

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE (DSE -4): Cultures in Indian Subcontinent – I**

**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		
<b>Cultures in Indian Subcontinent – I</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	12 th Pass	NIL

**Learning Objectives**

This course aims to provide an overview of Indian cultural traditions and cultural experience. It will help students to understand the meaning, perspectives and approaches to the study of culture. The section dealing with Indian languages and literature focuses upon the development of Sanskrit, Prakrit, vernacular, Indo-Persian and Urdu language and literature respectively. The content of performing arts will help one appreciate the traditions of music, dance and drama in Indian culture through the ages. This also explores the development of different forms of architecture in India since ancient period.

## Learning outcomes

After the successful completion of this Course, the students will be able to:

- understand different perspectives and approaches to the study of culture,
- explain the plurality in Indian cultural traditions,
- learn the growth of Sanskrit, Prakrit, vernacular, Indo-Persian and Urdu language and literature,
- trace the evolution of and the distinction between the Hindustani and Carnatic music culture,
- identify Indian classical dance forms, musical and theatre cultures,
- explain the rich architectural traditions of India.

## SYLLABUS OF DSC-1

**Unit I:** Definitions of Culture and its various aspects

1. Perspective on Cultures: Indian Cultural tradition: An overview.
2. Plurality of Cultures: Social Content of Culture

**Unit II:** Language and Literature

1. Sanskrit: Kavya – Kalidasa’s Ritusamhara; Prakrit: Gatha Saptasati.
2. Development of Vernacular language and literature.
3. Indo-Persian literature: Amir Khusro’s works; Urdu poetry and prose: Ghalib.

**Unit III:** Performing Arts

1. Music: Hindustani, Carnatic Classical Music, Devotional Music: Bhakti and Sufi
2. Dance: Classical and Folk
3. Theatre: Classical, Folk, Colonial and Modern

**Unit IV:** Architecture: Meanings, Forms and Functions

1. Rock-cut and structural temples: Mamallapuram or Ellora; Khajuraho complex and Tanjavur temple.
2. Fort – Daulatabad or Chittor forts; Palace–dargah at Fatehpur Sikri.
3. Colonial architecture– Lutyens’ Delhi.

**Practical component (if any) - NIL**

## Essential/recommended readings

**Unit-I:** This unit will enable students to understand the meaning of culture and its various perspectives. It will further help them to explain the plural characteristics of cultures in the Indian subcontinent and explore their content which conveys diverse ideas. **(Teaching Time: 9 hrs. approx.)**

- Basham, A.L. The Wonder That was India. Volume I, Rupa & Co., New Delhi, 1997. (in Hindi translation Adhbhut Bharat)

- Maxwell, T.S. Image: Text and Meaning: Gods of South Asia, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1997.
- Thakaran, R.C, Sheo Dutt and Sanjay Kumar, ed. Bhartiya Upamahadvipa ki Sanskritiyan, (in Hindi), Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board, University of Delhi, 2013.

**Unit II:** This unit will help students to understand the literary traditions of India since ancient times. The section deals with some of the important literary works of Sanskrit and Prakrit literature in ancient India. It also explores about the origin and development of vernacular literature in India along with the development of Indo-Persian literature in medieval times and, Urdu poetry and prose of modern period. **(Teaching Time: 12 hrs. approx.)**

- Basham, A.L. The Wonder That was India. Volume I, Rupa & Co., New Delhi, 1997. (in Hindi translation Adhbhut Bharat)
- Khanna, Meenakshi, Madhyakalin Bharat Ka Saanskritic lihas, (translated in Hindi by Umashankar Sharma), Orient Blackswan, Delhi, 2012.
- Majumdar, R.C. ed. The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. 3 (The Classical Age), Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay, 1954. (chapters XV, XIX) (in Hindi translation Shrenya Yug translated by Shivdaan Singh Chauhan, Motilal Banarsidass, 1984)
- Thakaran, R.C, Sheo Dutt and Sanjay Kumar, ed. Bhartiya Upamahadvipa ki Sanskritiyan, (in Hindi), Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board, University of Delhi.

