- Rowland, Benjamin, *The Art and Architecture of India*, Harmondsworth, 1953
- Saraswati, S. K., *Architecture of Bengal, Book 1, (Ancient Phase)*, Calcutta, 1976
 ----- *A Survey of Indian Sculpture*, Calcutta, 1957.
- Sarkar, H., *Studies in Early Buddhist Architecture of India*, Delhi, 1966
- Sharma, R. C. *Buddhist Art of Mathura*, Delhi, 1984.
- Williams, Joanna, G. *The Art of Gupta India: Empire and Province*, Princeton, 1982.

CC-1.4

Sites, Artefacts, Heritage and Tourism

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Sites, Artefacts

1. Mapping Sites: Explorations and Excavations
2. Pre and Proto Historic Sites: Distribution and Morphological Features
3. Historical Sites: Archaeological context, landscape, ecology, settlement patterns
4. Asokan Sites and Artefacts: Understanding the broader context
5. Sites in the corridors: Malwa corridor, Kalinga corridor and the Forest corridor
6. Juxtaposing Sites, Artefacts and Records: Reading Historical Contexts and multiple voices

Heritage and Tourism

1. Concepts and Historiography of Heritage---Tangible and Intangible Heritage---Archaeological and Built Heritage
2. Heritage, History, Memory and Identity
3. The historical legacy of a composite culture in India: Archaeological and Socio-Anthropological perspectives ---Colonial and Post-Colonial Approaches to Heritage--Tradition and Heritage in Ethnological Practice and Theory
4. Sacred Landscapes and Living Heritage
5. Heritage Management and Contemporary Challenges
6. Definitions and Concepts of Tourism - Characteristics of tourist Spots.
7. Classification/and Typology of Tourism - natural, cultural, religious, adventure, rural and eco-tourism, special interest tourism.
8. Evolution and Development of Tourism in Early India - History of Tourism through the Accounts of Foreign Travellers in Ancient and Medieval India.
9. Trailing the Trade Routes and Pilgrimage Centres in Early India.
10. Tourism and Archaeology exploring Historical Sites, Monuments and Museums.

Select Reading List

Agrawal, D.P. and J. S. Kharakwal, *Bronze and Iron Ages in South Asia*, New Delhi, 2003

Alam, M.S and J.F. Salles. (ed.), *France-Bangladesh Joint Venture Excavations at Mahasthangarh: First Interim Report 1993-1999*, Dhaka: Department of Archaeology, 2001

Albert, Marie-Theres (et.al), *Understanding Heritage: Perspectives in Heritage Studies*, Boston, 2015

Allchin, B. and F.R. Allchin., *The Birth of Indian Civilization*, Harmondsworth, 1968

Allchin, F.R., with contributions from G. Erdosy, R.E. Conningham, Dilip K. Chakrabarti and B. Allchin, *The Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia, the Emergence of Cities and States*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995

-----*The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*, Cambridge, 1982

- Ashworth, G.J. and Tunbridge, J.E., *The Tourist-Historic City: Retrospect and Prospect of Managing the Heritage City* (Routledge Advances in Tourism), Routledge, 2000
- Banerjee, N. R. *The Iron Age in India*, New Delhi, 1965
- Basa, K. and P. Mohanty eds. *Archaeology of Orissa* 2 volumes, Delhi, 2000
- Basham, A.L., *Wonder That was India*, 1967, reprint, 1999
- Basu Majumdar, S., *The Mauryas in Karnataka*, Kolkata: Mahabodhi Book Agency, 2016
- Bisht, R.S. Dholavira, *New Horizons of the Indus Civilization*, *Puratattva* 20: 71-82, 1991
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities*, Delhi, 1995.
- India: An Archaeological History (Palaeolithic Beginnings to Early Historic Foundations)*, Delhi. 1999.
- The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India, Stone Age to AD 13th Century*, Delhi. 2006.
- Royal Messages on the Wayside: Historical Geography of Asokan Edicts*, New Delhi, 2011.
- Dales, G.F. *New Investigations at Mohenjodaro*. *Archaeology* 18: 145-50. 1965.
- Dasgupta, P.C. *The Excavations of Pandu-Rajar-Dhibi*, *Bulletin of the Directorate of Archaeology, West Bengal* 2. 1964.
- Falk, Harry. *Asokan Sites and Artefacts: A Source Book with Bibliography*. Mainz am Rhein: 2006, Von Zabern.
- Ghosh, A. ed. *An Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology* Volumes 1 and II, Delhi. 1989
- Guha Thakurta, Tapati, *Monuments, Objects, Histories: Institutions of Art in Colonial and Post-Colonial India*, Delhi, 2004
- The Making of a new 'Indian' art: Artists, Aesthetics and Nationalism in Bengal, 1850-1920*, Cambridge, 1992
- Gupta, S.P., Lal, Krishna and Bhattacharya, M., *Cultural Tourism in India*, Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology & D. K. Print World, New Delhi, 2002.
- Incredible India Tourist and Travel Guide*, Indian Map Service, Jodhpur, 2007
- Jarrige, Catherine et al. Mehrgarh: *Field Reports 1974-1985, from Neolithic Times to the Indus Civilization*, Karachi, 1995.
- Joshi, J.P. *Excavations at Surkatada*, New Delhi. 1990
- Kenover, I.M. *Old Problems and New Perspectives in the Archaeology of South Asia*, Madison. 1989
- Lahiri, Nayanjot, *Marshalling the Past: Ancient India and its Modern Histories*, Delhi, 2012.

-----Ashoka in Ancient India, Cambridge, 2015.

Lal, Makkhan., *Settlement History and Rise of Civilization in Ganga-Yamuna Doab (from 1500 BC to 300 AD)*, Delhi. 1984

Marshall, J ed. *Mohenjodaro and the Indus Civilization*, 3 volumes, London. 1931

Mathur, Saloni, *Colonial History and Cultural Display*, Berkeley, Los Angeles and London, 2007.

Possehl. G.L. *The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective*, New Delhi, 1993.

Roychowdhury, Madhuparna, *Displaying India's Heritage: Archaeology and Museum Movement in Colonial India*, Orient Blackswan Publications, Delhi, 2015

Sahai, Surendra, *Indian Architecture: Hindu Buddhist and Jain*, Prakash Books, 2006.

Sandis, Constantine, (ed.), *Cultural Heritage Ethics: Between Theory and Practice*, Cambridge, 2014

Sankalia, HD and SB. Deo, *Report on the Excavations at Nazik and Jorwe*. Poona, 1955

Sankalia H.D. SH Deo and D. Ansari, *Excavations at Ahar (Lombavan)*, Poona 1904

Singh, Upinder, *The Discovery of Ancient India: Early Archaeologists and the Beginning of Archaeology*, Delhi, 2004.

Singh, Upinder. *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century*, Delhi. 2008

Tewari Rakesh, *In Quest of Early Iron Age Sites in Karammasa Valley*. Pragdhara 8: 57-67 1998.

--- *The origins of iron-working in India: New Evidence from the Central Ganga Plain and the*

Eastern Vindhyas, Antiquity Volume 77, No 297: 536-545. 2003.

Tewari, Rakesh, R.K. Srivastava, R.K., K.K. Singh, K.S. Saraswat, and I. B. Singh 2003, "Preliminary Report of the Excavation at Lahuradewa, District Sant Kabir Nagar, U.P". 2001-

Vats, M.S., *Excavations at Harappa*, Delhi. 1940.

Wheeler, R.E.M., *Brahmagiri and Chandravalli 1947: Megalithic and Other Cultures in Mysore State*, *Ancient India* 4: 180-230. 1947-48.

CC-1.5

Course Name: Early Indian Society and Economy

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Early Indian Society

1. Sources and approaches to the study of social history and history of society in early India
2. Varṇa-jāti tradition and social stratification
3. Subordinate and marginal groups

Early Indian Economy

1. Historiographical issues and debates
2. Patterns of subsistence - Neolithic revolution and changes in economy, Pastoralism and agrarian economy, plunder economy and plunder institutionalised: Economic issues in the Far South, Reciprocity, redistribution and exchange.
3. Iron, social change and its impact on economy
4. Non-agricultural production - Craft and manufacturing – Professional groups, guilds and economic integration
5. Concept of Surplus; Commodity Production, distribution and Consumption; Fundamentals of value, labour, price and profit/loss
6. Trade, Traders and Trade networks; Static and mobile economy, Routes of communication, Market-places
7. Urban Economy: Processes of Urbanization, urban economic milieu and urban culture
8. State and the subjects - State controlled economy, law, governance and legal institutions; ‘administered trade’, ‘Port of Trade’; land-grants, Patterns of land tenures and land relations; capital and investment; finance: credits, loans, debts and other financial instruments.
9. Money economy, monetization, issues and non-issues, influx of foreign currency and its impact on Indian economy
10. Temple economy

Select Reading List

Banga, Indu, (ed.) *The City in Indian History: Urban Demography, Society and Politics*. Delhi, 1991.

Begle, Vimala, and Daniel de Puma, eds. *Rome and India: The Ancient Sea Trade*. New Delhi, 1992.

Bhattacharyya, B. *Urban Development in India (Since Prehistoric Times)*. Delhi, 1979.

