

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
SYLLABUS FOR
BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY: 3 YEARS (6 SEMESTERS)
UNDER CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS)**

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE (DSC-1):

PAPER-I: HISTORY OF INDIA FROM EARLIEST TIMES UPTO 300 C.E.

PAPER-II: HISTORY OF INDIA FROM C. 300 TO 1206

PAPER-III: HISTORY OF INDIA C. 1206 TO 1707

PAPER-IV: HISTORY OF INDIA C. 1707 TO 1950

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE):

PAPER-I: SOME ASPECTS OF EUROPEAN HISTORY: C. 15TH TO 1945.

PAPER-II: HISTORY OF NORTH BENGAL

SKILL ENHANCEMENT COURSE (SEC):

PAPER-I: HISTORICAL TOURISM: THEORY & PRACTICE

PAPER-II: INDIAN HISTORY & CULTURE

GENERIC ELECTIVE (GE):

PAPER-1: HISTORY OF INDIA FROM PRE HISTORY TO 1757

PAPER-II: HISTORY OF INDIA 1757- 1964

DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER CBCS

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE (DSC)

DSC- 1: PAPER-I (SEMESTER- I):

HISTORY OF INDIA FROM EARLIEST TIMES UP TO 300 CE.

- I. Sources & Interpretation
- II. A broad survey of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic Cultures.
- III. Harappan Civilization; Origin, Extent, dominant features & decline, Chalcolithic age.
- IV. The Vedic Period: Polity, Society, Economy and Religion, Iron Age with reference to PGW & Megaliths.
- V. Territorial States and the rise of Magadha, Conditions for the rise of Mahajanpadas and the Causes of Magadha's success.
- VI. Iranian and Macedonian Invasions, Alexander's Invasion and impact.
- VII. Jainism and Buddhism: Causes, Doctrines, Spread, Decline and Contributions.
- VIII. The Satvahanas Phase: Aspects of Political History, Material Culture, Administration, Religion.
- IX. Emergence and Growth of Mauryan Empire; State, Administration, Economy, Ashoka's Dhamma, Art & Architecture
- X. The Satvahana Phase: Aspects of Political History, Material Culture, and Administration & Religion.
- XI. The Sangam Age: Sangam Literature, The three Early Kingdoms, Society & the Tamil language.
- XII. The age of Shakas: Parthians & Kushanas, Aspects of Polity, Society, Religion, Arts & Crafts, Coins, Commerce and Towns.

DSC- 1: PAPER-II (SEMESTER- II):

HISTORY OF INDIA FROM C.300 TO 1206

- I. The Rise & Growth of the Guptas: Administration, Society, Economy, Religion, Art, Literature, and Science & Technology.
- II. Harsha & his Times: Harsha's Kingdom, Administration, Buddhism & Nalanda.
- III. South India: Polity, Society, and Economy & Culture.
- IV. Towards the Early Medieval: Changes in Society, Polity Economy and Culture with reference to the Pallavas, Chalukayas and Vardhanas.

- V. Evolution of Political structures of Rashtakutas, Pala &Pratiharas.
- VI. Emergence of Rajput States in Northern India: Polity, Economy &Society.
- VII. Arabs in Sindh: Polity, Religion and Society.
- VIII. Struggle for power in Northern India &establishment of Sultanate.

DSC- 1: PAPER-III (SEMESTER- III):

HISTORY OF INDIA FROM 1206 TO 1707

- I. Foundation, Expansion & consolidation of the Delhi Sultanate; Nobility & Iqta system.
- II. Military, administrative &economic reforms under the Khiljis and the Tughlaqs.
- III. Bhakti and Sufi Movements.
- IV. Provincial kingdoms: Mewar, Bengal, Vijaynagara & Bahamanis.
- V. Second Afghan State.
- VI. Emergence and consolidation of Mughal State, C.16th century to mid 17th century.
- VII. Akbar to Aurangzeb: administrative structure- Mansab & Jagirs, State and Religion, Socio-Religious Movements.
- VIII. Economy, Society and Culture under the Mughals.
- IX. Emergence of Maratha Power.

DSC- 1: PAPER-IV (SEMESTER- IV):

HISTORY OF INDIA: 1707-1950.

- I. Interpreting the 18th Century.
- II. Emergence of Independent States &establishment of Colonial power.
- III. Expansion &consolidation of Colonial Power up to 1857.
- IV. Uprising of 1857: Causes, Nature and Aftermath.
- V. Colonial economy: Agriculture, Trade & Industry.
- VI. Socio-Religious Movements in the 19th century.
- VII. Emergence and Growth of Nationalism with focus on Gandhian nationalism.
- VIII. Communalism: Genesis, Growth and partition of India.
- IX. Advent of freedom: Constituent Assembly, establishment of Republic.

**DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER
CBCS**

LANGUAGE CORE COURSE (LCC-1)

LCC – 1: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – I)

BENGALI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 1: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – I)

NEPALI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 1: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – I)

HINDI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 1: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – III)

BENGALI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 1: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – III)

NEPALI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 1: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – III)

HINDI

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

**DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER
CBCS**

LANGUAGE CORE COURSE (LCC-2)

LCC – 2: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – II)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

LCC – 2: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – IV)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

**DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER
CBCS
ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COMPULSORY COURSE (AECC)**

AECC –1: Environmental Studies (SEMESTER – I)

Unit 1: Introduction to environmental studies

- Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies
- Scope and importance; Concept of sustainability and sustainable development

Unit 2: Ecosystems

- What is an ecosystem?
Structure and function of ecosystem;
Energy flow in an ecosystem: food chains, food webs and ecological succession. Case studies of the following ecosystems:
 - a) Forest ecosystem
 - b) Grassland ecosystem
 - c) Desert ecosystem
 - d) Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries)

Unit 3: Natural Resources: Renewable and Non – renewable Resources

- Land resources and land-use change; Land degradation, soil erosion and desertification.
- Deforestation: Causes and impacts due to mining, dam building on environment, forests, biodiversity and tribal populations.
- Water: Use and over – exploitation of surface and ground water, floods, droughts, conflicts over water (international & inter-state), Dams – benefits and problems.
- Food resources: World food problems, changes caused by agriculture and over-grazing, effects of modern agriculture, fertilizer-pesticide problems, water logging, salinity.
- Energy resources: Renewable and non-renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources, growing energy needs, case studies

Unit 4: Biodiversity and Conservation

- Levels of biological diversity: genetic, species and ecosystem diversity; Bio-geographic zones of India; Biodiversity patterns and global biodiversity hotspots.
- India as a mega-biodiversity nation; Endangered and endemic species of India, threats to biodiversity: Habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man-wildlife conflicts, biological invasions.
- Conservation of biodiversity: In – situ and Ex –situ conservation of biodiversity.
- Ecosystem and biodiversity services: Ecological, economic, social, ethical, aesthetic and Informational value.

Unit 5: Environmental Pollution

- Environmental pollution: types, causes, effects and controls; Air, water, soil and noise

pollution

- Nuclear hazards and human health risks
- Solid waste management: Control measures of urban and industrial waste.
- Pollution case studies

Unit 6: Environmental Policies & Practices

- Climate change, global warming, ozone layer depletion, acid rain and impacts on human communities and agriculture
- Environment Laws: Environment Protection Act; Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act; Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act; Wildlife Protection Act; Forest Conservation Act. International agreements: Montreal and Kyoto protocols and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- Nature reserves, tribal populations and rights, and human wildlife conflicts in Indian context.

Unit 7: Human Communities and the Environment

- Human population growth: Impacts on environment, human health and welfare. Resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected persons; case studies.
- Disaster management: floods, earthquake, cyclones and landslides.
- Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management.
- Wasteland reclamation.
- Environmental movements: Chipko, Silent valley, Bishnois of Rajasthan.
- Environmental ethics: Role of Indian and other religions and cultures in environmental conservation.
- Environmental communication & public awareness, case studies (e.g., CNG vehicles in Delhi).

(To be chosen from English, Bengali, Nepali and Hindi)

AECC – 2: English Communication (SEMESTER – II)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

AECC – 2: Bengali Communication (SEMESTER – II)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

AECC – 2: Nepali Communication (SEMESTER – II)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

AECC – 2: Hindi Communication (SEMESTER – II)

Common approved syllabus to be followed.

DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER CBCS

SKILL ENHANCEMENT COURSE (SEC)

SEC- 1: PAPER- 1 (SEMESTER- III)

HISTORICAL TOURISM: THEORY & PRACTICE

- I. Defining Heritage
 - Art & Architecture in India: An overview:
 - Field Work: Visit to historical sites & Museums.
- II. Understanding Built Heritage:
 - Stupa Architecture
 - Temple Architecture
 - Indo Persian Architecture, Forts, Palaces, Mosques
 - Colonial Architecture
 - Present day structures
- III. Modalities of conducting tourism.

SEC- 1: PAPER- 1I (SEMESTER- IV)

INDIAN HISTORY & CULTURE

- I. Environment ; Culture, Tradition & Practices:
 - Historical overview.
 - Oral & codified information on Medicinal Plants.
 - Water & Water bodies.
- II. Urbanization & Urbanism:
 - Issues of settlements & landscapes.
 - Social differentiations.
 - Communication networks.
- III. Social Inequality & Gender:
 - Status within Households: An overview.

