REGULATIONS AND SYLLABUS
FOR

M.A. – HOSTORY

[2020-2021 ONWARDS]

PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY
PUDUCHERRY - 605 014
Aim of the Course
This course provides a basic understanding of historical concepts, perspectives and methodology. It also familiarizes the student with the fundamentals of Indian History, Asian History and World History.

Eligibility criteria for admission
Candidates seeking admission for M.A shall require a Bachelor’s Degree in History with 50% minimum marks. SC&ST students who have passed the qualifying examination are eligible to apply for admission irrespective of the percentage of marks.

Duration
The normal duration of the M.A Programme is Two Academic years of 4 semesters. The maximum duration to complete the course shall be Four Years and not more than 8 Semesters.

Medium
The medium of instruction will be English.

Course Structure
Students must secure minimum 72 credits for the award of the Degree. The course structure includes Hard Core (48 credits), Soft Core (24 credits) courses.

Age Limit
The same rules as applicable to other M.A. programmes offered by the Pondicherry University

Passing Minimum
Passing minimum, grading, eligibility & classification for the award of the Degree are as per the existing CBCS regulations of the Pondicherry University.
# M.A. History
## Course structure & Syllabus
(From 2020-21 onwards)

### Semester I

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<td>1</td>
<td>Hist 411</td>
<td>Historiography Since Ranke</td>
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<td>Hist 412</td>
<td>Ancient Societies</td>
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<td>Temple in Medieval South India</td>
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<td>Hist 421</td>
<td>Indian Architecture</td>
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<td>Hist 600</td>
<td>Medieval Societies</td>
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<td>Hist 423</td>
<td>India's Struggle for Independence (Pre-Gandhian Era)</td>
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<td>Hist 512</td>
<td>Vijayanagara: City and Empire</td>
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<td>Hist 513</td>
<td>Gandhian Era of Indian National Movement (1920-47)</td>
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<td>Hist 632</td>
<td>Society and economy in medieval India (AD 1000-1707)</td>
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### Semester IV

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<td>1</td>
<td>Hist 522</td>
<td>Women in Modern India</td>
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<td>Hist 523</td>
<td>Twentieth Century World</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Hist 615</td>
<td>Science, technology and medicine in Modern India</td>
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<td>Hist 625</td>
<td>Contemporary India (1947-1999)</td>
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SEMESTER I
HIST 411 - HISTORIOGRAPHY SINCE RANKE

This course is intended to familiarize the students with approaches to historical studies in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It highlights the major trends in the development of historical writing in the West with a focus on prominent historians. It examines the emergence of history as a professional discipline in the nineteenth century, the development of economic history in Europe, the attempt at total history by the Annales historians in France, recent trends in new social history and some of the postmodern challenges to history as an intellectual discipline.

MODULE 1: Emergence of History as a professional discipline
Leopold von Ranke and scientific objectivity - Auguste Comte and positivism - Karl Marx and the materialist conception of History.

MODULE 2: Economic History

MODULE 3: The Annales Paradigm
Lucien Febvre - Marc Bloch - Fernand Braudel and Leroy Ladurie.

MODULE 4: New Social History
E. P. Thompson and History from Below – Carlo Ginzburg and Micro History- Women’s History.

MODULE 5: The Challenge of Postmodernism
Foucault and Derrida - Postcolonial and Subaltern History.

Suggested Readings

SEMESTER I
HIST 602 ANCIENT SOCIETIES

MODULE 1
Age of the Earth - the Evolution of Man in Africa, Europe and Asia - Origin and growth of Primitive cultures.

MODULE 2
The Hunter-gatherer, pastoral – Food-gathering to food production stage - agro-pastoral- early farming societies.

MODULE 3
Bronze Age Civilization; Economy; Society; Religion; State structure- Egypt (old kingdom); Mesopotamia (up to the Acadian Empire); China (Shang); Eastern Mediterranean (Minoan and Mycenaean).

MODULE 4
Vedic societies – clan based society – Mahajanapadas – chiefdoms.

MODULE 5
Slave societies in Ancient Greece and Rome; Agrarian economy; Athenian Democracy; Roman Empire; and the Roman and Greek cultures.

Suggested Readings

Jones Arnold H.M., *The Decline of the Ancient World*.
Austin M.M & Vidal-Naguet. P, Economic and Social History of Ancient Greece
Bengston, H., *Introduction to Ancient History*.
Braidwood, R.J., *The Near East and the Foundation of Civilization*.
Childe,V.Gordon, *Social Evolution*.
Clark, Grahame & Piggot Stuart, *Pre-Historic Societies*.
Hawkes, J., *The First Great Civilization: Life in Mesopotamia, the Indus and Egypt*. 
SEMESTER I
HIST 413 - SOCIETY AND ECONOMY OF COLONIAL INDIA

The course aims at providing comprehensive understanding of the transformations in the economy of colonial India. It covers the introduction of land and agrarian policies under the British rule. It also delineates the transformation that was effected in the urban space of British India. It focuses on the endeavours to reconstruct India and also on the emergence of modern industry and the rise of new social classes in colonial India.