- Bose, N.K., *The Structure of Hindu Society*, Orient Longman, New Delhi, 1975; Revised Edition, Orient Blackswan, 2013
- Chakrabarti, D. K. *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities*. New Delhi, 1995.
- Chakraborti, H. P. *Trade and Commerce of Ancient India*. Kolkata, 1966.
- Chakravarti, R., (ed.) *Trade in Early India*. New Delhi, 2001.
- , "Monarchs, Merchants and a Matha in Northern Konkan (c. 900–1053 AD)." *The Indian Economic and Social History Review* 27 (1990): 189–207.
- , "Relationships and Interactions in the Economic Sphere." In *A Social History of Early India*, Vol. II, Part 5, edited by B. D. Chattopadhyaya. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, 2009.
- , *Exploring Early India up to c. AD 1300*. New Delhi, 2013.
- , *Prachin Bharater Arthanaitik Itihaser Sandhane*. Kolkata, 2002.
- , *Trade and Traders in Early India*. New Delhi, 2002.
- , *Trade and Traders in Early Indian Society*. New Delhi, 2007.
- Chakravarti, U., *Everyday Lives, Everyday Histories: Beyond the Kings and Brahmanas of 'Ancient' India*, New Delhi, 2006
- , *The Social Dimensions of Early Buddhism*, New Delhi, 1987
- Champakalakshmi, R. *Trade, Ideology and Urbanization: South India c. 300 BCE–AD 1300*. New Delhi, 1996.
- Chattopadhyaya, B. D. *Studying Early India: Archaeology, Texts and Historical Issues*. Ranikhet, 2003.
- , (ed.) *A Social History of Early India*, History of Science, Philosophy and Culture in Indian Civilization, Vol. II, Part 5, Gen. Ed. D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Pearson Education India, Delhi, 2009
- , *The Making of Early Medieval India*. Delhi, 2012.
- Childe, V. Gordon, *What Happened in History?* Delhi, 2016.
- , *A Short Introduction to Archaeology*. London, 1956.
- Dumont, L., *Homo Hierarchicus, The Caste System and its Implications*, (English Edition), 1960
- Erdosy, G., (ed.) *Urbanization in Early India*. Oxford, 1988.
- Ghosh, A. *The City in Early Historical India*. Simla, 1973.
- Ghoshal, U. N. *The Agrarian System in Ancient India*. Calcutta, 1930.
- Gurukkal, R., *Rethinking Classical Indo-Roman Trade*. Oxford, 2016.
- Jain, V. K. *Trade and Traders in Western India (AD 1000–1300)*. Delhi, 1990.
- Jaiswal, S., *Caste : Origins, Function and Dimensions of Change*, New Delhi, 1998
- Kane, P.V., *History of Dharmaśāstra*, BORI, Pune, 1930 – 1962, relevant volumes
- Kaul, S., *Imagining the Urban: Sanskrit and the City in Early India*. Ranikhet, 2010.
- Kosambi, D. D. *An Introduction to the Study of Indian History*. Poona, 1956.
- Lahiri, N., *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Trade Routes up to c. AD 200*. Oxford, 1992

- Mahalakshmi, R. and Ghosh, S. (eds.) *The Economic History of India, Historiographical Issues and Perspectives: Essays in Honour of Professor Ranabir Chakravarti*, New Delhi, 2023
- Mukherjee, B. N. *Media of Exchange in Early Medieval North India*. Delhi, 1966.
- , "Commerce and Money in the Western and Central Sectors of Eastern India (c. AD 750–1200)." *The Indian Museum Bulletin* 17 (1982): 65–83.
- Mukhia, H., ed. *The Feudalism Debate*. New Delhi, 1999.
- Mukhopadhyay, U. and Ghosh, S., *Exploring South Asian Urbanity*. Delhi, 2022.
- Ramanujan, A. K. "Towards an Anthology of City Images." In *The Collected Essays of A. K. Ramanujan*. New Delhi, 1999.
- Ray, H.P., *Monastery and Guild: Commerce under the Satavahanas*. New Delhi, 1986.
- Sahu, B. P., ed. *Land System and Rural Society in Early India*. Readings in Early Indian History. New Delhi, 1997.
- , (ed.) *Iron and Social Change in Early India*. Delhi, 2006.
- Sarao, K. T. S. *Urban Centres and Urbanization Reflected in the Pali Vinaya and Sutta Pitakas*. New Delhi, 2007.
- Sen, Aloka Parasher (ed.), *Subordinate and Marginal Groups in Early India*, New Delhi, 2004
- Sharma, R. S. *Indian Feudalism c. 300–1200*. Calcutta, 1965.
- , *Material Culture and Social Formation in Ancient India*, Second Edition, New Delhi, 2007
- , *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*. Delhi, 1983.
- , *Perspectives in Economic and Social History of Ancient India*. 2nd revised ed. Delhi, 1995.
- , *Sudras in Ancient India: A Social History of the Lower Order down to c.A.D. 600*, New Delhi, 2002
- , *Urban Decay in India (c. 300–1000)*. Delhi, 1987.
- , *Perspectives in the Social and Economic History of Early India*, New Delhi, 2003
- Singh, U., (ed.) *Rethinking Early Medieval India: A Reader*. New Delhi, 2011.
- , *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century*. Delhi, 2008.
- Sinha, K., "Sporting with Kāma: Games, Sports, Amusements and Festivities in Early Indian Urban Culture." *Journal of the Asiatic Society* 55, no. 2 (2013): 73–120.
- Srivastava, B. *Trade and Commerce in Ancient India (From the Earliest Times to c. AD 300)*. Varanasi, 1968.
- Subbarayalu, Y. *South India Under the Cholas*. Delhi, 2011.
- Thakur, V. K. *Urbanization in Ancient India*. New Delhi, 1981.
- Thapar, R., *Ancient Indian Social History: Some Interpretations*, New Delhi, 2003

-----, *Cultural Pasts, Essays in Early Indian History*, New Delhi, 2000 (relevant articles)

-----, ed. *Recent Perspectives of Early Indian History*. Mumbai, 1995.

Thaplyal, K. K. *Guilds in Ancient India: A Study of Guild Organization in Northern India and Western Deccan from circa 600 BC to circa 600 AD*. New Delhi, 1996.

Wagle, N., *Society at the Time of the Buddha*, Bombay, 1966

-----, *Society at the Time of the Buddha*. Bombay, 1996.

Warmington, E. H. *The Commerce between the Roman Empire and India*. Cambridge, 2014.

SEMESTER 2: Two Compulsory (CC) and Three Elective Courses (DCEC)
[4x5=20 Credits=250 Marks]

Semester 2	Course Name
CC-2.1	Statecraft and Political Processes in Early India
CC-2.2	Space, Region and Culture
DCEC-A	Pre-History and Proto-History
DCEC-B	Ethno-Archaeology
DCEC-C	Archaeology, Museums and the making of Heritage
DCEC-D	Epigraphy
DCEC-E	Palaeography
DCEC-F	Indian Numismatics
DCEC-G	Money and Money Matters
DCEC-H	Early Indian Sculpture and Painting
DCEC-I	Iconography—Buddhist, Jain and Brahmanical
DCEC-J	Early Indian Architecture
DCEC-K	Textual Traditions and Religious Practices in Early India
DCEC-L	Gender and Marginalized Groups
DCEC-M	Agrarian Society, Urbanity and Urban Culture
DCEC-N	History of Medicine
DCEC-O	Environmental History
DCEC-P	Temple Economy and Patronage
DCEC-Q	Regions in Early Indian history
DCEC-R	Expressions of Popular Culture in Early India
DCEC-S	Ancient Indian Gurukul System of Education

CC-2.1

State and Polity in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Definitional and Theoretical Issues
2. State Formation in the Middle Ganga Valley c. 6th century BCE- c. 3rd Century BCE
3. *Gaṇas* and *Saṅghas* as alternative political systems
4. Empires as complex forms of State
5. Secondary State formation
6. The State and the Autonomous Spaces
7. Understanding Regional Polities in North India: Historical models and Debates
8. Deccan and Far South: Political Processes and Evolution of State structures, Concepts of fragmentation, Segmentation and Integration

Select Reading List

Adiga, Malini, *The Making of Southern Karnataka, Society, Polity and Culture in the Early Medieval Period. A. D. 400-1030*, Chennai, 2006

Agrawal, A, *The Rise and Fall of the Imperial Guptas*, New Delhi, 1988.

Ali, Daud, *Courtly Culture and Political Life in Early Medieval India*, Cambridge, 2004

Basu Majumdar, Susmita: *The Mauryas in Karnataka*, Kolkata, 2016.

-----‘State Formation and Religious Processes in the North-South Corridor of Chhattisgarh (From 1st Century BCE to 8th Century AD)’ in Irfan Habib ed. *Studies in People’s History*, Vol-4, Issue-2, December 2017, pp.119-129.

Bloch, M., *Ritual, History and Power*, London, 1989.

Bongard Levin, J., *Mauryan India*, 1968

Chakrabarti, Kunal and Sinha, Kanad (eds.) *State, Power and Legitimacy: The Gupta Kingdom*, New Delhi, 2019.

Chakravarti, Ranabir, *Exploring Early India*, Delhi, 2016 (Third Edition)

-----‘Politics and Society in India’ (c. A.D. 300-1200) in D.P. Chattopadhyaya et.al., (ed.) PHISPC, vol. II, Part I, pp. 53-169.

Champakalakshmi, R., *Trade, Ideology and Urbanization: South India 300 B. C. 10 A. D. 1300*, Delhi, 1996

Chattopadhyaya, B. D., *Studying Early India*, Delhi, 2004

- The Making of Early Medieval India*, Delhi, 1994
- Claessen, H. J. M. and Skalnik, Peter, (eds.) *The Study of the State*, Berlin, 1981
- Earle, T (ed.)- *Chieftdoms, Power, Economy and Ideology*, Cambridge, 1991
- Fried, M.H., *The Evolution of Political Society*, New York, 196
- Gurukkal Rajan., *Social Formations in Early South India*, Delhi, 2010
- Hall. K.R., *Trade and Statecraft in the Age of the Cholas*, Delhi, 1980.
- Jha, D. N. *The Feudal Order*, New Delhi, 2000.
- Karashima, N., *History and Society in South India*, reprint, Delhi, 2001.
- Kulke, Hermann, *Kings and Cults: State Formation and Legitimation in India and Southeast Asia*, Delhi, 1993
- Kulke, Hermann and Sahu, B.P. (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of the State in Premodern India*, New Delhi, 2023.
- Mukherjee, B. N., *The Character of the Mauryan Empire*, Calcutta, 2000
- Rise and Fall of the Kushana Empire*, Calcutta, 1989
- Kushana Studies: New Perspectives*, Kolkata, 2004
- Nandi, R. N., *State Formation, Agrarian Growth and Social Change in Feudal South India c. A. D. 600-1200*, New Delhi, 2000.
- Olivelle, Patrick, *Ashoka: Portrait of a Philosopher King*, Gurugram, Haryana, 2023.
- Olivelle, P. Leoshko, J. and Ray, Himanshu Prabha (eds), *Reimagining Asoka, Memory and History*, New Delhi, 2012
- Raychaudhuri, H. C., *Political History of Ancient India* with a Commentary by B. N. Mukherjee, New Delhi, 1997
- Roy, Kumkum, *The Emergence of Monarchy in North India*, Delhi, 1994.
- Sastri, K. A. Nilkantha, *A History of South India, from Prehistoric Times to the Fall of Vijaynagar*, 4th Edition, Madras, 1975
- Sharma, R.S., *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*, Delhi, 1989
- *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions on Ancient India*, Delhi, reprint, 1999.
- , *Origin of the State in India*, Bombay, 1989.
- Singh, Upinder, *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India*, Delhi, 2008.

Spencer, G.W., *The Politics of Expansion. The Chola Conquest of Sri Lanka and Sri Vijaya*, Madras, 1983

Stein, B., *Peasant, State and Society in Medieval South India*, Delhi, 1980.

Thapar, R., *Early India: from Origins to A.D. 1300*, New Delhi, 2002

-----*From Lineage to State: Social Formations of the Mid-First Millennium B.C. in the Ganga Valley*, Bombay, 1981

-----*Aśoka and the Decline of the Mauryas*, Delhi, 1961

-----*Mauryas Revisited*, Calcutta, 1987

Tyagi, Jaya, *South Asia Before the Common Era: Revisiting Sources and Historian's Approaches*, Delhi, 2025

Veluthat, K., *The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India*, Delhi, 1995.

Xinru Liu, *Ancient India and Ancient China up to AD 600*, New Delhi, 1988.

CC-2.2

Space, Region and Culture

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Concept of Space; Space and Culture
2. The Landscape and the People- Human engagement with Landscapes-Spatial and Cultural Landscapes- Affective Value of spaces- Memorialising Spaces- Building Identities-Grey Areas
- 3.. Wilderness and Settlements; Ruptured Spaces or Converged Spaces?
- 4.Local and Supra-local Landscapes and the changing contours of Cultural Articulation
5. Curated Spaces, Sacred Landscapes- Gardens, Waterbodies and Shrines
6. Bridging Gaps and Building Networks: Roads, Routes, Thoroughfares and circuits- Mapping Travel and Purposive Journeys in Early India
7. On the Edge: The Sea and the Coast, Coastal societies and Cultures
- 8,Concept of regions in early Indian history; Categories of Regions
- 9.Formation of historical Regions; Centres and networks of communication

Select Reading List

Basant PK, 'The Idea of Madhyadesha in Early India: History of a Region's Identity' in *Asian Ethnology*, Vol 83, No, 1, 2024

Basant PK, *The City and The Country in Early India: A Study of Malwa*, Delhi, 2012

- Bronkhorst Johannes, *Greater Magadha: Studies in the Culture of Early India*, Leiden, 2017
- Chandra Satish and Ray HP (eds.), *The Sea, Identity and History from the Bay of Bengal to South China Sea*, New Delhi, 2003
- Chattopadhyaya BD, *Studying Early India: Archaeology, Texts and Historical Issues*, Delhi, 2005
- Chattopadhyaya BD, 'Space, History and Cultural Process: Some Ideas on the Ingredients of Subregional Identity' in H. Kulke and G. Berkemer eds. *Centres Out There? Facets of Subregional Identities in Orissa*, New Delhi, 2011
- Chattopadhyaya BD, *The Concept of Bharatavarsha and Other Essays*, Ranikhet, 2017
- Ray HP (ed.), *Sacred Landscapes in Asia: Shared traditions, Multiple Histories*, New Delhi, 2007
- Sahu, B.P., *The Changing Gaze, Regions and the Construction of Early India*, OUP, New Delhi, 2013
- Sahu, B.P., *The Making of Regions in Indian History, Society, State and Identity in Premodern Odisha*, Primus Books, 2020.
- Spate, O.H.K and Learmonth, A.T.A., *India and Pakistan: A General and Regional Geography*, London, 1967
- Subbarao, B., *The Personality of India*, M.S. University Archaeological Series, no.3, Baroda, 1958

DCEC-A

Study on Pre-historic and Proto-historic Cultures

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Prehistory

1. Definition, Terminology, Periodization.
2. Explored and Excavated Prehistoric Sites : types and nature of Sites, Landscapes and configuration.

Proto history

1. Definition, terminology and scope.
2. Explored and Excavated proto historic sites: regional distribution.

3. Chalcolithic Cultures Outside the Harappan Orbit; Terminology, Distribution and Features: the Mountains in the North, the Aravallis, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, South Indian Neolithic and Chalcolithic (the Evidence from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka), Odisha, the North-Eastern States, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Upper Ganga Valley, Haryana, Punjab, Jammu; Beginning of Rice Cultivation in the Central Ganga Plain and Other Issues.
4. Origin, Terminology and Chronology of the Harappan Civilization, Distribution and Morphological Features of Mature Harappan Settlements, Aspects of the Harappan Civilization; Decline of the Harappan Urban Centres; Late Harappan Phase and Legacy of the Harappan Civilization.
5. Ochre Coloured pottery and copper hoard culture; Megalithic culture in India.

Select Reading List

- Agrawal, D.P. and J. S. Kharkwal *Bronze and Iron Ages in South Asia*, New Delhi, 2003
- Allchin, B. and F.R. Allchin *The Birth of Indian Civilization*, Harmondsworth, 1968
- Banerjee, N.R. *The Iron Age in India*, New Delhi, 1965
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. *India: An Archaeological History (Palaeolithic Beginnings to Early Historic Foundations)*, Delhi, 1999.
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities*, Delhi, 1995
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. *The Early Use of Iron in India*, New Delhi, 1992
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. *The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundation of Ancient India, Stone Age to AD 13th Century*, Delhi, 2006.
- Dhavalikar, M. K. *Indian Protohistory*, Delhi, 1997.
- Kenoyer, J.M. *Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization*, Karachi. 1998.
- Lahiri, N. *The Decline and Fall of the Indus Civilization*, Delhi. 2000.
- Lal, Makkhan. *Settlement History and Rise of Civilization in Ganga-Yamuna Doab (from 1500 BC to 300 AD)*, Delhi. 1984.
- Possehl, G. L. *The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective*, New Delhi. 1993.
- Sahu, B. P. ed. *Iron and Social Change in Early India*, Delhi. 2006.
- Settar, S. and R. Korisettar. *Indian Archaeology in Retrospect*, Volume II, New Delhi. 2002.
- Singh, Upinder. *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century*, Delhi. 2008.
- Tripathi, V. *The Painted Grey Ware, An Iron Age Culture of Northern India*, Delhi. 1976.

DCEC-B
Ethno-Archaeological Study of Early India
[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Ethnographical and Archaeological Perspectives in Ethno-Archaeological Study of India

1. Ethnography, Archaeology and Other Disciplines - Definition and Relationship with other disciplines.
2. The Goals of Ethnographical and Archaeological Investigation - Context, Evidence, Analysis, Description, Explanation and Evaluation.

Basic Unity of Archaeological Investigations

1. Artefacts - Types and Technology.
2. Sites -- Geomorphological and Functional.
- 3 Time Scales-Geomorphological, Anthropological and Archaeological.

Select Reading List

Allchin. A, *Living Traditions: Studies in the Ethno archaeology of South Asia* , 2008.

Basa..K,K,, Mohanty. R,K,and Ota. S,B, *Megalithic Traditions in India : Archaeology and Ethnography.*,2015.

Bose, N, K, *Cultural Anthropology and Other Essays*, Calcutta, 1958.

Das, S, R, *Stone Tools: Origin and History*, Calcutta, 1958.

Dasgupta, Kalyan Kumar, *Tribal History of Ancient India: Numismatic Approach*, Calcutta, 1974.

Gupta . Dwarajya Prakash Dr, *An Academic and Human Profile* (eds with V. N. Misra), Pune, 2009.

Hammond, P. B, *An Introduction to Cultural and Social Anthropology*, Chicago, 1973

Iyer . L. A. Krishna & Bal, Ratan L. K, *Anthropology in India*, Bombay, 1961.

Kanungo . Alok. K, *Studies in Prehistory and Ethnoarchaeology of South Asia* (in Honour of V. N. Misra), New Delhi, 2011.

Kanunga, A, K, *Glass Beads in Ancient India: An Ethnoarchaeological Approach*, Oxford, 2004.

Sengupta, G, Roychoudhury. S, and Som. S, *Past and Present : Ethno archaeology in India*, Calcutta, 2006.

Singh, Upinder, - *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India*, New Delhi, 2008.

DCEC-C

Archaeology, Museums and the Making of Heritage

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Unearthing the Past: Archaeology and Historical Knowledge

1. The development of archaeological knowledge in Colonial India---Antiquarianism and early surveys---Institutionalization of archaeology--Establishment of the Archaeological Survey of India---Surveys, excavations and documentation---archaeological mapping by Alexander Cunningham—Contributions of major archaeologists--- John Marshall and the development of Indian archaeology in the early twentieth century
2. Archaeological explorations, excavations, conservation and the creation of heritage sites -----A few major sites of archaeological excavations: Public archaeology and popularization of archaeological sites---- Competing cultural visions around a few major heritage sites
3. Archaeology as the new foundation for an authentic history of India---- Archaeology and art history---- European assessment of ancient Indian art and the Indian critique--- Archaeology and Nationalism---Ancient India in nationalist discourse---Archaeology and Identity Formation

Curating the Past: Museums, Heritage and Public Memory

1. Origins and Development of Museums in India----the Colonial Perspective----Archaeology and the Museum Movement in India-----the Indian Museum-----the Provincial museums and the local museums----Background to the formation of the National Museum
2. Museums, Collections, Display and Cultural Heritage-- Collecting and Classifying the Past—Ethics of collecting---Collection driven by ideological preferences----Displaying Ancient India—Museum narratives and representations dictated by varied ideological preoccupations
3. Museums, Communities and Public History—Education and outreach—Community engagement ---Museums as sites of memory---repatriation and contested heritage

Select Reading List

Annual Reports of the Archaeological Survey of India

Banerjee, J. N, *The Development of Hindu Iconography*, Calcutta, 1941

Basham, A. L. (ed.) *A Cultural History of India*, Delhi, 1975

Chakrabarty, Dilip, *A History of Indian Archaeology from the Beginning to 1947*, Delhi, 1988

Guha Thakurta, Tapati, *Monuments, Objects, Histories: Institutions of Art in Colonial and Post-Colonial India*, Delhi, 2004

-----*The Making of a new 'Indian' art: Artists, Aesthetics and Nationalism in Bengal, 1850-1920*, Cambridge, 1992

----- 'The Endangered Yakshi: Careers of an Ancient Art Object in Modern India' in Partha Chatterjee and Anjan Ghosh, eds, *History and the Present*, New Delhi, 2002.

