

MASTER OF ARTS
M.A. IN HISTORY
(HIST PROGRAMME GUIDE)



Hindi University, Howrah
West Bengal
711106

Master of Arts in History

<i>Programme Code</i>	<i>HIS</i>
<i>Programme Credits</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Eligibility</i>	Graduation
<i>Duration</i>	<i>2 years</i>
<i>Programme Fees</i>	<i>Rs. 7300/-(Approx)</i>
<i>Programme Begins</i>	<i>January 2022</i>
<i>End Semester Examination</i>	<i>January/July</i>
<i>Last Date to submit Admission Form</i>	<i>As per University norms</i>
<i>Last Date to Submit Examination Form</i>	<i>As per University norms</i>
<i>Programme details</i>	<i>As per previous advertisements</i>

Regarding academic information you may write to:

Department of History

Email ID: huwbhist@gmail.com

Hindi University

Howrah, West Bengal

With a copy to Email ID: hindiunivwb@gmail.com

Academic Queries:

All academic queries may be addressed to: Dr. Indrajeet Yadav
Department of History, Hindi University
Email ID: huwbhist@gmail.com
Mobile No: 8274991949

Lateral Entry/Modular Approach:

The exploration of history necessitates a methodical framework for examining various epochs, themes, and historiographical advancements. This curriculum adopts a modular format, facilitating an in-depth comprehension of historical narratives from ancient to modern times, while incorporating both methodological and theoretical insights.

The program commences with a robust grounding in historiography and research techniques. Courses such as Modern Historiography (HIS-101) familiarize students with diverse schools of historical interpretation, whereas Research Methodology (HIS-305) provides essential skills for conducting archival research, culminating in an independent research endeavor in Dissertation (HIS-405C). (HIS-405A) gives an idea on different aspects of Colonial Bengal while (HIS-405B) enriches our knowledge about ideas and thoughts in Modern India.

Understanding ancient civilizations is vital for grasping subsequent historical shifts. Courses like Ancient Indian History and its Archaeological Foundation (HIS-102) and State, Society, and Economy in Ancient India (HIS-201) investigate governance, economic frameworks, and social hierarchies through both archaeological findings and textual analysis.

The medieval era is addressed in Medieval India: State, Economy, and Society (HIS-103), which emphasizes the Delhi Sultanate and Mughal Empire, examining revenue systems, trade dynamics, and religious interactions. The curriculum subsequently delves into the colonial era with India in Transition (1757-1857) (HIS-104) and Rise of the Modern West (HIS-105), situating British imperialism within the context of global transformations such as the Renaissance and the rise of capitalism.

The freedom struggle and post-independence developments are studied in Modern Indian Political History (1857-1947) (HIS-202) and India since Independence (HIS-204), analyzing nationalism, Gandhian movements, political consolidation, and economic policies.

The impact of industrialization and economic changes is explored through Industrial Revolution and Industrialization (HIS-205) and Economic History of Modern India (HIS-301), linking Indian economic developments with broader global upheavals, such as the French Revolution to First World War (HIS-203).

Twentieth-century conflicts and diplomacy are examined in International Relations Between the Two World Wars (HIS-302) and New World System Since 1945 (HIS-404), covering the Cold War, decolonization, and globalization While (HIS-304) emphasizes on Selected Themes on the Issues of the Contemporary World .

The curriculum integrates gender and marginalized communities through The Notion of Gender in Modern Indian Society (HIS-303) and Post-Colonial Contemporary History of India

(HIS-402), while environmental and technological developments are analyzed in History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Colonial India (HIS-401) and Issues of Environmental History in India (HIS-403).

This interconnected and thematic approach ensures a well-rounded historical perspective, balancing Indian and global history while emphasizing research and analytical skills.

