



ARSD College, University of Delhi

Model Course Handout/Lesson Plan

Course Name: B.A.Hons History GE						
Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)	Credit (C)
I		Delhi Through Ages: The Making of Its Early Modern History	5	1		5+1
Teacher/Instructor(s)		Dr. Chhaya				
Session		2021-22				

Course Objective:

The objective of the paper is to teach students about the changes in the city of Delhi from its early inception to the eighteenth century. The course teaches how the city grew into one of the largest cities in the world and was the capital of some of the great empires of its time. As the capital of these empires, Delhi profited from continuous immigration, state patronage and a vibrant cultural life. But the course also wants students to learn that the city was not merely dependent upon its rulers for cultural and political sustenance. It focuses on Sufis, litterateurs and merchants who also gave the city its unique character and resilience in the face of political turbulence. Other than recourse to readings the course tries to acquaint students with Delhi through project work and introspection of Delhi's presence and its uneasy relationship with its past.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

- Analyse different kinds of sources -- archaeological, architectural and a variety of textual materials.
- Use these materials and correlate their sometimes discordant information.
- Analyse processes of urbanization and state formation.
- Describe the difficulties in appropriating narratives of the state with the history of particular localities.

Lesson Plan:

Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be covered
1.	This unit will introduce students to the early history of Delhi, focusing on Indraprastha and the Tomara and Chauhan constructions	1-5	early history of Delhi, focusing on Indraprastha
		6-10	Tomara and Chauhan constructions
2.	This unit will study the proverbial ‘seven cities of Delhi’, focusing primarily on Sultanate settlements. It will discuss the possible reasons for the shift of capitals, how settlements of the 13th century gradually appeared as conjoined cities under the Tughluqs, and the differences between these urban spaces	11-12	Seven cities: Introduction
		13-16	Reasons for shift of capitals
		17-20	City under Tughlaqs
		21-23	Differences between various urban spaces
3.	This unit will study any two of the six sites in Delhi in detail. Students will be encouraged to use the readings mentioned below and correlated to the teaching units in the course content to plan field tri	24-28	Case study: Dilli-i-Kuhna
		29-33	Siri
4.	This unit will study the Qila Mubarak (Red Fort) in detail as the site of power under Shah Jahan. It will also focus on Shahjahanabad (Old Delhi) as a mercantile	34-36	Shahjanabad: Construction of the new capital
		37-40	Red Fort: Site of Power
		41-44	Shahjanabad: As a mercantile centre
		45-48	Shahjanabad: As a cultural centre

	and cultural centre.		
5.	This unit will discuss the complicated developments in Shahjahanabad in the 18th century. The ‘decline’ in the authority meant turbulence, perhaps, in the city, but it also empowered new groups of people and created a cultural and social dynamism that was embraced and seen as a challenge by different types of people	49-53	Decline of the city:: Political aspects
		54-56	Culture during this period

Evaluation Scheme:

No.	Component	Duration	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment		25
	• Class Test		
	• Attendance		
	• Assignment		
2.	End Semester Examination	3 hr	75

Details of the Course		
Unit	Contents	Contact Hours
1	Between Myth and History -- Delhi’s Early Pasts: Indraprastha, Lalkot	10
2	From settlements to cityscape – Understanding the Many cities of Delhi	13
3	Delhi’s 13th and 14th Century settlements Case study of any two: 1) Dehli-ikuhna’smasjid-ijami ‘(old Delhi/Mehrauli), 2) Siri, 3) Ghiyaspur-Kilukhri, 4) Tughluqabad, 5) Jahanpanah, and 6) Firuzabad	11
4	Shajahanabad: Qila Mubarak (Red Fort) as a site of power and the morphology of the city	14
5	18th century Delhi: political upheaval and social empowerment – complicated understandings of ‘decline’	8
	Total	56
Suggested Books:		

Sl. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers	Year of Publication/Reprint
1	• Singh, Upinder. (2006). Ancient Delhi, Delhi: Oxford University Press	2006
2	Ali, Athar. (1985). “Capital of the Sultans: Delhi through the 13th and 14th Centuries”, in R.E. Frykenberg, ed., Delhi Through the Age: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 34-44	1985
3	Habib, Irfan. (1978). ‘Economic History of the Delhi Sultanate - an Essay in Interpretation’, Indian Historical Review vol. 4, pp. 287-303.	1978
4	Koch, Ebba. (1994). “Diwan-i ‘Amm and ChihilSutun: The Audience Halls of Shah Jahan”. Muqarnas, vol. 11, pp. 143-165.	1994
5	Alam, Muzaffar. (2013) “Introduction to the second edition: Revisiting the Mughal Eighteenth Century” in The Crisis of Empire in Mughal North India: Awadh and the Punjab 1707-1748, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.xiii-lxiv	2013
Mode of Evaluation:		Internal Assessment / End Semester Exam