Kejariwal, O. P., *The Asiatic Society of Bengal and the Discovery of India's Past, 1784-1813*, Delhi, 1988

Lahiri, Nayanjot, *Marshalling The Past: Ancient India and its Modern Histories*, Permanent Black, 2012

Metcalf, T. R., *Ideologies of the Raj*, Cambridge, 1995.

Mitter, Partha *Much Maligned Monsters: A History of European Reactions to Indian Art*, Cambridge, 1997.

Roychowdhury, Madhuparna, *Displaying India's Heritage: Archaeology and Museum Movement in Colonial India*, Orient Blackswan Publications, Delhi, 2015

----- Ajanta: The Making of a Site', *Aspects of Indian Culture*, in Sudipa Ray Bandyopadhyay (et.al.), Kaveri Books, New Delhi, 2012.

-----'The Museum as a Text', *Revisiting Early India (Essays in Honour of D.C.Sircar)*, Suchandra Ghosh (et.al.), R.N.Bhattacharya, Calcutta, 2013.

-----,The Museum Makers', *Journal of Ancient Indian History*, .Calcutta University, Volume: XXVI, 2009-2010.

-----, 'Interpreting Heritage: Ajanta in Historical Imaginations', *Journal of Ancient Indian History*, Vol. XXVII, 2010-11

-----'Archaeology and Public Culture: Glimpses from Early Twentieth century Bengal' *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, Kolkata, Vol: LXIII, No.3, 2021

Singh, Upinder, *The Discovery of Ancient India: Early Archaeologists and the Beginnings of Archaeology*, Delhi, 2004

DCEC-D

Indian Epigraphy

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. The beginning of Epigraphic studies and Epigraphists
2. Decipherment of scripts and Epigraphic engagements
3. Interpretations and reinterpretations: Engagements with epigraphic records and writing / rewriting history
4. Language and script
5. Different genres of inscriptions and languages used
6. Asokan Edicts: Critical appraisal. Content, Context, Sites, Scribes, Engravers and interpretations
7. Prasastis as a genre of Epigraphy
8. Land Grant Charters
9. Donative Records and Memorial Inscriptions (200 BCE-1200 CE)
10. Memorial inscriptions
11. Image inscriptions: The image and the record. Dating through palaeography.
12. Administrative records and their purport

13. Label Inscriptions and graffities. Pilgrim and traveller records. Indic records from outside Indian subcontinent. Inscriptions from Socotra, Berenike.
14. Literary and grammatical records

Select Reading List

- Bajpayee. K.D. *Early Inscriptions of Mathura-A Study*, Calcutta. 1980
- Basak, R.G. *Asokan Inscriptions*, Calcutta, 1959
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol.I. A Cunningham, *Inscriptions of Asoka* Reprint, Varanasi. 1961
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol.1, *Inscriptions of Asoka*. New Edition Hultzsch. Reprint, Delhi, 1969 E.
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. 2, Part I, *Kharoshthi Inscriptions with the Exception of those of Asoka*. Reprint, Varanasi. 1969
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. II, Part II, *Bharhut Inscriptions*, Revised by E. Waldschmidt and M.A. Mehendale. Ootacamund. 1963
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol.3 *Inscriptions of the Early Gupta Kings and their Successors*- J.F. Fleet Reprint, Varanasi, 1963, 1970
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol.4, *Inscriptions of the Kalachuri-Cedi Era*- V.V. Mirashi, Ootacamund. 1955
- Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol.5, *Inscriptions of the Vakatakas*. Ootacamund, 1963.
- Gai, G.S., *Inscriptions of the Early Kadambas*. New Delhi, 1996
- Gokhale, S. L., *Kanheri Inscriptions*, Pune, 1991
- Mirashi, V.V., *The History and the Inscriptions of the Satavahanas and the Western Kshtrapas*, Bombay, 1981
- Mukherji, B.N., *Studies in the Aramaic Inscriptions of Asoka*, Calcutta, 1984
- Paranavitana, S. *Inscriptions of Ceylon*. Vols. 1-2
- Salomon, R. *Indian Epigraphy*, New York. 1998
- Sircar, D.C. *Indian Epigraphy*, Delhi. 1965
- Indian Epigraphical Glossary*, Delhi, 1966
- Select Inscriptions Bearing on Indian History & Civilization*, vol. 1. Calcutta, 1942, Vol.2, Delhi, 1983
- Epigraphia Indica* all volumes

DCEC-E
Indian Paleography
[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. The origin of writing and scripts in South Asia: The Introduction of writing: The Indus script and debates; Origin of Brāhmī and Kharoṣṭhī scripts; Tāmil-Brāhmī script
2. Brahmi script: Aśoka/ Early Brāhmī; Middle Brāhmī; Late Brāhmī
3. Box headed script
4. Siddhamātrikā
5. The development of proto-regional and regional scripts
6. Kharoṣṭhī script
7. Other scripts prevalent in early India
8. Scripts and Language: Reading Inscriptions and exploring the entente

Select Reading List

Archaeological Survey of India, Issue 77, 1977

Epigraphia Indica All volumes

Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum All volumes

Banerji, R.D., *The Origin of the Bengali Script*, Calcutta, 1919

Buhler, G., *Indian Palaeography* (translated into English by J.F. Fleet, Appendix to Indian Antiquary, Vol.33), 1904, several reprints and English versions

Cambridge, 2003

Dani, A.H., *Indian Palaeography*, New Delhi, 1986

Diringer, D., *The Alphabet: A Key to the History of Mankind*, New York, 1953.

Mahadevan, I., *Early Tamil Epigraphy. From the Earliest Times to the Sixth Century A.D.*,

Mahadevan, I., *The Indus Script: Texts, Concordance and Tables*, *Memoirs of the*

Mahalingam, T.V., *Early South Indian Palaeography*, Madras, 1974.

Mukherjee, B.N., *Origin of Brāhmī and Kharoṣṭhī Scripts*, Kolkata, 2005

Nagaswamy, R., (ed.) *Corpus of Tamil Brahmi Inscriptions, Seminar on Inscriptions*, Madras, 1966

Ojha, G.H., *Prachin Bharatiya Lipimala/The Palaeography of India*, Ajmer 1918.

Pandey, R.B., *Indian Palaeography*, Rev. Edition, Varanasi, 1957

Ramesh, K.V., *Indian Inscriptions - A Study in Comparison and Contrast*, Bangalore.2006.

Saloman, R. *Indian Epigraphy: A Guide to the Study of Inscriptions in Sanskrit, Prākṛt and the other Indo-Aryan Languages*, New York, 1988.

Sircar, D.C., *Indian Epigraphy*, Delhi, 1965.

Sivaramamurti, C., *Indian Epigraphy and South Indian Scripts*, Reprint. Madras, 1966

Varma, M. V. R., *Aśoka Brāhmī: A Learner's Practice Book*, Hyderabad, 2021.

DCEC-F

Indian Numismatics

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Mints and Minting: Techniques, Processes, Equipment and Officials. Fakes and Forgeries, Punishments and Fines for forging.
2. Beginning of Metallic Currency in the Indian subcontinent: Debates and classification Issues
3. Early historic coins and currency system in North India, deccan and peninsular South India
4. Coins of the Sakas, Satavahanas, Guptas and their contemporaries
5. Foreign Coins and Coins of rulers of Foreign Origin found in India: Bactrian Greek, Indo Greek, Indo Scythian, Indo Parthian coins, Kushanas, Roman, Byzantine and Chinese Coins
6. Early medieval coins and currency system: Post Gupta coinage in the Indian Subcontinent
7. Cataloguing Coins
8. Science and Numismatics and other interdisciplinary studies.
9. Die Studies

Select Reading List

Basu Majumdar, Susmita, *Local Coins of Ancient India- A New Series: Coins of Malhar*, Nashik, 2000.

Basu Majumdar, Susmita, *Kalighat Hoard: The First Gupta Coin Hoard from India*, Kolkata, 2014.

Bopearachchi, Osmund, *From Bactria to Taprobane: Central Asian and Indian Numismatics*, New Delhi, 2015

Chattopadhyaya, B. D., *Coins and Currency Systems in South India*, New Delhi, 1977

Cribb, Joe, *The Indian Coinage Tradition: Origin Continuity and Change*, Anjaneri Nashik, 2005

Cribb, Joe, 'The President's Address: Money as Metaphor 4', in *The Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 169, 2009

Cribb, Joe and Robert Bracey, *Kushan Coins and History: A Type Catalogue of Kushan, Kushano-Sasanian and Kidarite Hun Coins Based on the Collection of the British Museum*, London, 2025.

Dasgupta, K.K., *Tribal History of Ancient India: A Numismatic Approach*, Calcutta, 1974

Deyell, J.S. *Living without Silver, Monetary History of early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1990

Gopal, L., *Early Medieval Coin Types of Northern India*, Varanasi, 1966

Gupta, P.L., *Coins*, New Delhi, 1969

Gupta, P.L., T. Hardaker, *Punchmarked Coinage of the Indian Subcontinent: Magadha-Mauryan Karshapana Series* (Revised Edition) 2014.

Handa, D., *Tribal Coins of Ancient India*, New Delhi, 2007.