Assignment Submission:

Send your Assignments to: huwbhist@gmail.com
Departmental Coordinator: Dr. Indrajeet Yadav
Department of History, Guest Lecturer, HU

Queries Regarding Admissions and Other Logistical Details:

Please send all your queries regarding the admission, assignment submission and other related issues about Course to:

Registrar, Hindi University, Howrah
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Department of History, HU
Email ID: huwbhist@gmail.com
Mob: 9088014084/9717683327

Project Synopsis:

Please send your synopsis as guided by Faculty Members

DETAILS OF COURSES

<i>Semester</i>	<i>Course Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Full Marks</i>	<i>No. of Lectures (hours)</i>	<i>Credits (Lecture – Tutorial - Practical) (L-T-P)</i>
I	HIS– 101	Modern Historiography	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 102	Ancient Indian History and its Archaeological Foundation	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 103	Medieval India: State, Economy and Society	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 104	India in Transition (1757-1857)	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 105	Rise of the Modern West (Select Themes)	50	50	4+1+0= 5
II	HIS– 201	State, Society and Economy in Ancient India	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 202	Select Themes in Modern Indian Political History (1857-1947)	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 203	From French Revolution to First World War-A Brief History	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 204	India Since Independence: Select Themes	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS– 205	Industrial Revolution and Industrialization in the Modern World	50	50	4+1+0= 5
III	HIS- 301	Economic History of Modern India	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 302	International Relations Between the Two World Wars	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 303	The Notion of Gender in Modern Indian Society	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	CBCS- HIS- 304	Issues of the Contemporary World: Select Themes	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 305/ CBCS-HIS- 305	Research Methodology/ Themes in Social and Cultural History of Modern India	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 401	History of Science, Technology and Medicine in Colonial India	50	50	4+1+0= 5

IV	HIS- 402	Post-Colonial Contemporary History of India: Select Themes	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 403	Issues of Environmental History in India: Select Themes	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 404	New World System Since 1945	50	50	4+1+0= 5
	HIS- 405(A)/ 405(B)/ 405(C)	(A)Some Aspects of Colonial Bengal (B) Ideas and Thoughts in Modern India: Select Themes & Personalities (C)Dissertation	50	50	4+1+0= 5

Syllabus

SEMESTER- I

COURSE 1: HIS101

MODERN HISTORIOGRAPHY

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit –I: Evolution of Historiography in the West- Enlightenment Historiography-Philosophy of Romanticism-Positivism – Idealist view of history.

Unit –II: History writing and different versions of the Idea of Progress – T. B. Macaulay and the Idea of Liberty – Karl Marx and the principle of equality – G.M. Trevelyan and Literacy and Social History. Development of economic and social history in the early twentieth century – Maurice Dobb and the Rise of Capitalism – R. H. Tawney and the Gentry Thesis – G. Lefebvre and A. Soboul and the French Revolution.

Unit – III: Social History as History of Movements – Seventeenth-century crisis, English Revolution and Christopher Hill. Social History as history of classes – Eric J. Hobsbawm and the Age of Capital, E. P. Thompson and the working class, Raphael Samuel and the History of the People, Emergence of new social history. Micro-history and oral history – Expanding the horizon of history writing. The Annales School and the concept of Total History.

Unit – IV: Approaches to writing Indian History- Different Schools of Thought

Debates in Indian History – Historiography of feudalism in India, Eighteenth century crisis in India, Indian Awakening in the Nineteenth Century, Indian Nationalism, Partition of India.

Modern Indian History with socio-economic perspective – peasantry and working classes, caste, tribe, gender, environment, science and technology.

Suggested Reading:

1. Bandopadhyay, Sekhar: *Plassey to Partition and After*
2. Braudel, Fernand: *On History*
3. Breisach, Ernest: *Historiography*.
4. Budd, Adam: *The Modern Historiography Reader-Western Sources*.
5. Cannadine, David (ed): *What is History Now?*
6. Carr, E.H.: *What is History?* (Translated in Hindi by Ashok Chakradhar, *Itihas Kya Hai*, Macmillan, 1976)
7. Elton, G.R.: *The Practice of History*.
8. Fulbrook, Mary: *Historical Theory*.
9. Geyl, Peter: *Debates with Historians*.
10. Gilderhus, Mark T.: *History and Historians*.
11. Iggers, George and Wang, Edward: *Global History of Modern Historiography*.
12. Inden, Ronald: *Imagining India*.
13. Kaye, H.W: *British Marxist Historians*.
14. Lambert, P. and Schofield, P. (eds): *Making History*
15. Lemon, M.C.: *Philosophy of History*.
16. Marwick, Arthur: *The Nature of History*.
17. Morrison, Ken: *Marx, Durkheim, Weber*.
18. Pandey, Govindchandra- *Itihas: Swarup ewam Siddhant*, Rajasthan Hindi Granth Academy, Jaipur, 2007 (Hindi)
19. Pandey, Lalita Prasad- *Bharatiya Itihas Darshan*, Allahabad (now Prayagraj), 1997 (Hindi)
20. Prakash, Buddh- *Itihas Darshan*, 1968 (Hindi)
21. Sarkar, Sumit: *Writing Social History*.
22. Southgate, Beverley: *History: What and Why*.
23. Sreedharan, E.: *A Textbook of Historiography*.
24. Tripathi, Amal: *Itihas o Aitihasik*
25. Upadhyay, Shashi Bhushan: *Historiography in the Modern World*

SEMESTER- I **COURSE 2: HIS102** **ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY AND ITS ARCHAEOLOGICAL** **FOUNDATION**

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit - 1: Sources of History; Prehistoric and Protohistoric Cultures of Indian subcontinent; Vedic and Post-Vedic Society: Definition, Scope, Terminology and Periodization; Palaeolithic; Mesolithic; Neolithic; Beginning of Agriculture; Chalcolithic (Harappan and outside Harappan orbit); Iron; Vedic Society; Aryan Debate.

Unit - II: Early Historic Archaeology of India: Rise of Sixteen Mahajanapadas; Rise of Magadha, Proliferation of Religions: Jainism and Buddhism; Sungas, Indo-Greeks, Kushanas, and Other Non-Indian Ruling Dynasties.

Unit -III: Sources for Reconstructing the Mauryan Period: Kautilya's Arthashastra, Megasthenes'

Account (Indica), Asokan Inscriptions (Major and Minor Rock Edicts and Pillar Edicts), Archaeological Sites and Assemblages Related to the Mauryan Period; Political and Social Character of the Mauryan Empire; Asoka's Dhamma, Mauryan Art and Architecture; Decline of the Mauryan Empire.

Unit - IV: The Dynastic History of the Subcontinent from the Gupta to the Palas and Senas: Origin, Extent, and Material Culture of the Gupta Period; Gupta Administration; Post Gupta/Early Medieval History; Agrarian Administration; Feudalism Debate; the Palas; the Senas; Art; Religion.

Suggested Readings:

1. Chakrabarti, Dilip: *Theoretical Issues in Indian Archaeology*
 - *The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities*
 - *The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India, Stone Age to AD 13th Century*
2. Chakravarti, Ranabir: *Exploring Early India Up to c. AD 1300*
3. Chattopadhyay, Rupendra Kumar: *The Archaeology of Coastal Bengal*
 - *Sangrahok theke Utpadok: Aadi theke Nabyo Prostor Yuger Pratnatattva*
4. Chattopadhyaya, B. D.: *Studying Early India: Archaeology, Texts and Historical Issues*
5. Chopra, P.N., B.N. Puri and M.N. Das, *Bharat Ka Samajik, Sanskririk, Aur Arthik Itihas (Part-I)*, Delhi, Macmillan India Ltd., 1975 (Hindi)
6. Ghosh, A. (ed.): *An Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology*
7. Lahiri, Nayanjot: *The Archaeology of Indian Trade Routes (up to c. 200 BC)*
8. Roy, Kumkum: *The Emergence of Monarchy in North India.*
9. Sharma, R.S.: *Bharat ka Prachin Itihas (India's Ancient Past)*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press India, 2023 (Hindi)
10. Singh, Upinder: *History of Ancient and Early Medieval India*
11. Singh, Upinder: *Prachin ewam Purwa Madhyakalin Bharat Ka Itihas*, Noida, Pearson, 2024 (Hindi)
12. Sircar, D.C.: *Studies in the Society and Administration of Ancient and Medieval India*
13. Thapar, Romila: *Ancient Indian Social History: Some Interpretations*
 - *Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas*
 - *Cultural Pasts: Essays in Early Indian History*
 - *Early India (from the Origins to AD 1300)*
14. Thaplyal, K.K.: *Guilds in Ancient India*

SEMESTER-I
COURSE 3: HIS103

MEDIEVAL INDIA: STATE, ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit - I: Nature and Character of the State – Theories of Kingship - Political and Bureaucratic Setup of the State–Institutions of the State–Composition and nature of the ruling class–State and the Religious Clergy - Nobility – Central Army – Provincial and local administration – Village organization - Land grants - Challenges to the state and beginning of the crisis.

