

P G Dept of History
Central University of Himachal Pradesh
Syllabus

Paper I

Course No: HIS 501

Introduction to History and Research Methods

Unit I:

- 1. Meaning and Definition of History**
- 2. Scope and Purpose**
- 3. Objectivity**
- 4. Theories of Causation**

Unit II:

- 1. Relation with other social sciences – Geography, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Statistics, Political Science, Ethics**
- 2. History as Science and as Art**
- 3. Essentials of Historical Methodology**
- 4. Primary and Secondary Sources**

Unit III:

- 1. Perspective of historiography and historians in Ancient India**
- 2. Divine Plan and Human Emotions**
- 3. Historical and Pluralistic School**
- 4. Marxian Theory**

Unit IV:

- 1. Reasons for undertaking Historical Research**
- 2. Choice of Subject**
- 3. Bibliography**
- 4. Authenticity of Document**

Unit V:

- 1. Selection and arrangement of source material**
- 2. Negative and Positive Criticism**
- 3. Institutions as factor in historical writing**
- 4. Determinism in History**

Syllabus of M A (History) Sem I

HIS521- Dharma in Ancient India

Unit -1

- 1 Meaning and Definition of Dharma in Hinduism
- 2 Sources of Dharma
- 3 Definition of Shruti and Smriti
- 4 Dharma by Manu and Yagyavalkya

Unit -2

- 1 Difference between Dharma and Karma
- 2 Concept of Dharma and its multiple meaning in Indian Religions – Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism
- 3 Dharma in Vedas and Upanishads
- 4 Dharma in Epics – Ramayana and Mahabharata

Unit-3

- 1 Dharma in Sindu –Sarswati Valley Civilization
- 2 Dharma in Rigveda Civilization
- 3 Dharma in Later-Vedic Civilization
- 4 Dharma during Mauryan Dynasty

Unit-4

- 1 Dharma – Life stages and Social stratification
- 2 Difference between Dharma and Religion
- 3 Dharma and Law
- 4 Ashoka's Dharma

Unit-5

- 1 Dharma in symbols
- 2 Concept of Dharma in Indian Thought
- 3 Dharma and Indian Legal System
- 4 Definition of Dharma and Adharma by Vatsyayana – Hinsa (violence), Daya (compassion), Dana (charity), etc.

Syllabus of M A (History) Sem I

HIS502- Ancient India : Culture and Society

Unit -1

- 1 Social and Cultural Historiography of Early India – Literary and Archeological Sources
- 2 Trends and Approaches to the study of Ancient Indian Society and Culture
- 3 Social and Cultural life of Palaeolithic and Chalcolithic people
- 4 Kingship, Jati, Janjati, Gender stratification

Unit - II

- 1 Origin of Varna order in the Vedic and Later Vedic period
- 2 Significance of Sanaskaras in Ancient India
- 3 Concept of Ashram in Ancient Indian Society
- 4 Education in Vedic and Later Vedic periods

Unit-3

- 1 Social and Cultural stratification of Sindu-Saraswati Civilization
- 2 Evidence related to religious life of Harappan people
- 3 Social dimensions of Jainism and Buddhism
- 4 Emergence of Buddhist Monastic universities

Unit-4

- 1 Evolution of Social and Cultural Institutions
- 2 Socio-cultural evolution in Mauryan and Post Mauryan periods
- 3 Aspects of social structure and cultural life during the Gupta rule
- 4 Social and Cultural developments in Sangam Age

Unit-5

- 1 Aspects of socio-cultural change in North India and Deccan – Verna, Caste and Gender
- 2 Position of women in society–institution of marriage, custom of sati, niyoga and widowhood
- 3 Notion of Untouchability
- 4 Legacy of Ancient Culture and Social Values

Syllabus of M A (History) Sem I

**HIS503- Political History of Ancient India
(Early period to 700 CE)**

Unit-1

- 1 Survey of the Sources – Archeological, Literary, Foreign Accounts, etc
- 2 Geographical and environmental features
- 3 Emergence of Political Institutions in Ancient India – Janapadas, Ganarajyas and Mahajanapadas
- 4 Rise of Magadha Empire

Unit-2

1. Persian and Greek invasions – causes and impacts
2. Mauryan and Post-Mauryan India – Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusar, Ashoka and his successors
3. Administration of Mauryans
4. Decline of Mauryans and Rise of Shunga, Kanva, Indo-Greek, Indo-Scythian and Indo-Parthian dynasties

Unit-3

- 1 Kushan Dynasty – Rise of Kushans, problems in Kushan genealogy and recent researches, Kanishka and his successors
- 2 Rise of Satavahanas – Early rulers and administration
- 3 Gupta period – origin, early history, Samundra Gupta, Rama Gupta, Chandra Gupta II, Kumar Gupta I, Skanda Gupta
- 4 Gupta Administration

Unit-4

- 1 Later Guptas and the decline of the Gupta Empire
- 2 Origin, early history and administration of the Vakatakas
- 3 Post Vakataka period in Deccan and South India – Chalukya of Badami, Pallavas and Pandyas
- 4 Sangam age of South India – Choal, Cher, Pandyas

Unit-5

- 1 Huna Invasion
- 2 Maitrakas of Valabhi
- 3 Yashovarman of Kannauj
- 4 Pushyabhutis of Thaneshwar- Harshavardhana and his administration