-Present Context

-Issues of Violence

-Employment, distribution of resources.

IV. Cultural Heritage:

-Main components.

-Built Heritage

-Historical Tourism

V. Cultural forms & Cultural Expressions:

Performing Arts-Fairs and festivals.

SEC – 2: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – V)

Other Discipline. Common approved syllabus to be followed.

SEC – 2: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – VI)

Other Discipline. Common approved syllabus to be followed.

DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER CBCS

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE)

DSE- 1: PAPER- 1(SEMESTER- V)

SOME ASPECTS OF EUROPEAN HISTORY: C. 15TH -1945

- I. Historiographical Trends.
- II. Feudal Crisis: Main strands.
- III. Renaissance: Origin, Spread & Dominant Features.
- IV. European Reformation: Genesis, nature & Impact.
- V. Beginning of the era of colonization: motives; mining and plantation; the African slaves.
- VI. Economic developments of the sixteenth century; Shift of economic balance from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic.
- VII. Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism: Industrial Revolution in England
- VIII. Some Aspects of European History: C.1780-1939.
- IX. The French Revolution: Genesis Nature & Consequences, Napoleonic Era and aftermath.
- X. Revolutions of 1830 & 1848.
- XI. Unification of Italy and Germany.
- XII. Social and economic Changes.
- XIII. Imperialist Conflicts: World War I.
- XIV. Rise of Fascism and Nazism.
- XV. Origin of World War II.

DSE- 1: PAPER- 1I (SEMESTER- VI)

HISTORY OF NORTH BENGAL

- Rise of Gauda (320-650 A.D.):
- North Bengal under the Imperial Guptas, Rise of Gauda - Sasanka.
- Political Disintegration after Sasanka: Kingdom of Gauda.
- The Palas: Origin and Early History of the Palas, the Pala Empire, disintegration and temporary revival, the End of the Pala Empire, the Senas.
- Religion: Religious Thought and Practice – Brahmanical, Jainism and Buddhism.
- Iconography: Vaisnava, Saiva, Sakti, Surya, Miscellaneous, Jaina and Buddhist images.

- Architecture and Sculpture: Stupa, Monastic and temple Architecture.
- Sculpture: Introduction, Kushana Affiliation, the Gupta Idiom, Paharpur, Pala and Sena Sculpture.
- Society: Ethnological Background, Aryanisation of North Bengal, Socio-Religious rites, ceremonies and Festivals, General life of the People, Position of Women, Food and Drink, Dress and Ornaments, Games and Pastimes, Music and Dance, Conveyances, Luxury and immortality.
- Ilyas Shahi Dynasty, Dinajpur Raj: Raja Ganesha, Hindu Kings of Bengal,
- Hussain Shahi Dynasty, Gour-Pandua and Adina, The Mughals in north Bengal.
- Khen Dyansty, Kamata-Koch Dynasty up to 1773.
- Conquest and expansion of British rule in North Bengal, Famines in North Bengal, 1770
- Growth of District towns, Hill stations and process of urbanization.
- Expansion of economy: commercialization of agriculture (Tobacco, Jute and Rice), plantation economy, trade and commerce, control over the forest resources, Trade, Transport and Communication.
- Land Revenue System of North Bengal.
- Demographic changes till the end of colonial rule, Business Community (European and Indian).
- People's participation in the anti-colonial movement in the districts of North Bengal, Swadeshi Movement, Quit India Movement.
- Peasant movements with special reference to Sannyasi-Fakir, Indigo, Santhal (Jitu Santhal) and Tebhaga Movement.
- Impact of worldwide economic depression in North Bengal.
- Caste movements with special emphasis on Rajbanshi Khatriya Movement and role of Rai Saheb Panchanan Barma.
- Education in Colonial North Bengal.
- Relation of Princely State of Cooch Behar with the English, Merger of Cooch Behar after Indian independence.
- Freedom Struggle in North Bengal.

DSE – 2: PAPER – I (SEMESTER – V)

Other Discipline. Common approved syllabus to be followed.

DSE – 2: PAPER – II (SEMESTER – VI)

Other Discipline. Common approved syllabus to be followed.

