

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE): Sources and the Practice of History – I

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credit s	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibilit y criteria	Pre- requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical / Practice		
Sources and the Practice of History – I	4	3	1	0		

Learning Objectives

This course is a sequel to its counterpart in the previous semester and trains the student in the close reading, analysis and contextualization of historical sources. It consists of primary texts of different genres from Indian history. Students will be confronted with the challenges of historical interpretation and reconstruction of a variety of concepts, perspectives and experiences including those relating authority, gender, religion, social categorization, caste, and history. Students will learn to evaluate sources in conjunction with each other to develop their analytical abilities and the use of evidence so as to gain a richer historical understanding. They will also be introduced to the distinctiveness of British colonialism, its modes of exploitation and governance as well as a diversity of critical perspectives from India on fundamental subjects such as that of the state, nation, religion, caste and gender. A study of these themes will prepare students to specialise further in the discipline. Each of the texts has been provided with a standard translated version where required and a few secondary readings around it, which are indicative of historical contexts and inferences drawn from them in Indian history writing.

Learning outcomes

Students will be exposed to :

- nuanced readings of important texts produced during the early modern and colonial period.
- a range of ideas including that of the nation, state, society, development, religion.
- the critique of caste and patriarchy, as well as the different strands of nationalism which encompass multiple and connected ideas of India. Syllabus

Unit I: 1. James Mill : History of British India 2. M.K Gandhi : Hind Swaraj

Unit II: 1. Jyotirao Phule Gulamgiri 2. Dr. BR Ambedkar :Annihilation of Caste 3. Tarabai Shinde : Stri Purush Tulana.

Unit III: 1. JL Nehru : Discovery of India 2. V D Savarkar: *Six Epochs of Indian History*

Unit IV: 1. The Forest Act of 1878. 2. Royal Commission on Labour in India, 1931 3. Constituent Assembly Debates : Fundamental Rights and Duties

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/recommended readings:

Unit 1 (12 Lectures)

- * James Mill, History of British India, 3 vols. London: Baldwin, Cradock, and Joy, 1826.
- * MK Gandhi, Hind Swaraj in A. Parel Ed. Hind Swaraj and other writings Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- * 'Rhetoric of Reform', Modern Asian Studies, Vol. 24, No. 2, (May 1990), pp. 209-224.
- * Mehta, Uday. (1999) Liberalism and Empire, Chicago: University of Chicago Press (chapter 3)
- * Hardiman, David. (2003). Gandhi in his time and ours. New Delhi: Permanent Black.
- * Guha, Ramachandra. (2018.). Gandhi: the years that changed the world, 1914-1948. Gurugram: Penguin Random House India.
- * Gandhi, M.K. (1997). Hind Swaraj and other writings, (ed.), Anthony J. Parel, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Unit 2 (12 Lectures)

- * Jyotirao Phule Gulamgiri in G.P. Deshpande (2012) Ed. Selected Writings of Jotirao Phule New Delhi: Leftword Books.
- * Dr. BR Ambedkar, Annihilation of Caste in Valerian Rodrigues Ed. The essential writings of B.R. Ambedkar Delhi; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- * Tarabai Shinde, Stri Purush Tulana., Translation: O'Hanlon, Rosalind. (1994). A Comparison between Women and Men: Tarabai Shinde and the Critique of Gender Relations in Colonial India. Madras: Oxford University Press
- * O'Hanlon, Rosalind. (1985). Caste, Conflict and Ideology Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- * Zelliot, Eleanor. (2010). From Untouchable to Dalit: Essays on Ambedkar Movements, New Delhi: Manohar.
- * Nagaraj, D.R. (2010). The Flaming Feet and Other Essays: The Dalit Movement in India, ed. Prithvi Datta and Chandra Shobhi, Ranikhet: Permanent Black.
- * Banyopadhyay, Shekhar (Ed.). (2009). Nationalist Movement in India, A Reader. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Unit 3 (12)Lectures

- * JL Nehru, Discovery of India. New Delhi: Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund : Distributed by Oxford University Press, [1981] (1994 printing)
- * V D Savarkar : *Six Epochs of Indian History*, (translated and edited by S T Godbole) Bal Savarkar Publishers, Mumbai 1971.