Handa, D., *Indian Numismatics: Its Bearing on History, Culture, Art and Iconography*, New Delhi, 2022.

Jha, A & Rajgor, D. *Studies in the Coinage of the Western Kshatrapas*, Nasik, 1994

Jha, A.K. ed. *Coinage Trade and Economy*, Anjaneri Nashik, 1991

Lahiri, A.N., *Corpus of Indo-Greek Coins*, Calcutta, 1965

Mitchiner, M., *Indo-Greek and Indo-Scythian Coins*, 9 volumes, London, 1975-76

Mitchiner, Michael, *Ancient Trade and Early Coinage*, Vol. II, London, 2004.

Mukherjee B.N. & Lee, P.K.D., *Technology of Indian Coinage*, Calcutta, 2000

----*Kushana Coins of the Land of Five Rivers*, Calcutta, 1977

----*Media of Exchange in Early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1992

Pieper, W., *Ancient Indian Coins Revisited*, Lancaster/London, 2013

Wang, Helen and Robert Bracey (eds.), *Look at Coins! Essays in Honour of Joe Cribb on his 75th Birthday*, Oxford, 2023.

DCEC-G

MONEY AND MONEY MATTERS

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Forms of Exchange in Ancient and Early Medieval Indian Subcontinent
2. Production of Metallic Currency: Coins and Ingots and other Metals as Money

3. Controlling the currency: Half-life of coins, Fakes and Forgeries, Influx of foreign coins and bullions and their impact on economy
4. Non-metallic Money: Acquiring the form of Exchange and Handling, Control over the Currency, Cowries and other forms of Money, Alternate money, Hundi, chirika and so on.
5. Money and Trade: Reflections on Ancient and Early Medieval Economy
5. Die Studies and Quantitative Analysis in Numismatics
7. Early Medieval Currency and Debates
8. Money in Southeast Asia: Understanding Indian Linkages

Select Reading List

Altekar, A.S., *The Coinage of the Gupta Empire*, Banaras, 1957

Basu Majumdar, Susmita and Chatterjee Sharmistha, 'Cowrie Currency in Eastern India', *Journal of Bengal Art*, 2015, Vol. 19, pp. 39-56, Dhaka, 2014.

Basu Majumdar, Susmita and S.K.Bose, *Money and Money Matters in Pre-Modern South Asia*, New Delhi, 2019.

Basu Majumdar, Susmita 'Monetary History of Bengal: Issues and Non-Issues' in D.N. Jha ed., *The Complex Heritage of Early*, Delhi, 2014

Bopearachchi, Osmund, *From Bactria to Taprobane: Central Asian and Indian Numismatics*, 2015

Bopearachchi Osmund and Piper, Wilfred, *Ancient Indian Coins*, Lyon, 1998

Cribb, Joe, *The Indian Coinage Tradition-Origin Continuity and Change*, Anjaneri Nashik, 2005

Cribb, Joe., 'Money as Marker of Cultural Continuity and change in Central Asia', *Proceedings of the British Academy*, 133, pp. 333-375, 2007

Dasgupta, K.K., *Tribal History of Ancient India: A Numismatic Approach*, Calcutta, 1974

Deyell, J.S., *Living without Silver, Monetary History of early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1990

Deyell, J.S., *Lakshmī, Bearer of Riches: Indian Gold Coinage after the Tenth Century*, 2022, Nashik-Mumbai.

Gopal, L., *Early Medieval Coin types of Northern India*, Varanasi, 1966

Gupta, P.L., *Coins*, New Delhi, 1969

Jha, A.K. ed. *Coinage Trade and Economy*, Anjaneri Nashik, 1991

Mukherjee, B.N., *Kushana Coins of the Land of Five Rivers*, Calcutta, 1977

---*Media of Exchange in Early Medieval North India*, Delhi, 1992

Pieper, W., *Ancient Indian Coins Revisited*, Lancaster/London, 2013

Prasad, Pushpa, Lekhapaddhati. *Documents of State and Everyday Life from Ancient and Early Medieval Gujarat: 9th to 15th Centuries*, Oxford, 2007.

Raven, Ellen, *Gupta Gold Coins with a Garuda Banner*, Vols. 1 and 2, Groningen, 1994

Sircar, D.C. (ed.), *Early Indian Indigenous Coins*, 1971

--, *Studies in Indian Coins*, Delhi, 1968, Reprint, 2008

DCEC-H

Early Indian Sculpture and Painting up to 13th century CE

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Sculptural art of the Indus Valley Civilization
2. Period of the Early Dynasties (a) the art of the Mauryan Period (b) Early Indian narrative art of the Sunga period and terracotta art (c) Buddhist rock-cut sculptural art of the western Deccan and eastern India (d) The Gandhara school (e) The Mathura school (f) Regional developments in the Deccan of the second and third centuries AD.
3. Sculptural art of the subcontinent during the Gupta period
4. Buddhist cave sculptures at Ajanta, Bagh, Kanheri, Aurangabad, Ellora of the fifth to the seventh centuries AD.
5. Rock-cut sculptures of the Deccan during the Kalacuri and the early Western Calukyan phases.
6. Sculptural art under the Pallavas and the Pandyas.
7. Sculptural art of Ellora under the Rashtrakutas.
8. Sculptural art of Kashmir from the 7th to the 12th centuries AD.
9. Sculptural art of Bihar, Bengal and Assam during the Pala-Sena rule.
10. Sculptural art of the Colas and related schools of the South from mid-ninth to thirteenth centuries AD.
11. Rock Paintings
12. Mural Paintings
13. Manuscript Paintings

Select Reading List

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- Asher, F. M., *Art of Eastern India, 300-800*, Delhi, 1980.
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- Coomaraswamy, A.K., *History of Indian and Indonesian Art*, London, revised edition 1965.
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- Goetz, H. *Studies in the History and Art of Kashmir and the Indian Himalaya*, Wiesbaden, 1969.
- Mitra, D. *Sanchi*, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, 2nd edition 1965.
- Pal, Pratapaditya, *Bronzes of Kashmir*, New York, 1975.
- Ray, N.R. *Maurya and Sunga Art*, Calcutta, 2nd edition 1965.
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- Spink, W., *Ajanta: History and Development*, Vols. I-V, Leiden, 2004-2009
- Saraswati, Sarasi Kumar, *A Survey of Indian Sculpture*, Calcutta, 1957.
- *Palyuger Chitrakala* (in Bengali), Calcutta 1978
- Sharma, R. C., *Buddhist Art of Mathura*, Delhi, 1984.
- Trivedi, R. D., *Temples of the Pratihara Period in Central India, Architectural Survey of Temples*, No. 4, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, 1990.
- Vogel, J. Ph., *Catalogue of the Archaeological Museum at Mathura*, Allahabad, 1910.

- Vatsyayan, Kapila. (ed.), *The Cultural Heritage of India*, Vol. VII (Part One), Kolkata, 2006
- Williams, Joanna, G. *The Art of Gupta India: Empire and Province*, Princeton, 1982.
- Zwalf, W., *The Shrines of Gandhara*, London, 1979
- , *A Catalogue of Gandhara Sculpture in the British Museum*, London, 1996.

DCEC-I

Iconography—Buddhist, Jain and Brahmanical

[4-Credit Course= 50 Marks]

Buddhist Iconography

1. Beginning of Buddhist Art: Depiction of *Jatakas* in early Buddhist sites.
2. Origin of the Buddha Images.
Mortal Buddha: Gautama Buddha
3. Iconography of the Dhyani Buddhas and the Dhyani Bodhisattvas.
 - a) Dhyani Buddhas: Amitabha, Aksobhya, Vairocana, Amoghasiddhi, Ratnasambhava and Vajrasattva.
 - b) Divine Buddhasaktis.
 - c) Divine Bodhisattvas
 - d) Maitreya, the Future Buddha.
4. Tantric Buddhist Iconography.
 - a) Emanations of the five Dhyani Buddhas.
 - b) The Taras: (i). Ordinary, (ii). Extraordinary
5. Independent deities: Gods, Goddesses.

Jain Iconography

1. Introduction: Fundamentals of Jains religions; The Digamvaras and Svetambaras; Origin and Antiquity of Jaina images; Classes of Jaina Gods and Goddesses.
2. The Tirthankaras.
3. The Jaina Yaksas and Yaksinis.
4. The Jaina Dikpalas.
5. The Jaina Navagrahas.
6. Jaina Srutradevis and Vidyadevis.
7. Miscellaneous Jaina Divinities.

Brahmanical Iconography

1. Concept of Iconography-Its Antiquity-Sources for the Study of Brahmanical Iconography-Development of Iconoplastic art in Early India - Various *asanas*, *mudras* and *ayudhas* of the deities
2. Shaiva Images: Shiva-Lingas, Anugrahamurtis, Samharamurtis and Dakshinamurtis
3. Vaishanva Images: Dhruvaberas, Vyuhamurtis, Avataras, etc.
4. Sakta Images: Mahishasuramardini, Saptamatrikas, Laksmi and Saraswati, etc.
5. Solar Images - Sources - The Development of North Indian Solar Images and the West Asian connection-The distinctive features of South Indian Solar Divinities
6. Ganapati Images- Exploring its pre-Aryan origin- The Development of Ganesha as a cult Icon.
7. Vyantara Devatas- Dikpalas, Brahma, Indra, Karttikeya, etc.
8. Syncretistic Images- Religious syncretism and the process of cultic accommodation

Select Reading List

- Banerjea, J.N., *The Development of Hindu Iconography*, 2nd edition, Calcutta, 1956.
- Panchopasana* (in Bengali), Calcutta, 1961.
- Bhattacharya, B.C., *The Jaina Iconography*, New Delhi, 1939, Reprint, 1998.
- Bhattacharyya, B. *The Indian Buddhist Iconography*, New Delhi, Reprint 2008.
- Bhattachali, N. K., *Iconography of Buddhist and Brahmanical Sculptures in the Dacca Museum*, Dacca, 1929 Reprint 2008.
- Brown, Robert L. (ed)., *Ganesha-Studies of an Asian God*, New York, 1991
- Bunce, Frederick, W., *A Dictionary of Buddhist and Hindu Iconography*, New Delhi, 1997
- Burgess, J. and J. Fergusson. *The Cave Temples of India*, London, 1880.
- Champakalakshmi, R., *Vaishnava Iconography in the Tamil Country*, New Delhi, 1981
- Coomaraswamy, Ananda K., *The Origin of the Buddha Image*, New Delhi, 2001.
- *Elements of Buddhist Iconography*, New Edition Revised and Enlarged in accordance with author's notes, Edited by Krishna Deva, New Delhi, 2009.
- Corinna Wessels-Mevissen, *Gods of the Directions in Ancient India*, Berlin, 2001
- Courtright, Paul, *Ganesa: Lord of Obstacles, Lord of Beginnings*, Oxford, 1985

Dasgupta, Kalyan Kumar, 'Indian Iconography' in *The Comprehensive History of India*, Vol. III, Pt. 2, (ed.) R.C Majumdar & K.K Dasgupta, New Delhi 1982

----- "Iconography" in *The Comprehensive History of India*, Vol. IV, (ed) K.M. Srimali New Delhi, 2008

-----*Pratimashilpe Hindu Devadevi*, (in Bengali), Kolkata, 2000, Reprint 2016.

Foucher, A. *The Beginning of Buddhist Art and Other Essays in Indian and Central Asian Archaeology*, translated by L.A.Thomas and F.W.Thomas, Oxford, 1917

Getty, Alice, *Ganesa - A Monograph on the Elephant Faced God*, Reprint, New Delhi, 1971

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Gupte, R.S., *Iconography of the Hindus, Buddhists and Jains*, Bombay, 1972

Ghosh, M., *Development of Buddhist Iconography in Eastern India—A Study of Tara, Prajnas of Five Tathagatas and Bhrikuti*, New Delhi, 1980.

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Haque, Enamul & Adalbert J. Gail (eds.), *Sculptures in Bangladesh An Inventory Select Hindu Buddhist and Jain Stone and Bronze Images in Museums and Collections of Bangladesh (up to the 13th Century)*, Dhaka, 2008

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Jayaswal, K. P., 'Jaina Image of Maurya Period', *Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society*, Vol. XXIII, Part. 1, (March, 1937), pp. 130-132.

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-----*Matrika* (in Bengali), Dhaka, 1989

Rao, Gopinath, T.A., *Elements of Hindu Iconography*, Vols. 1 (Pts. I & II) & 2 (Pts. 1 & II), Madras, 1914-16

Ray Bandyopadhyay, Sudipa, *Select Stone Sculptures From Dakshin Dinajpur District Museum*, Kolkata, 2025

Shah, Umakant P., *Jaina-Rupa Mandana: Jaina Iconography*, New Delhi, 1987

----- *Jaina Art and Architecture*, 3 Vols., New Delhi, 1974-75

Sengupta, Gautam & Saha, Sharmila, *Vibrant Rock A Catalogue of Stone Sculptures in the State Archaeological Museum West Bengal*, Kolkata, 2014

Smith, H. Daniel, *A Sourcebook of Vaishnava Iconography (According to Pancharatra Texts)*. Madras, 1969.

Srivastava, M.C.P., *Mother Goddess in Indian Art, Archaeology and Literature*, Delhi, 1980.
 Srivastava, V.C., *Sun Worship in Ancient India*, Allahabad, 1972.
 Upadhaya, S.C., *Jaina Iconography mainly in Svetambaras*, Bombay, 1969

DCEC-J

Early Indian Architecture up to 13th century CE

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Origin and Development of Urban & Secular Architecture: Town planning, Cities and City Gates, Palaces, etc.
2. Religious architecture: *Stupas, Chaityas, Sangharamas and Deuls*
3. Rock-Cut Architecture: Caves and Temples
4. Canonical Divisions of Indian Temple Architecture: *Nagara, Dravida, Vesara*
5. Indian Temple styles developed during 4th-6th century CE
6. Early Medieval Temple Styles: North India and South India with other regional features

Select Reading List

Bandyopadhyay, Sudipa, *Architectural Motifs in Early Medieval Art of Eastern India*, Kolkata, 2002

Ray Bandyopadhyay, Sudipa, "Patronage and Buddhist Architecture in Early Historical Period", *Journal of Bengal Art*, Vol. 19, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2013, pp. 133-140

----- "Durga Temple at Aihole", *Journal of Ancient Indian History*, Vol. XXV, pp. 44-48

Bhattacharya, Asok K., "Rock-Cut Caves (Buddhist, Jaina and Brahmanical)", *The Cultural Heritage of India*, Vol. VII, Part I, (ed.), Kapila Vatsyayan with an Introduction by Ananda K. Coomaraswamy, Kolkata, 2006

Brown, Percy, *Indian Architecture: Buddhist and Hindu Periods*, Bombay, 1971

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Dehejia, Vidya, *Royal Patrons and Great Temple Art*, Bombay, 1988

----- *Early Buddhist Rock Temples*, NCROL, 1972

----- *Yogini Cult and Temples A Tantric Tradition*, National Museum, New Delhi, 1986

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- Huntington, Susan L. *Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*, New York, 1993, 2nd reprint.
- The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*, New York, 1993
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- "Architecture and Art of Southern India", Part I, Vol. 6 of the *New Cambridge History of India*, Cambridge, 1995
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- Saraswati, S. K., *Architecture of Bengal, Book I, (Ancient Phase)*, Calcutta, 1976
- Sarkar, H., *Studies in Early Buddhist Architecture of India*, Delhi, 1966
- Shah, U.P., & M. A. Dhaky, *Aspects of Jain Art and Architecture*, Ahmedabad, 1975
- Soundararajan, K.V., *Art of South India-Deccan*, New Delhi, 1971
- Srinivasan, K. R., *Cave Temples of the Pallavas*, Delhi, 1964
- Temples of South India*, New Delhi, 1971

DCEC-K

Textual Traditions and Religious Practices in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Textual Traditions

1. Sacred Texts: Understanding their nature and authority---Oral traditions and Textual Transmission—Texts as sources for the study of religion
2. Brahmanical Textual Traditions: Vedic Saṁhitās, Brāhmanas, Upaniṣads, Purāṇas
3. Heterodox Textual Traditions: Buddhist Canonical and Non-Canonical Texts, Jain Canonical Texts
4. Sectarian and devotional texts: Tantric Literature, Bhakti Literature
5. Texts and Society: Construction of religious identities---Gender, caste and social order in religious texts

Religious Practices

1. The centrality of sacrificial rituals---Morphology of the Vedic rituals Sacrificial and Ritualistic Religion of the Saṁhitās and Brāhmanas
2. Ascetic and Monastic Practices
3. Temple Rituals, sacred spaces, pilgrimage traditions, patronage
4. Popular Religious Practices
5. Interaction between textual prescriptions and living practices

Select Reading List

Barua, B.M.: *Pre-Buddhist Indian Philosophy*, Delhi, 1970, (Reprint).

Bary, W.T.de (ed.), *Sources of Indian Tradition*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1958.

Basham, A.L., *The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism*, New Delhi, 1989.

-----The History and Doctrine of the Ajivikas, Delhi, 1981, (Reprint).

----- (ed.) *A Cultural History of India*, Delhi, 1975

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-----Prachin Bharat: Samaj o Sahitya, in Bengali, Kolkata, 1420 B.S.

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Durkheim, E, *The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life*, London, 1964.

Eliade, Mircea, *History of Religious Ideas*, Chicago, 1978.

Flaherty, Wendy Doniger, *The Rig Veda: An Anthology*, Mumbai, 2000.

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-----, *Pali Literature Including the Canonical Literature in Prakrit and Sanskrit of all the Hinayana Schools of Buddhism*, Germany, 1983

Pande, Govinda Chandra, *Studies in the Origins of Buddhism*, Allahabad, 1957

Roy, Kumkum, Chakrabarty, Kunal and Sarkar, Tanika, *Veda, Hindu Dharma, Hindutva* (in Bengali), Kolkata, 2005.

Rocher, L. *The Puranas*, Wiesbaden, 1986.

Sharma, R.S.: *Material Culture and Social Formation in Ancient India*, Delhi, 1983.

Settar, S, *Inviting Death: Historical Experiments on Sepulchral Hill*, Dharwad, 1986

----- *Pursuing Death: Philosophy and Practice of Voluntary Termination of Life*, Dharwad, 1990.

Shaw, Miranda, *Passionate Enlightenment: Women in Tantric Buddhism*, Princeton, 1994.

Winternitz, M, *History of Indian Literature, Vol. I*, Calcutta, 1927.

DCEC-L

History of Gender Relations and Marginalized Groups in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Some definitional issues: History of Gender Relations or Women's History?
2. Different Approaches to the Study of Gender Relations in Early India
3. Crystallisation of Brahmanical Patriarchy as a Hegemonic Institution
4. Production and Reproduction: Trajectories of Gendered Social Transactions
5. Ways of Seeing: Women in early texts and visual cultures
6. Mapping Desire: Women and Sexuality in Early India
7. Spirituality and Gender
8. Locating Different Marginalized Groups in Early Indian Sources: The Dāsas, Caṇḍālas, Mlecchas, Forest-dwellers and Tribes
9. The Making of Marginality: the process of marginalization, subordination and exclusion from prehistoric to historical periods
10. Untouchability and Slavery

Select Reading List

Bawa, Seema, *Gods, Men and Women: Gender and Sexuality in Early Indian Art*, New Delhi, 2013.

Bhattacharji, Sukumari, *Women and Society in Ancient India*, Calcutta, 1994.

Blackstone, Kathryn, *Women in the Footsteps of the Buddha: The Struggle for Liberation in the Therigatha*, Delhi, 2000.

Chakravarti, Uma, *Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens*, Calcutta, 2003.

----- 'Women, Men, and Beasts: The Jatakas as Popular Tradition' in Chakravarti Uma- *Everyday Lives, Everyday Histories: Beyond the Kings and Brahmanas of 'Ancient' India*, New Delhi, 2006.

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Dehejia, Vidya, *Slaves of the Lord*, Delhi, 1988.

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Fick, R., *The Social Organisation of North-East India in Buddha's Time*, Translated by Shishirkumar Maitra, Calcutta, 1920

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Jha, V., *Chandala: Untouchability and Caste in Early India*, Delhi, 2018.

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- Orr, Leslie C., *Donors, Devotees and Daughters of God: Temple Women in Medieval Tamilnadu*, New York, 2000.
- Ramaswamy, Vijaya, *Walking Naked: Women, Society, Spirituality in South India*, Shimla, 1997.
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- Ratnagar, S., *The Other Indians: Essays on Pastoralists and Prehistoric Tribal People*, New Delhi, 2004
- Roy, Kumkum, *The Power of Gender and the Gender of Power*, New Delhi. 2010.
- (ed.) *Women in Early Indian Societies*, New Delhi, 1999.
- Sangari, Kumkum and Uma Chakravarti (eds.) *From Myths to Markets: Essays on Gender*, Shimla, 1999.
- Sen, A.P., (ed) *Subordinate and Marginal Groups in Early India*, New Delhi, 2004.
- Shah, Kirit K., *The Problem of Identity: Women in Early Indian Inscriptions*, New Delhi, 2001.
- Sharma, R.S., *Śūdras in Ancient India: A Social History of the Lower Order Down to Circa A.D.600*, New Delhi. 1958.
- Tyagi, Jaya, *Women in the Grihyasutras*, Delhi, 2001.

DCEC-M

Agrarian Society; Urban Processes and Notions of Urbanity in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Agrarian Society

1. Different types of early societies; General features of agrarian society
2. Transition from hunting gathering to agrarianism; Expansion of agriculture; Formation of agrarian societies
3. Rise of the peasants; The peasant and the state
4. Composition of agricultural texts: The *Kṛṣiparāśara*
5. Agricultural lores and practices

Urban Processes and Notions of Urbanity in Early India

1. Locating the 'urban' in the settlement pattern in Early India
2. The Rural-Urban Dichotomy reflected in Early Indian Sources: Real or Imagined?
3. Phases of Urbanisation: Catalysts of change in each phase
4. The Urban Space: Understanding the spatial- functional dimension of urban enclaves
5. Urbanity: Identifying economic anchors and social networks, Stratification and the lower surface of city-life, the city and labour
6. Cultural Life of the City: Heterogeneity and Diversity

Select Reading List

- Ali, Daad, *Courtly Culture and Political Life in Early Medieval India*, Delhi, 2006
- Allchin, F. R. et.al., *The Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia; The Emergence of Cities and States*, Cambridge, 1995
- Amin Ash and Thrift, Nigel, *Cities: Re-imagining the Urban*, Massachusetts, 2002
- Basant, P.K., *The City and the Country in Early India: A Study of Malwa*, Delhi, 2012
- Bhattacharya, B., *Urban Development in India Since Prehistoric Times*, Delhi, 1979
- Bose, A. N., *Social and Rural Economy of Northern India*, 2nd edition, 2 Volumes, Calcutta, 1961-67
- Chakravarti, D. K., *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities*, Delhi, 1995
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- Champakalakshmi, R., *Trade, Ideology and Urbanisation*, Delhi, 1996
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- Indian Feudalism*, Calcutta, 1965
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- Law, B. C., *Pañcālas and Their Capital Ahicchatra*, Delhi, 1942
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- Law, B.C., *Ujjayini in Ancient India*, Gwalior, 1944
- Majumdar, G.P and Banerji, S.C. (eds, tr.), *Kṛṣiparāśara*, Calcutta, 1960
- Manford, L., *The City in History*, New York, 1961
- Parasher Sen, A (ed.), *Handbook on Urban History of Ancient India*, Singapore, 2024
- Prasad, K., *Cities, Crafts and Commerce Under the Kusanas*, Delhi, 1984
- Puri, B. N. *Cities of Ancient India*, Meerut, 1966
- Rich, John and Wallace-Hadrill, Andrew (eds.), *City and Country in the Ancient World*, London, 199)
- Sahu, B.P. (ed.), *Land System and Rural Society in Early India*, New Delhi, 1997
- Sarao, K.TS. *Urban Centres and Urbanisation as Reflected in the Pali Vinaya and Sutta Pitaka*, Delhi, 1900
- Sharma R. S., *Indian Feudalism, c.300-1200*, Calcutta, 1965, 1987
-*Early Medieval Indian Society: A Study in Feudalisation*, Kolkata, 2001
-*Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*, New Delhi, 1983, 2007
- Stein, B., *Peasant State and Society in Medieval South India*, Delhi, 1980
- Thakur, V. K., *Urbanisation in Ancient India*, New Delhi, 1981
- Ucko, P., Tringham, R. and Dimbleby, G., *Man, Settlement and Urbanism*, Cambridge, 1972
- Yadava, B. N. S., *Society and Culture in Northern India in the Twelfth Century*, Allahabad, 1973

DCEC-N

History of Medicine and Surgery

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

- 1 Approaches to the Study of History of Medicine
2. Medical Texts The two principal available texts: *Caraka Saṁhita* and *SuśrutaSaṁhita*.
Twoancillary texts: Vāgbhaṭ's *Aṣṭāṅga Hridaya* and *Kalyāṇakāraka*Of Ugraditya.
3. Social background of the Medical Texts
4. Medical Education and Medical Network
5. Perception of Diseases
6. Religion and Medicine
7. Healers and process of healing
- 8.Social stigma for a physician
9. Techniques of cut ear, cut nose and cleft lip repair as mentioned in the Susruta Samhita
10. Medical education, class and gender in the two medical compendia
11. Diet, Nutrition and Hygiene: Preventive Measures in Daily Regimen

Select Reading List

- Basu Majumdar, S. and N. Sharma Mukherjee, *Essays on History of Medicine*, Bombay/Nasik, 2013
- Basu Majumdar, S., 'Aggalayya- An 11th Century Jaina Surgeon,' *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, Vol. 73, 2012
- Bhishagranta, K.K. (trans.), 'An English Translation of the Sushruta Samhita based on the Original Sanskrit Text', Volumes I-III, Varanasi, 1963
- Chakravarti, R. and Ray, K., *Healing and Healers Inscribed: Epigraphic bearing on Healing-houses in Early India*, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata, 2011
- Chattopadhyaya, D.P., *Science and Society in Ancient India*, Calcutta, 1977
- Das, Sukla, *Medical Heritage of Ancient India: An Anthology*, Kolkata. 2015
- L. Gopal, "Social Stigma for a Physician in Ancient India", *Prachya Pratibha*, 985-87, Vol. XIII, No.2
- Halder (De), Mani Kuntala, *Elements of Ayurveda in Pali Literature*, Kolkata, 2002
- Kutumbiah, P., *Ancient Indian Medicine*, Bombay, Madras, New Delhi, 1969

- Lochan, Kanjiv, *Medicines of Early India*, Varanasi, 2003.
- Meulenbeld, G.J and Wujastyk, D. (ed.), *Studies on Indian Medical History*, Delhi, 2001 Reprint
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- Mitra J, *History of Indian Medicine from pre-Mauryan to Kusana Period*, Varanasi, 1974
- Mukhopadhyay, G., *The Surgical Instruments of the Hindus, with a Comparative study of the Surgical instruments of the Greek, Roman Arab and the Modern European Surgeons*. Calcutta, 1913
- Naqvi, Nasim, H., *A Study of Buddhist Medicine and Surgery in Gandhara*, Delhi, 2011
- Sharma Mukherjee, N., et al., 'The Oral Tradition in Ancient India and the Evolution of the *Susruta Samhita*' in *ABM Habibullah Commemoration Volume*. National Committee for ABM Habibullah Birth Centenary Celebration, Dhaka, 2018.
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- Sharma Mukherjee, N., 'Reflections on Food Ethics in the *Jatakas*'. *Journal of Ancient Indian History*, Vol. XXVII, 2010-2011.
- Sharma Mukherjee, N., 'Ethics of Consumption: Food Preferences and Dietary Practices in the *Jatakas*' in D.N. Jha (ed), *The Complex Heritage of Early India: Essays in Memory of R.S. Sharma*, New Delhi, 2014
- Sharma. P. and Kaviratna, AC, (eds), *Caraka Samhita*, Volumes IV. Dibi, 1996
- Sharma, P.V., *History of Medicine in India from Antiquity to 1000 AD*, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, 1992.
- Sharma, P.V., *Suśruta Samhita with English translation of text and Dalhana's Commentary. along with critical notes*, Vols.I-III, Varanasi, Reprint 2010
- Shastri, V.P., *Kalyānakāraka*, translated into Hindi, Varanasi, Reprint, 2011
- Singhal, G.D. et al. (eds. and trans.), *Ancient Indian Surgery Series: Vols. I-X*, Delhi, 2007
- Valiathan, M.S., *The Legacy of Caraka*, Hyderabad, 2009
- Valiathan, M.S., *The Legacy of Suśruta*, Hyderabad, 2009
- Wujastyk, D., *The Roots of Ayurveda: Selections from Sanskrit Medical Writings*, New Delhi, 2001
- Zimmermann, F., *The Jungle and the Aroma of Meats: an Ecological Theme in Hindu Medicine*, Delhi, 1999
- Zysk K.G, *Medicine in the Veda: Religious Healing in the Veda*, Delhi, 1996
- Zysk K.G., *Asceticism and Healing in Ancient India: Medicine in the Buddhist Monastery*. Delhi, Reprint 2000

DCEC-O

Environmental History of Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Conceiving Ecology and Environment- Humans and nature: Reading coexistence
2. Climate and Social Change- Neolithic revolution, symbiosis of agriculture and pastoralism, climate and the Harappan Civilization
3. Ecology and Environment: *Tinai*s in the Sangam literature, Forms of production and forces of change, ecology, population and consumption
4. Dharma and Artha texts and practices as resources for ecology. Environmental and Ecological awareness in the Epics.
5. Water bodies, Water management and issues of pollution and purification
6. Diseases, resistance and ecology. History of Environmental conservation in Ancient and Early Medieval times.
7. Settlement pattern, spatial organization, mortuary practices and environmental issues
8. Perceiving the forest, Forest dwellers, faunal environment and human coexistence. Forest corridors: Consciousness and Understanding. Forest and the State.
9. Routes: Intra and Interconnectivity and environmental history. Monsoon and the journeys
- 10 Living with natural calamities and disasters: floods, famines, draughts and forest fire

Select Reading List

Allchin, F. R., *Neolithic Cattle-keepers of South India: A Study of Deccan Ashmounds*, London: Cambridge University Press, 1963.

Barua, B. M., 'The Sohgaure Copper-Plate Inscription', in *Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute*, Vol. 11, No. 1, 1930

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Bithin, Thakur. 'History of Environmental Conservation (Ancient and Medieval Periods)', *International Journal of Multidisciplinary*, Vol. 4, No. 5, 2019.

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Gadgil, Madhav and Romila Thapar, 'Human Ecology in India: Some Historical Perspectives', in *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*, Vol. 15, No. 3, 1990.

Gurukkal, Rajan, *Social Formations of Early South India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Habib, Irfan, *Man and Environment: The Ecological History of India*, A People's History of India, Vol. 36, New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2015 (fourth edition).

Hughes, Donald, *What is Environmental History?*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2016.

Kielhorn, F., 'Junagadh Rock Inscription of Rudradaman', *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. VIII, 1981 (reprint).

Misra, V. N., 'Climate, A Factor in the Rise and Fall of the Indus Civilization: Evidence from Rajasthan and Beyond', in Mahesh Rangarajan, ed., *Environmental Issues in India: A Reader*, Delhi: Pearson, 2008.

Morrison, Kathleen D., *Forest, Foragers and Empires: Socio-natural Histories of Southern India*, Delhi: Primus Books, 2024.

Narayanan, Vasudha. "One Tree Is Equal to Ten Sons': Hindu Responses to the Problems of Ecology, Population, and Consumption', *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, Vol. 65, No. 2, 1997.

Rangarajan, Mahesh, and K. Sivaramakrishnan, eds., *India's Environmental History: From Ancient Times to the Colonial Period: A Reader*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black, 2014.

DCEC-P

Temple Economy and Patronage

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Temple Economy

1. Economic functions of temples
2. Role of temples in extension of agrarian activity. State Temples and agricultural development.
3. Role of Temple Committees in Economic development of the institution
4. Educational institutions and temple economy
5. Management of granted lands, endowments and fiscal roles of a temple

6. Temple, pilgrimage and economy
7. Temple as consumer and employer. Temples as patrons of music, arts and courtesans.
8. Studying the Temple Networks

Temple Patronage

1. Patterns of Temple Patronage
2. The Construction of temple as Ritual
3. Nature of Patronage: Royal, Local Administrators, Merchant Guilds, Individuals, etc.
4. Patronage of Hindu Temples from 550 to 1250 CE
5. Religious Patronage: The Temple and Merchant Community

Select Reading List

Aiyer, V. G. Ramakrishna, *The Economy of a South Indian Temple, Annamalainagar*, The Annamalai University, 1946.

Basu Majumdar, Susmita., 'Temples, Monasteries and Patronage issues at Sirpur-looking through the epigraphic lens', in *Kosala*, the Journal of South Kosala, Chhattisgarh, 2008.

Burton Stein, *The State, the Temple and Agricultural Development A Study in Medieval South India*, *The Economic Weekly Annual*, 1961

Champakalakshmi, R., *Trade Ideology and Urbanization South India, 300 BC to AD 1300*, New Delhi, 1996

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Hegde, Rajaram. *Temple Patronage in Medieval Karnataka. With Special Reference to the Banavasi-12000*, Bangalore, 2006.

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Jeyechandrun, , A.V., 'Temples as Cultural Centres', in *South Indian Studies*, ed H.M. Nayak and B.R. Gopal, 1990.

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Ray, Krishnendu, 'Epigraphic Bearing on the Nature of the Networks of Temples in Gujarat (12th to 13th Centuries CE)', in *Journal of the Epigraphical Society of India*, Vol. XLI, 2016.

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Spencer George W., 'Religious Networks in Eleventh Century South India', *JESHO*, Vol. 12. No. 1. 1969, pp. 42-56.

Talbot, Cynthia, 'Temples, Donors, and Gifts: Patterns of Patronage in Thirteenth-Century South India', *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 50, No. 2, pp. 308-340 (33 pages), 1991

Thapar, Romila, *Cultural Transaction and Early India*, New Delhi, 1987.

-----, *Cultural Pasts*, New Delhi, 2000

-----, *Somanatha: The Many Voices of a History*, London and New York, Verso, 2005.

DCEC-Q

Regions in Indian Early Indian history

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Concept of regions in early Indian history; Categories of Regions
2. Formation of historical regions; Centres and networks of communication
3. Case study: History of the formation and emergence of any historical region in early India

Select Reading List

Spathe, O.H.K and Learmonth, A.T.A., *India and Pakistan: A General and Regional Geography*, London, 1967

Sahu, B.P., *The Making of Regions in Indian History, Society State and Identity in Premodern Odisha*, Primus Books, 2020.

Sahu, B.P., *The Changing Gaze, Regions and the Construction of Early India*, OUP, New Delhi, 2013

Morrison, B.M., *Political Centres and Cultural Regions in Early Bengal*, University of Arizona Press, 1970

Subbarao, B., *The Personality of India*, M.S. University Archaeological Series, no.3, Baroda, 1958

DCEC-R

Popular Modes of Communication and Cultural Articulations in Early India

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

Locating the 'People' and the 'Popular' Channels of Articulation

1. Food and Drinks as Popular Channels of Communication
2. Collective Spaces: Congregations, Gatherings, Crowd and the Mob- Behavioural Patterns- Revelry and Compassion, Subversion and Violence
3. Shared Spaces- Humans and the Animate 'Others'
4. People's Culture of Conversation- Storytelling and other Performative Modes
5. Accommodating the Deviant- the imagery of the Madman, the Brigand and the Trickster in Early Indian Popular Perceptions

Select Reading List

Auboyer, Jeannine, *Daily Life in Ancient India*, Bombay, 1967

Chakravarti Uma- *Everyday Lives, Everyday Histories: Beyond the Kings and Brahmanas of 'Ancient' India*, New Delhi, 2006.

----- *Social Dimension of Early Buddhism*, New Delhi, 1987.

Chakravarti, Uma, Nayna Dayal, Bharati Jagannathan and Snigdha Singh (eds.), *Of Thieves and Theris, Potters and Pativratas: Essays on Early Indian Social History for Kumkum Roy*, New Delhi, 2023.

Chattopadhyaya, B.D.(ed.), *A Social History of Early India*, PHISPC Vol.II, Part 3, New Delhi, 2009.

----- *The Concept of Bharatavarsha and other Essays*, New Delhi, 2017.

Doniger O' Flaherty, Wendy, *Tales of Sex and Violence: Folklore, Sacrifice and Danger in the Jaiminīya Brāhmaṇa*, Delhi, 1987.

James, J.G., *Tales and Teachings of the Buddha: The Jataka Stories in Relation to the Pali Canon*, London, 1979.

Jha, D.N., *Drink and Immortality: Essays on Distillation and Alcohol Use in Ancient India*, Delhi, 2020.

Kosambi, D.D., *Myth and Reality: Studies in the Formation of Indian Culture*, Bombay, 1962.

Malamoud, C, *Cooking the World: Ritual and Thought in Ancient India*, Delhi, 1996.

Parasher-Sen, A., *Conversations with the Animate 'Other': Historical Representations of Human and non-Human Interactions in India*. New Delhi, 2023.

Olivelle, Patrick, *Language, Texts and Society: Explorations in Indian Culture and Religion*, London, 2011.

Xinru Liu, *Early Buddhist Society: The World of Gautama Buddha*, New York, 2022.

DCEC-S

Ancient Indian Gurukul System of Education

[4-Credit = 50 Marks Course]

1. Historical evolution of Ancient Indian Education.
2. Philosophical Foundations of Gurukul System of Education.
3. Structure and Administration of the Gurukul.
4. Curriculum and Pedagogy.
5. Gurukul and Ancient Indian Society.
6. Higher Learning and Centres of Excellence.
7. Comparative Perspective.
8. Relevance of Gurukul in Comparative Education - National Education Policy and Gurukul System of Education.

Select Reading List

Das. S,K, *The Educational System of the Ancient Hindus*, Calcutta, 1930.

Das, R, P, Swain. P, Panday. P, and Duarah. M, (eds.), *Indian Knowledge System through the Ages*, United Kingdom, 2025.

Ghosh, S,C, *The History of Education in Ancient India* , C 3000 BC to AD 1192, 2001.

Gosvami. S,Dasa, *Readings in Vedic Literature*, Bombay, 1939.

Keay.F, E, *Ancient Indian Education : An Inquiry into its Origin, Development and Ideals*, London, 1918.

Majumder N, N, *A History of Education in Ancient India* , Calcutta, 1916

Mukherji .R,K, *Ancient Indian Education*, London, 1947.

Nikam. M, J, *Indian Education Systems : Gurukula Traditions and Methods of Knowledge Trasnfer*, IJFMR, Jan. - Feb., Gujarat, 2025.

Selvamani. P, *Gurukul System - An Ancient Educational System in India*, IJASS, June, 2019

SEMESTER 3: Five Compulsory Courses(CC)
[4x5=20 Credits=250 Marks]

Semester 3	Course-Name
CC- 3.1	Research Methodology
CC-3.2	Art Appreciation/Critical Evaluation
CC-3.3	Skill Development /Skill Enhancement Courses/Guided lectures, writing skill/ creation of digital resources
CC-3.4	Museum-Visit: Hands on Learning, Identification of sculptures, Numismatics and Palaeography
CC-3.5	Exploration and Documentation

SEMESTER 4: One Compulsory Course (CC)
[20 Credits=250 Marks]

Semester 4	Course-Name
CC 4	Dissertation-Writing