



ARSD College, University of Delhi

Model Course Handout/Lesson Plan

Course Name : B.A. PROG.						
Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)	Credit (C)
I		History of India from earliest times upto c. 300 CE	3	1		4
Teacher/Instructor(s)		MIHIR KUMAR JHA				
Session		2022-23				

Course Objective:

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

This course explores various historical phases and processes of Indian history from prehistoric period to early historic centuries through the lens of archaeological and literary evidence. An overview of various transformations, cultural shifts, developments in all aspects from the earliest times up to the phase of Empire building is provided to the learner. Alongside the pan-Indian historical changes, it also focuses on regional diversities.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

Explain the importance of various sources for study of prehistory and proto-history

Distinguish between civilization and culture, particularly in the context of the Harappan civilization

Locate the developments related to the introduction of Iron in early societies leading to urbanism and state formation

Outline the key features of the Mauryan period .

Locate the shift of historical focus from Gangetic belt to newer areas alongside the process of assimilation.

Lesson Plan:

Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be covered
1.	In this Unit the students shall be introduced to the varied sources, their scope and limitations, for reconstructing the early history of India	1	Introduction
		2-3	varied sources, their scope and limitations, for reconstructing the early history of India
2.	This Unit delineates the transition from hunting gathering to food producing societies, familiarizing the students with their subsistence patterns and material cultures.	4-5	Survey of Prehistoric Cultures: Palaeolithic,
		6-7	Mesolithic Cultures
		8-10	Neolithic Cultures
3.	This Unit will enable students to gain an understanding of the various facets of early urbanism as witnessed during the Harappan civilization.	11-13	Harappan Civilization: early urbanism, town planning,
		14-16	Harappan Civilization: economy, cultural patterns
		17-20	Harappan Civilization: decline
4.	The Unit shall discuss the advent of material cultures and communities that developed the use of iron technology in the northern and southern parts of the subcontinent.	21-23	Vedic culture: an overview
		24-26	Megalithic culture: an overview
5.	This unit shall familiarize the students with major political and social transformations alongside religious ferment that unfolded from roughly c. 600 BCE to c. 300 BCE.	27-29	Second urbanization, material and social changes
		30-32	Buddhism.
		33-35	Jainism.
6	This Unit shall introduce	36-41	The Mauryan Empire: administration, economy,

	students to the evolving administrative framework, economy and concept of Dhamma during the Mauryan Empire.		Ashoka's Dhamma, pillars and rock edicts
7	This Unit shall familiarize the students with important political, economic and social developments that took place in the Tamilakam area of the Indian subcontinent.	42-45	Early Tamilkam: Survey of Sangam literature, polity, economy and society
8	This Unit will provide the students with an understanding about the key developments that took place in North and western India under the post - Mauryan dynasties, especially the Kushanas and Satvahanas.(46-50	Post Mauryan age: polity economy, society and culture with special reference to Satvahanas and Kushanas

Evaluation Scheme:

No.	Component	Duration	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment		70
	.Continuous Assessment		
	• Class Test		
	• Attendance		
	• Assignment		
2.	End Semester Examination	3 hr	90

Details of the Course

Unit	Contents	Contact Hours
I	Sources for interpreting early Indian history	3
II	Survey of Prehistoric Cultures: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic.	7
III	Harappan Civilization: early urbanism, town planning, economy, cultural patterns and decline.	10
IV	Vedic and Megalithic cultures: an overview	6
V	Second urbanization, material and social changes, Buddhism and Jainism.	9
VI	The Mauryan Empire: administration, economy, Ashoka's Dhamma, pillars and rock edicts	6
VII	Early Tamilkam: Survey of Sangam literature, polity, economy and society	6

VIII	Post Mauryan age: polity economy, society and culture with special reference to Satvahanas and Kushanas	3
	Total	

Suggested Books:

Sl. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers	Year of Publication/Reprint
1-	Chakrabarti, D.K. (1990). India: An Archaeological History. New Delhi: OUP	1990
2	Singh, Upinder. (2013). A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th century. New Delhi: Pearson.	2013
3	Sharma, R.S. (1995). Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Early India. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.	1995
4	Thapar, Romila. (2002). Early India from the Origins to AD 1300. New Delhi: Penguin.	2002
5	Allchin, Bridget and Raymond Allchin. (1997). Origin of a Civilization: The Prehistory and Early Archaeology of South Asia. New Delhi: Viking.	1997
Mode of Evaluation:		Internal Assessment / End Semester Exam