Unit - II: Composition, stratification and evolution of the medieval society – Village community and its features – Structure of the urban society – Rural-urban relations - standards of living – Impact of Sufism and Bhakti movements on society-women in medieval India– social exclusion and status of untouchables.

Unit - III: Patterns of medieval economy – Fiscal measures – Agrarian relations - taxation– Non- agricultural production- Urban economy- Trade and Commerce: Inland trade– Overseas Trade– Indian Ocean trade network – the Role and position of Indian merchants in Overseas and hinterland or internal trade – Currency, banking and exchange system – mines and metallurgy – crafts and technologies - markets and market regulations – industries – transportation — Gender division of Labour.

Unit - IV: Emergence, growth and salient features of Regional States: The Rajputs, Bengal, Vijayanagara and Bahmani kingdoms, The Marathas, Awadh, Hyderabad - Nature of the Polity, Administrative Apparatuses – Economy: land revenue, trade and industry – social structures and social relations.

Suggested Readings:

1. Alam, Muzaffar and Sanjay Subrahmanyam: *The Mughal State, 1556-1720*
2. Bayly, C.A.: *Rulers, Townsman and Bazaars: North Indian Society in the age of British Expansion*
3. Chaudhuri, K.N.: *The European Trading World of Asia and the English East India Company*
4. Chandra, Satish: *The Indian Ocean: Exploration in History, Commerce and Politics*
5. Chandra, Satish: *Medieval India*
6. Chandra, Satish: *Madhyakaleen Bharat: Rajniti, Samaj aur Sanskriti*, Noida, Orient Blackswan , 2007(Hindi)
7. Chopra, P.N., B.N. Puri and M.N. Das, *Bharat Ka Samajik, Sanskritik, Aur Arthik Itihas*

(Part-2), Delhi, Macmillan India Ltd.,1975(Hindi)

8. Dasgupta, Ashin and M.N. Pearson (eds.): *India and Indian Ocean, 1500-1800*
9. Habib, Irfan: *The Economic History of Medieval India: A Survey*
10. Habib, Irfan: *The Agrarian System of Mughal India, 1556-1707*
11. Hangloo, Ratan Lal: *Enquiries in Medieval India: Religion, Society, Culture and Polity*
12. Jackson, Peter: *The Delhi Sultanate: A Political and Military History*
13. Khan, Iqtidar Alam: *Studies in Thought, Polity and Economy in Medieval India, 1000-1500*
14. Kulke, Hermann: *The State in India, 1000-1700*
15. Moosvi, Shireen: *People, Taxation and Trade in Mughal India*
16. Naqvi, H.K.: *Urban Centres and Industries in Upper India, 1556-1803*, Bombay, 1968
17. Richard, J.F.: *The Mughal Empire*
18. Sharma R.S.: *Bharatiya Samantvad*, New Delhi, Rajkamal Prakashan, 1993(Hindi)
19. Siddiqui, I.H.: *Delhi Sultanate: Urbanization and Social Change*
20. Subrahmanyam, Sanjay: *The Political Economy of Commerce: Southern India, 1500-1650*

SEMESTER- I **COURSE4: HIS 104**

INDIA IN TRANSITION (1757 –1857)

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit- I: Collapse of Indian *Ancien Regimes* – Transition of the Eighteenth Century – Emergence of the Regional Powers - Background of the rise of colonial power – Foundation of British power under East India Company.

Unit – II: Apparatus of the British colonial administration – British Parliament – Structure of colonial governance - bureaucracy – army – police – judiciary – Administrative changes during the Company’s rule.

Unit – III: The colonial ideology - Consolidation and Expansion of British power in India– the nature and dynamics of British imperialist annexation.

Unit-IV: Reforms and Rebellions as early Indian responses – Social and Religious reform activities – Popular resistances to British expansion and rule – Peasant and Tribal Uprisings - Uprising of 1857.

Suggested Readings:

1. Bandyopadhyay, Sekhar: *From Plassey to Partition: A History of Modern India*.
2. Barnett, Richard B.: *Rethinking Early Modern India*
3. Bayly, C.A.: *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire*
4. Bayly, C.A.: *Land, Landlords and the Raj: Northern India in the Nineteenth Century*.
5. Bayly, C.A.: *Rulers, Townsmen and Bazaars: North Indian Society in the Age of British Expansion 1770-1870*
6. Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi (ed.): *Rethinking 1857*
7. Choudhary, Sushil: *Prelude to Empire: Plassey Revolution of 1757*.
8. Cohn, Bernard: *Colonialism and its Forms of Knowledge*.
9. Dube, Ishita Banerjee: *A History of Modern India*.
10. Fisher, Michael: *The Politics of the British Annexation of India, 1757-1857*
11. Guha, Ranajit: *Elementary Aspects of Peasant Insurgency in Colonial India*.
12. Marshall, P.J. (ed.): *Eighteenth Century in Indian History: Evolution or Revolution?*
13. Marshall, P.J.: *Bengal the British Bridgehead*
14. Metcalfe, Thomas: *Ideologies of the Raj*.
15. Seal, Anil: *Emergence of Indian Nationalism*.

SEMESTER- I **COURSE 5: HIS 105** **RISE OF THE MODERN WEST: SELECT THEMES**

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit-I: Approaches to History of Early Modern Europe - Mentalities and 'Total' History; Anthropological Interventions and Cultural History- Transition from feudalism to capitalism – the transition debate – the worldwide impact.

Unit-II: Renaissance, Humanism and the Rediscovery of the Classics – the impact of humanism on Europe: Secularization of social attitudes – renaissance art – humanism and political theory with special reference to Machiavelli and Thomas More- The Renaissance man of new knowledge – science, arts, literature and music.

Unit-III: Reformation, Iconoclasm and Secularisation – Protestant and Catholic-Luther and Calvin – reformation in national contexts – political theory of the reformation: Luther and princely authority – the French religious wars

Unit-IV: Mapping Mentalities 1500-1700-Print, Books and Reading Habits- Europe and the

World- The scientific revolution and its cultural impact – the origins of the enlightenment – the radical enlightenment

Suggested Readings:

1. Benedict , Philip and Myron P. Gutmann (eds.): *Early Modern Europe: From Crisis to Stability*
2. Bloch , Marc: *Feudal Society* H. Butterfield: *The Origin of Modern Science*
3. Burke, Peter: *The Historical Anthropology of Early Modern Europe: Essays on Perception and Communication*
4. Cameron , E.: *Early Modern Europe*
5. Davis , Natalie Zemon: *Society and Culture in early Modern France*
6. Eisenstein , Elizabeth: *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe*
7. Elton , G.R.: *Reformation Europe*
8. Findlen, Paula (ed.): *The Italian Renaissance: The Essential Readings*
9. Hilton , R.: *Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism*
10. Ozment , Steven E.: *The Reformation in the Cities: The Appeal of Protestantism to Sixteenth century Germany and Switzerland*
11. Parry , J.H.: *The Age of Reconnaissance: Discovery, Explorations and Settlement*
12. Phukan , Meenakshi: *Rise of The Modern West*

SEMESTER- II

COURSE6: HIS 201

STATE, SOCIETY AND ECONOMY IN ANCIENT INDIA

Lectures: 50

Marks: 50

Unit-I: Ancient Modes of Kingship - Origin and evolution- Proto-States and Early Chieftdoms - Emerging Ideas of State Polity - Rise of the Janapadas and Mahajanpadas – Process of empire building under the Mauryas and Guptas - Bureaucratic Apparatuses - Financial Structures - Judicial and Ethical Frameworks - Surveillance and Policing - Systematic collection of Revenue - Proliferation of the Taxation System – Nature of polities under the Kushanas and the Satavahanas – Post-Gupta polities – Nature of regional polities with special reference to the Pratiharas, Palas and Rashtrakutas.

Unit-II: Notions of economic activities in ancient India – Agricultural expansion – Inter-regional trade – Maritime trade – Business practices – Significance of the Silk Route - Merchant guilds in South India.

Unit-III: The Vedic roots of Sanskritization - Origin and development of Caste system – Rise of the protest movements – Social implications of challenging the Brahmanical order - right of property - Rural-urban relations - foreign elements in Indian society - Indo-Greeks, Sakas and Kushanas – changing status of women - Sudras in ancient India.