DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE (DSE): Delhi Through the Ages

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibilit ycriteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSE- Delhi Through the Ages	4	3	1	0	12th Pass	

Course Objective

This introductory course looks at watershed moments in Delhi's historical past concerning politics, urbanization, culture, and crisis to provide a background to Delhi's significance and dilemmas today.

Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this course, the student shall be able to:
• To provide a framework within which to locate and study the history of Delhi till the early modern period.
• Analyse and comprehend the challenges of Delhi through the study of the history of its political, urban, and socio-cultural developments and changes

Course Content

Unit I: The Historical Polities of Delhi:
   a)   Indraprastha: from Earliest time to 1000CE
   b)   Delhi in the Tomar-Chauhan period
   c)   Sultanate Delhi
   d)   Shahjahanabad
   e)   The colonial capital

Unit II: Delhi's Urbanization and its Challenges:
   a)   Lal Kot to Tughluqabad
   b)   Delhi under the Mughals
   c)   Delhi's modern transformation in the 20 th Century

Unit III: The Syncretic and Changing Culture of Delhi:
   a)   Ashokan Edicts and Iron Pillars
   b)   Hazrat-i Delhi: Nizamuddin Auliya and Nasiruddin Chirag Delhi
   c)   Humayun Tomb
   d)   Growth of Urdu language and literature in 18 th -19 th Century Delhi
   e)   Delhi University

Unit IV: A City of Crises, Resilience and Transition
   a)   The Mongols Invasions
   b)   Delhi when it was not the Mughal capital
   c)   'Crisis' of the 18 th Century?
   d)   Delhi in the 19 th Century: Between the Mughals and the Colonial
   e)   The Revolt of 1857
   f)   Delhi in 1947

Practical component (if any) – NIL

Essential/recommended readings
Unit 1: This unit will seek to introduce the students to the various significant historical political formations that emerged in Delhi by focusing on the debate on Indraprastha; evidence for Lalkot-Rai Pithora; the nature of the Sultanate polity and the city; the imperial design of Shahjahanabad and the British conception of the city as an imperial capital. (Teaching Time: 12 hoursApprox.)

Essential Reading
- Singh, Upinder. 2006. Ancient Delhi, Delhi: Oxford University Press
- R., Mani B., and I. D. Dwivedi 2006. 'Anangpur Fort: The Earliest Tomar Settlements, Near Delhi,' in Upinder Singh, ed., Delhi: Ancient History, Social Science Press, New Delhi, pp 200–204.
- Mani, B.R. 1997. Delhi: Threshold of the Orient; (Studies in Archaeological
- Investigations), Aryan Books International
- Kumar, Sunil. 2011. ";Courts, Capitals and Kingship: Delhi and its Sultans in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries CE"; in Albrecht Fuess and Jan Peter Hartung. (eds.).Court Cultures in the Muslim World: Seventh to Nineteenth Centuries, London:
- Routledge, pp. 123-148
- Kumar, Sunil. (2009) 'Qutb in Modern Memory.' In: Kaul, Suvir, (ed.), Partitions of Memory. Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 140–182.
- Blake, Stephen, 1985. ";Cityscape of an Imperial City: Shahjahanabad in 1739";, in R.E. Frykenberg, Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society, Oxford University Press, pp. 66-99
- Metcalf, Thomas. 1989. Imperial Visions. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 211–239, (Ch.7 & 39; New Delhi: The Beginning of the End').

Unit II: This unit will briefly explore significant periods of urbanization in Delhi and some of the challenges faced during these developments. It will trace the early urbanization of Delhi from Lal Kot to Tughluqabad, the changes during the Mughal Period, Marathas and Sikhs in Delhi and finally, the transformation of Delhi in the 20 th Century, focusing on migration and displacement. (Teaching Time: 12 hours Approx.)