DETAILED SYLLABUS OF BA PROGRAMME IN HISTORY UNDER CBCS

GENERIC ELECTIVE (GE)

GE- 1: PAPER- I (SEMESTER- V)

HISTORY OF INDIA (PREHISTORIC TIMES TO 1757)

- I. Pre historic India: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, and Chalcolithic ages; the Harappan civilization—origins, town planning, trade and craft, religion, decline, legacy of Harappa.
- II. The Vedic Civilization: debate on original homeland; Rig-Vedic and Later-Vedic periods—society, economy, culture, polity; transition from pastoral to agricultural society.
- III. Transition from Chiefdom to Kingdom: Sixteen Mahajanapadas—monarchical and non-monarchical polity; emergence of Magadha as an imperial power; Second Urbanization.
- IV. Religious Protest Movement: Buddhism, Jainism, Ajivikas and others—their historical background; Buddha—his principles; social base and nature of Buddhism; comparison with Jainism.
- V. The Mauryas: from Chandragupta to Asoka—a political overview with special emphasis on Maurya administration; Asoka's Dhamma; decline of the Mauryan empire.
- VI. Post-Maurya Phase: the Satavahanas; foreign intervention in north Indian politics—Greeks, Sakas, Pallavas. The Kushanas —polity, religion, culture, and economy. Indo-Roman trade.
- VII. The Guptas: expansionist policy; administration, economy, society, religion, and culture; downfall of the Gupta empire.
- VIII. Bengal under the Palas and the Senas: the Palas—rise, relation with the Rashtrakutas and the Pratiharas; rise and fall of the Senas; an overview of other local rulers— Harshavardhana, Sasanka; political development in South India with special reference to the Cholas, Pallavas, and the Chalukyas.
- IX. Arab Conquest of Sind: Ghaznavid and Ghurid invasion
- X. Sources of Medieval Indian History: different sources; historians and histories.
- XI. Political History of the Delhi Sultanate: establishment, growth and consolidation of the Sultanate; nature of the state; the Mongols; nobility and the Ulema; Afghan despotism—the Sayyids, Lodis, and the Surs.
- XII. Society and Economy: rural and urban society; land revenue system; Iqta system; non agrarian economy, urbanization; market regulations and trade.

- XIII. Regional Political Formations: Bengal under the Ilyas Shahis and the Hussain Shahis; Vijaynagar and Bahamani kingdoms.
- XIV. Religion and Culture: Sufism and Bhakti movement; literature, art and architecture.
- XV. Foundation and Expansion of the Mughal Empire: struggle for empire in North India; Babur's invasion; Mughal - Afghan conflict; expansion of the empire from Akbar to Aurangzeb.
- XVI. Consolidation of the Empire: Akbar's imperialist agenda—administration, Mansabdari system, Zabt system; Religion and state—Akbar to Aurangzeb; evolution of the nobility under the Mughals.
- XVII. Mughal Economy, Society and Culture: rural society and agrarian relations; crafts and industries; monetary system; inland and oceanic trade; literature; technology; architecture and painting.
- XVIII. Disintegration of the Mughal Empire: problems of succession and court politics in the reign of Aurangzeb; popular revolts within the Mughal empire—the Jats, Satnamis, Afghans, and the Sikhs; crisis in the Jagirdari system; peasant uprising and agrarian crisis; debates and interpretations.
- XIX. Political Ascendency of the English East India Company in India.

GENERIC ELECTIVE (GE)

GE- 1: PAPER- II (SEMESTER- VI)

HISTORY OF INDIA (1757-1964)

- I. British Ascendency in Bengal: Siraj-ud-daula and the battle of Plassey; battle of Buxar; grant of Diwani; Dual system of government.
- II. Expansion of British Power: Subsidiary Alliance; Doctrine of Lapse; British relations with Mysore, the Marathas, and the Sikhs.
- III. Colonial Economy: land revenue settlements; Drain of Wealth; deindustrialization.
- IV. Early Resistance to British Rule: Wahabi movement; Santhal rebellion; the Revolt of 1857.
- V. Social Reforms and National Consciousness: Western education; Raja Rammohan Roy; Vidyasagar; Prarthana Samaj; Arya Samaj; Aligarh movement; political associations; the birth of Indian National Congress.
- VI. Pre-Gandhian Politics: Moderate Congress; Extremism; Swadeshi movement; revolutionary movement in Bengal and in Punjab; peasant and working class movements.
- VII. Gandhian Movement: rise of Gandhi; Khilafat movement; Non-Cooperation; Civil Disobedience; Quit India movement; women in Gandhian movement.

- VIII. Second World War and Indian Politics: Cripps Mission; Cabinet Mission; S.C. Bose and INA; RIN; Mountbatten Plan; communal politics and Partition.
- IX. Independent India: Indian Constitution; economic planning; development of parliamentary democracy; movement for social justice.
- X. Indian Foreign Policy: Non-alignment; Indo-China relation; Indo-Pak relation.