- * Chatterjee, Partha. (1999). *The Partha Chatterjee Omnibus*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- * Khilnani, Sunil. (2004, rpt.). *The Idea of India*. New Delhi: Penguin. * Parekh, Bhiku. (1991) "Nehru and the National Philosophy of India", *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. 26, No. 1/2 (Jan. 5-12, 1991), pp. 35-48.
- * Bhargava, Rajeev. (2017). "Nehru against Nehruvians: on religion and secularism". *Economic and Political Weekly*. 52(8), pp. 34 – 40
- * Bakhle, Janaki. (2024). *Savarkar and the making of Hindutva*; Princeton University Press, 2024.
- * Bhagwan Joshi, 'V D Savarkar's the Indian War of Independence, The first Nationalist Reconstruction of the Revolt of 1857', in Crispin Bates ed. *Mutiny at the Margins: New Perspectives on the Indian Uprising of 1857*, Vol VI, Sage 2014, pp 29-41

Unit 4 (12 Lectures)

- * The Forest Act of 1878. * Royal Commission on Labour in India, 1931 (several vols.).
- * Gadgil, Madhav, and Ramchandra Guha. (2000). *The Use and Abuse of Nature, This Fissured Land- An Ecological History of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- * Guha, Ramachandra. (1991). *The Unquiet Woods: Ecological Change and Peasant Resistance in the Himalaya*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- * Grove, Richard H. (1998). *Ecology, Climate and Empire, The Indian Legacy in Global Environmental History, 1400-1940*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. * Kumar, Dharma and Meghendu Desai, (Eds.). (1984). *Cambridge Economic History of India, Vol II, 1657-1970*. Hyderabad: Orient Longman Ltd
- * Constituent Assembly Debates on fundamental rights, language, separation of power, judicial review, etc. * Constituent Assembly Debates
- * Vol.III: 28-4-1947 to 2-5-1947 (Fundamental Rights)
https://eparlib.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/762962/1/cad_29-04-1947.pdf * Vol.VII: 4-11-1948 to 8-1-1949 (Directive Principles of State Policy)
https://eparlib.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/763029/1/cad_19-11-1948.pdf
- * Austin, Granville. (1999). *Working a Democratic Constitution: the Indian Experience*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- * Chandra, Bipan. (2008). *India Since Independence*. Delhi: Penguin.

Suggested Readings:

- * Gokhale, Balkrishna Govind. (1978). 'Nehru and History' *History and Theory*, Vol. 17, No. 3 (Oct., 1978), pp. 311-322.
- * Pandey, Gyanendra (1993). "Which of us are Hindus" in Gyanendra Pandey, Ed. *Hindus and Others: The Question of Identity in India Today* (New Delhi: Viking, 1993)
- * Kumar, Ravi, V.M. (2010). 'Green Colonialism and Forest Policies in South India, 1800-1900', *Global Environment*, Vol. 3, No. 5, pp. 100-125.
- * Nigam, Aditya. (2004). 'A Text without Author: Locating Constituent Assembly as Event', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 39, No. 21 (May 22-28, 2004), pp. 2107-2113.
- * Omvedt, Gail. (2013). *Dalits and the Democratic Revolution: Dr. Ambedkar and the Dalit Movement in Colonial India*, New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- * Panesar, Amerdeep, Stoddart, Amy, Turner, James, Ward, Paul and Wells, Sarah. (2017) J.H. Whitley and the Royal Commission on Labour in India 1929-31. In: *Liberal Reform and*

Industrial Relations: J.H. Whitley (1866–1935), Halifax Radical and Speaker of the House of Commons. Routledge Studies in Modern British History, Routledge, London, pp. 129-142.

* Tucker, Richard P. (1982). 'The Forests of the Western Himalayas: The Legacy of British Colonial Administration' Journal of Forest History, Vol. 26, No. 3 (Jul., 1982), pp. 112-123.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch