

Pool of DSE for Multidisciplinary Studies

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE (DSE -1): Art, Society and Culture in India c. 300 BCE to 1000 CE

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Art, Society and Culture in India c. 300 BCE to 1000 CE	4	3	1	0	12 th Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This paper deals with the three most important and interconnected broad facets of history i.e art, society and culture from early historical to early medieval periods. Their trajectory of development, dynamic and ever evolving nature is highlighted clearly through this study. A regional representational approach has been adopted in order to provide a comprehensive approach to the paper.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Grasp various dimensions of visual medium of art, architecture, sculpture and paintings, as a primary source of history, which will enable them to develop a deep understanding of the theme.
- Comprehend the different perspectives that explain the emergence and crystallization of various social structures – varna, jati, untouchability and also gender relations.
- Understand that the society displayed flexibility in terms of assimilation, mobility, providing corresponding spaces to new entrants.
- Grasp the essentials of the major religious traditions of the given time period.
- Develop an understanding about the cultural florescence as reflected in rich literature produced in Sanskrit and vernacular languages.

SYLLABUS OF DSE-1

UNIT I:

1. Mauryan period: architecture, sculpture, terracotta; sources of inspiration

2. Post Mauryan period: features of Stupa architecture and relief sculptures: case study of Sanchi or Amravati – narrative art; patronage of art, terracottas; Mathura, Gandhara and Amravati schools of art
3. Rock architecture of western ghats
4. Gupta period: temples, rock cut caves and sculpture, Paintings
5. Post – Gupta period: Pratiharas, Pallava and Chalukya architecture

UNIT II:

1. Social stratification and changes within: class; varna; jati; varnasamkara, untouchability; gender relations; marriage and property relations

Unit III:

2. Religious doctrines and practices: renunciatory tradition with special reference to Buddhism, Jainism
3. Theistic trends: Puranic Hinduism – Visnuism, Sivaism and Saktism; Murugan cult of south India; the Mahayana schools; the emergence of Tantra
4. Literary and technical works in Sanskrit, Prakrit and Tamil

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/recommended readings

UNIT I: This unit will introduce the students to the significant features of art in the period of their study. **(Teaching Time: 15 hours approx.)**

- Agarwal, V.S. (1965) Studies in Indian Art. Varanasi: Vishwavidyalaya Prakashan. (Chapters 4-8)
- अग्रवाल.वी. एस. (2015) भारतीय कला: प्रारं तमकुरुग से तीसरी शती ईस्वी तक. वाराणसी: पृथ्वी प्रकाशन.(अध्याय7-14)
- Brown, Percy. Indian Architecture. Buddhist and Hindu Periods. Bombay: D.B. Taraporevala Sons & Co. Private Ltd. (Chapters 2-16)
- Harle, J.C. (1986). The Art and Architecture of Indian Subcontinent, Penguin Books (Chapters 1-9, 20)
- Huntington, Susan. (1985) Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain, Weatherhill, New York, Tokyo. (Chapters 4-15)
- Singh, Upinder. (2008). A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century. Delhi: Pearson Longman. (Chapters 7-10)
- तसंह,उतपंरि. (2016). प्राचीनएवंप्रामध्यकालीनभारतकाइतहासः पाषाणकालसे12वीशताब्दीतक. नईतिल्ली. तपरसन.(अध्याय7-10)

UNIT II: This unit will provide an overview of the social structures, relations and changes taking place within them. **(Teaching Time: 15 hours approx.)**

- Chakravarti, Ranabir. (2010). Exploring Early India Up to C. AD 1300. New Delhi: MacMillan. (Chapters 4-7)

- चक्रवती. रणबीर. (2012) भारतीईततहास. आतिकाल. नईतिल्ली. ओररएँ टलब्लैकस्वेन. (अध्यार्4-7)
- Roy, Kumkum. (ed.) (2001). Women in Early Indian Societies. Delhi: Manohar. (Introduction)
- Sharma, R.S. (2007) Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India, Delhi: Macmillan. (Chapters 6,7)
- शमाा. आर . एस. (2008) प्राचीन भारत में भौततक संस्कृ तत एवं सामातिक संरचनाएँ .रािकिमलप्रकाशन. (अध्यार्6और7)
- Singh, Upinder. (2008). A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century. Delhi: Pearson Longman. (Chapters 6-10)
- तसंह,उतपंरि. (2016). प्राचीनएवंपूवामध्यकालीनभारतकाइततहास: पाषाणकालसे12वीशताब्दीतक. नईतिल्ली. तपरसन. (अध्यार्6-10)

Unit III: This unit imparts to the student an understanding to the teachings, beliefs and practices of various ancient Indian religions as well as the rich literature produced in their period of study. **(Teaching Time: 15 hours approx.)**

- Basham, A.L. (1954). The Wonder that was India: A survey of the history and culture of the Indian subcontinent before the coming of the Muslims. Calcutta: Rupa. (Chapters 7, 9)
- बाशम. ए.एल.(2020) अि भुतभारत। तशवलाल अगरवाल एं ड कं पनी (अध्यार्7-9)
- Singh, Upinder. (2008). A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century. Delhi: Pearson Longman. (Chapters 6-10)
- तसंह,उतपंरि. (2016). प्राचीनएवंपूवामध्यकालीनभारतकाइततहास: पाषाणकालसे12वीशताब्दीतक. नईतिल्ली. तपरसन. (अध्यार्6-10)
- Zvelebil, Kamil V. (1991). Tamil Traditions on Subrahmanya-Murugan. Madras (Chennai): Institute of Asian Studies.

Suggested Readings:

- Bhattacharji, Sukumari. (1970). The Indian Theogony: A Comparative study of Indian Mythology From the Vedas to the Puranas. Cambridge University Press.
- Partha,Mitter. (2001) Oxford History of Art, Indian Art, Oxford University Press.
- Ray, Niharranjan. (1975) Maurya and Post-Maurya Art: a study in social and formal contrasts. New Delhi: ICHR, New Delhi.
- Sastri, K.A. Nilakanta. (1963). Development of Religion in South India. Bombay: Orient Longmans.
- Shrimali, K.M. (2015) Essays in Indian Art, Religion and Society. Delhi: Indian History Conference.
- श्रीमली, के.एम. (2017). प्राचीनभारतीर्धमोंका इततहास. तिल्ली: ग्रंथ तशलपी.
- Zvelebil, Kamil V. (1973).The Smile of Murugan, Leiden.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.