**Unit III:** This unit highlights various kinds of performing art forms practiced in India since our ancient past. These include music, dance and theatre. This part deals with the musical traditions of north and south India. The focus is also on the devotional music of the Bhakti and Sufi traditions. Classical and folk forms of dance and theatre are also dealt with. **(Teaching Time: 12 hrs. approx.)**

- Thakaran, R.C, Sheo Dutt and Sanjay Kumar, ed. Bhartiya Upamahadvipa ki Sanskritiyan, (in Hindi), Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board, University of Delhi.
- Vatsyayan Kapila; Indian Classical Dance, Publications Divisions, New Delhi, 1974 (also in Hindi translation)
- Venkatasubramanian, T.K. Music as History in Tamil Nadu, Primus Books, Delhi, 2010.
- Zimmer, H. Myths and Symbolism in Indian Art and Civilization, Princeton Press, New Jersey, 1992.

**Unit IV:** This unit explains the different architectural forms in India through the ages. It deals with the rock-cut and structural temples of India, fort and palaces of medieval period and the colonial buildings of modern era with special reference to Lutyens' Delhi. **(Teaching Time: 12 hrs. approx.)**

- Agrawala, Vasudev Sharan, Bhartiya Kala (in Hindi), New Edition, Prithvi Prakashan, Delhi, 2020.

- Asher, Catherine. (ed.): Perceptions of India's Visual Past, American Institute of Indian Studies, Delhi, 1994
- Asher, Catherine, Architecture of Mughal India, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
- Brown, Percy. Indian Architecture, Buddhist Hindu and Islamic, Vol. I, II, Mumbai, 1956 Chandra Pramod, ed. Studies in Indian Temple Architecture, American Institute of Indian Studies, Delhi, 1975. (Chapter 1)
- Majumdar, R.C. ed. The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. 3 (The Classical Age), Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay, 1954. (chapters XV, XIX) (in Hindi translation Shrenya Yug translated by Shivdaan Singh Chauhan, Motilal Banarsidass, 1984)
- Thakaran, R.C, Sheo Dutt and Sanjay Kumar, ed. Bhartiya Upamahadvipa ki Sanskritiyan, (in Hindi), Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board, University of Delhi.
- Zimmer, H. Myths and Symbolism in Indian Art and Civilization, Princeton Press, New Jersey, 1992.

#### **Suggestive readings**

- Agrawala, Vasudev Sharan, Kala Aur Sanskriti (in Hindi), New Edition, Prabhat Prakashan, Delhi, 2019.
- Agrawala, Vasudev Sharan, Bhartiya Kala (in Hindi), New Edition, Prithvi Prakashan, Delhi, 2020.
- Asher, Catherine. (ed.): Perceptions of India's Visual Past, American Institute of Indian Studies, Delhi, 1994
- Asher, Catherine, Architecture of Mughal India, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
- Basham, A.L. The Wonder That was India. Volume I, Rupa & Co., New Delhi, 1997. (in Hindi translation Adhbhut Bharat)
- Brown, Percy. Indian Architecture, Buddhist Hindu and Islamic, Vol. I, II, Mumbai, 1956 Chandra Pramod, ed. Studies in Indian Temple Architecture, American Institute of Indian Studies, Delhi, 1975. (Chapter 1)
- Cohn. Bernard. India: The Social Anthropology of a Civilization in Bernard Cohn Omnibus, Oxford University Press, 2004
- Deva, B.C. An introduction to Indian Music, Delhi, 1973.
- Khanna, Meenakshi, Madhyakalin Bharat Ka Saanskritic lihas, (translated in Hindi by Umashankar Sharma), Orient Blackswan, Delhi, 2012.
- Majumdar, R.C. ed. The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. 3 (The Classical Age), Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay, 1954. (chapters XV, XIX) (in Hindi translation Shrenya Yug translated by Shivdaan Singh Chauhan, Motilal Banarsidass, 1984)
- Maxwell, T.S. Image: Text and Meaning: Gods of South Asia, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1997.
- Thakaran, R.C, Sheo Dutt and Sanjay Kumar, ed. Bhartiya Upamahadvipa ki Sanskritiyan, (in Hindi), Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board, University of Delhi.
- Vatsyayan Kapila; Indian Classical Dance, Publications Divisions, New Delhi, 1974 (also in Hindi translation)

- Venkatasubramanian, T.K. Music as History in Tamil Nadu, Primus Books, Delhi, 2010.
- Zimmer, H. Myths and Symbolism in Indian Art and Civilization, Princeton Press, New Jersey, 1992.

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