Essential Readings:
- 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
- Shokoohy, Mehrdad. 2007. Tughluqabad: a paradigm for Indo-Islamic Urban
- Planning and its architectural components. London: Araxus Books.
- Welch, Anthony and Howard Crane. (1983). "The Tughluqs: Master Builders of the Delhi Sultanate": Muqarnas, vol. 1 pp. 123-166.
- Hasan, Nurul, S. (1991). "The Morphology of a Medieval Indian City: A Case Study of Shahjahanabad", In Indu Banga (ed.). The City in Indian History, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 87-98.
- Gupta. Narayani. (1993). "The Indomitable City," in Eckart Ehlers and Thomas
- Krafft, eds., Shahjahanabad / Old Delhi: Tradition and Change. Delhi: Manohar, pp. 29-44.
- Rezavi, Syed Ali Nadeem, (2010). "The Mighty Defensive Fort': Red Fort at Delhi
- Under Shahjahan -- Its Plan and Structures as Described by Muhammad Waris."
- Proceedings of the Indian History Congress 71, pp. 1108–1121.
- Chenoy, Shama Mitra. (1998). Shahjahanabad, a City of Delhi, 1638-1857. New
- Delhi: Munshiram Manohar Lal Publishers.
- Datta, V N. 1986.; Punjabi Refugees and the Urban Development of Greater Delhi, ; in Robert Frykenberg(ed), Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History Culture and Society. Delhi: OUP, 442–462.
- Tarlo, Emma. 2001. Welcome to History: A Resettlement Colony in the Making.
- Manohar Publishers and Distributors, 51-69.

Unit III: This unit will touch upon some episodes in the past of Delhi that show the historical shaping and reshaping of a syncretic culture over time, with a focus on the names of Delhi, beliefs about the Iron Pillar, Ashokan Edict, the emergence of Sufi tradition in Sultanate Delhi, Mughal architecture, Urdu language and literature in the 18 th - 19 th Century Delhi Renaissance and the emergence of Delhi University. (Teaching Time: 9 Hours Approx.)

Essential Reading:
- Richard J. Cohen, "An Early Attestation of the Toponym Ḍhillī," Journal of the American Oriental Society, Vol. 109 (1989), pp. 513–519.
- Singh, Upinder. 2006. Ancient Delhi, Delhi: Oxford University Press
- Haidar, Najaf. 2014;Persian Histories and a Lost City of Delhi,' Studies in People History, vol. 1, pp. 163–171
- Pinto, Desiderios. J. (1989). "The Mystery of the Nizamuddin Dargah: the Account of Pilgrims," in Christian W. Troll, ed., Muslim Shrines in India, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 112–124.
- Aquil, R. 2008.;Hazrat-i-Dehli: The Making of the Chishti Sufi Centre and the Stronghold of Islam, South Asia Research 28: 23–48.
- Sunil Kumar, The Pir's Barakat and the Servitor's Ardour: The Contrasting History of the two Sufi Shrines in Delhi in Mala Dayal ed. Celebrating Delhi, Penguin, 2010.
- Lowry, Glenn D. 1987. Humayun's Tomb: Form, Function, and Meaning in Early Mughal Architecture. Muqarnas, Vol. 4, pp. 133-148
- Koch, Ebba. (1994). "Diwan-iʿAmm and Chihil Sutun: The Audience Halls of Shah Jahan". Muqarnas, vol. 11, pp. 143-165.
- 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
- Shamsur Rahman Faruqi. A Long History of Urdu Literary Culture, Part 1: Naming and Placing a Literary Culture in Sheldon Pollock ed. Literary Cultures in History: Reconstruction from South Asia, University of California Press, 2003, pp. 803-863.
- Hardeep Puri, DELHI UNIVERSITY: Celebrating 100 Glorious Years, Delhi, 2022
- Naim, C. M. 2004. Ghalib';s Delhi: A Shamelessly Revisionist Look at Two Popular Metaphors ; in Urdu Texts and Contexts: The Selected Essays of C. M. Naim, Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 250–279.
- Verma, Pavan K. (2008). Ghalib: The Man, the Times, Penguin India.
- Basu, Aparna. 1986; The Foundations and Early History of Delhi University ; in
- Robert Frykenberg ed, Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History Culture and Society, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp 401-430

Unit IV: This unit will examine a few exceptional periods of crisis in the history of Delhi and how these phenomena shaped the city over time. (Teaching Time: 12 hours Approx.)

Essential Readings:
- Jackson, Peter. 1986. 'Delhi: The Problem of a Vast Military Encampment,' in: R.E. Frykenberg (ed.). Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture, and Society, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1986), 18–33.
- Ojha, Archana, Impact of Mongol Invasions on the Delhi Sultanate, Proceedings of Indian History Congress, no. 52, 1991, pp. 245-248.
- Chandra, Satish. 1991; Cultural and Political Role of Delhi, 1675-1725";, in R.E. Frykenberg, Delhi through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 106–116.
- Spear, TGP. Twilight of the Mughals. 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-Ixiv
- Liddle Swapna, The Broken Script: Delhi Under the East India Company and the Fall of the Mughal Dynasty 1803-1857, Speaking Tiger Books, 2022.

- Lahiri, Nayanjot. 2003; Commemorating and Remembering 1857: The Revolt in Delhi and its Afterlife ; World Archaeology, vol. 35, no.1, 35–60.
- Pandey, Gyan. 2001. Remembering Partition, Cambridge: Cambridge University
- Press. (Chapter 6: Folding the National into the Local: Delhi 1947-1948, pp. 121–151.

Suggested Readings
- Anthony Welch, 'The Shrine of the Holy Footprint in Delhi', Muqarnas, 14 (1997): 116-178;
- Asher, Catherine B. 2000. ";Delhi Walled: Changing Boundaries"; in James D. Tracy, City Walls: The Urban Enceinte in Global Perspective, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 247–281.
- Bayly, Christopher Alan. (1986). "Delhi and Other Cities of North India during the 'Twilight,'" in Delhi through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture, and Society, edited by Robert Eric Frykenberg, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 221–36.
- Blake, Stephen P. 1991. Shahjahanabad: The Sovereign City in Mughal India, 1639- 1739. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Hasan, Zafar. 1922. A Guide to Nizamu-d Din. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India,
- Habib, Irfan. 1978. 'Economic History of the Delhi Sultanate -- an Essay in Interpretation', Indian Historical Review, vol. 4, pp. 287-303.
- Flood, Finbarr B. 2008. "Introduction"; in Finbarr B. Flood, Piety and Politics in the Early Indian Mosque, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. xi-lxxviii
- Page, J.A. 1926. A Historical Memoir on the Qutb. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India No,22
- Page, J.A. 1937. A Memoir on Kotla Firoz Shah, Delhi. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India #52
- Shamsur Rahman Faruqi, (2001). "A True Beginning in the North" and "A Phenomenon called 'Vali'" in Early Urdu Literary Culture and History, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 109-126, 129-142.
- Singh, Upinder. Ed., (2006) Delhi: Ancient History, Delhi: Social Science Press
- Flood, Finbarr B. 2003. ";Pillars, Palimpsests, and Princely Practices: Translating the past in Sultanate Delhi; RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics, No. 43, Islamic Arts, pp. 95–116.
- Anand Taneja. Saintly Visions: Other Histories and History's Others in the Medieval Ruins of Delhi; IESHR, 49 (2012).
- Pinto, Desiderios. J. (1989). The Mystery of the Nizamuddin Dargah: the Account of Pilgrims," in Christian W. Troll, ed., Muslim Shrines in India, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 112–124.
- Frances W. Pritchett, A Long History of Urdu Literary Culture, Part 2: Histories, Performances, and Masters in Sheldon Pollock ed. Literary Cultures in History: Reconstruction from South Asia, University of California Press, 2003, pp. 864–911.
- Upinder Singh, Discovering Ancient in Modern Delhi. In Mala Dayal ed. Celebrating Delhi, Penguin, 2010.
- Farooqui, Mahmood. 2013. Besieged: Voices from Delhi, 1857. Delhi: Penguin.
- (Dateline pp. xix-xxvii; In the Name of the Sarkar, pp 407-432.)
- Mann, Michael. 2005. Turbulent Delhi: Religious Strife, Social Tension and Political Conflicts, 1803-1857 ; South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies, vol.28, no.1, pp. 5-34
- Pilar, Maria Guerrieri, (2017). 'The Megacity of Delhi: Colonies, Hybridisation and Old New Paradigms,' in Rethinking, Reinterpreting and Restructuring Composite Cities edited by Gülsün Sağlamer, Meltem Aksoy, Fatima Erkök, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 18-33
- Russell, Ralph. 1998. "Ghalib: A Self Portrait," in Ralph Russell, Ghalib: The Poet and His Age. Delhi: OUP. Also available at: http://www.columbia.edu/itc/mealac/pritchett/00ghalib/texts/txt_ralphrussell_1972.pdf
- Vazira, Fazila Yacoobali Zamindar. (2007). The Long Partition and the Making of South Asia: Refugees, Boundaries, Histories. New York: Columbia University Press. (Chapter I: Muslim Exodus from Delhi.)

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