MODULE 1
The Agrarian Structure and Rural Society in 18th century India.

MODULE 2

MODULE 3

MODULE 4

MODULE 5

Suggested Readings
SEMESTER I
Hist 618 - Religion in Early India

This course seeks to introduce to the students the basic knowledge regarding the genesis and growth of Religions in the early historical period in the Indian subcontinent. Religion with all its sectarian developments should be viewed as a social institution which catered to the emotional, spiritual, economic and cultural needs of the people. It deals with the structure of early Indian religions and the nature of cultural and economic transformations they heralded.

Module 1: Definition and Scope of the Study – Sources – The prehistoric genesis of religion- Animism- fertility cults-rock art representations- Indus valley religion.

Module 2: The Beginnings – Vedic religion- Animistic- the pastoral background- Evolution of ritualistic religion in the later Vedic phase- the social developments – growth of the pantheon of gods and goddesses.


Module 5: The conditions in South India – Satavahanas – Buddhism-Mahayana and Vajrayana developments and contributions- Amaravati School of art – Early Saiva, Vaishnava and Sakta pantheons- sculptural manifestations. Post-Satavahana developments – Emergence of Vedic ritualism

Suggested Readings
Heehs, Peter. Religions in India, Pondicherry 2002.
The course surveys the evolution of architecture in India and their transformation through the years. The various architectural features embedded in the ancient monuments particularly in the temple would be thrown open to the students to understand the heritage monuments of this country in right perspectives.

**MODULE 1**

**MODULE 2**

**MODULE 3**

**MODULE 4**
Chola Architecture: Brihadiswara (Thanjavur Big temple) and Gangaikondacholapuram- Rastrakuta architecture: Ellora.

**MODULE 5**

**Suggested Readings**
SEMESTER II
Hist 600 – Medieval Societies

The course is intended to familiarize the students of Master’s degree with the formation of state and society during the medieval period in Europe and Asia. This course will also help the students to assess the medieval societies in the light of their contribution to Art, Architecture, Science and Literature.

Module 1: Transition from Ancient to Medieval Society
Decline of the Roman Empire - Barbarian invasions, internal problems, disintegration - The Papacy, Catholic Church and Monasteries - Establishment of Byzantium - Byzantine Society and Economy.

Module 2: Feudal Formation in Europe
A new empire - Carolingians - Charlemagne - The clash of Church and State - Controversy over lay investiture - Feudalism in Western Europe.

Module 3: Economic Institutions and Cultural Life in Medieval Europe

Module 4: Islamic World
Rise of Islam: Socio-Political background - Evolution of Islamic State – Constitution of Medina - Nature of the state and relations with Arab tribes, Jews and Christians - Society under the Prophet, the Caliphs, Umayyids and Abbasids.

Module 5: Economic Institutions and Cultural Life in the Islamic World
Trade, Commerce and taxation in the Arab world – The Islamic city – Arab Contribution to Art and Architecture - Ceramics, textiles, ivories, music and calligraphy - Intellectual Contributions: Literature, historiography, geography, astronomy, medicine, mathematics and philosophy.

Suggested Readings
Southern, R.W., Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages, Middlesex, 1973.
The struggle for India’s independence from British colonial rule is an important aspect of the history of modern India, given the continuing debates about nations and nationalism. The present course focuses on freedom movement in India in the pre-Gandhian era. It familiarizes the students with conceptual debates about the origin and growth of a national consciousness in India, the role of the early nationalists and the swadeshi, home rule and revolutionary movements in India.

**MODULE 1: Beginnings of Organized Nationalism**

**MODULE 2: Early Nationalists**

**MODULE 3: The Swadeshi Movement**
The partition of Bengal – Boycott, swadeshi and national education – The samitis and political trends – Participation of different sections of the people – Regional Variations - The communal tangle and the birth of the Muslim League – Minto – Morley Reforms.

**MODULE 4: Revolutionary Movement**
Factors leading to revolutionary trends - Swadeshi agitation and underground revolutionary organizations - Muzaffarpur conspiracy - Alipore bomb case - Ashe murder - Attempt on Viceroy Lord Hardinge - Suppression of revolutionary nationalism - The Ghadar Movement and the failed Insurrection of 1915.

**MODULE 5: Home Rule Movement**
Tilak, Annie Besant and the Home Rule leagues – Montague Chelmsford Reforms - The Rowlatt Act- Jallianwala bagh tragedy –The road to non-cooperation.

**Suggested Readings**
Environment is the source of life on earth and no citizen can afford to be ignorant of environmental issues, therefore, environmental study has become necessary for the students. The course impart multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies and informed the students about the natural resources, use of resources, deforestation and its impact on the environment, sustainable development and its aspects. It also deals with the efforts of Government of India in bringing the legislation to protect the environment and the urban environment.

MODULE 1: Environment

MODULE 2: Use of Resources and Environment

MODULE 3: Social Issues and Environment
Concept of sustainable development, Issues Debated for sustainable development (Rio Conference), Basic Aspects of Sustainability, Efforts for sustainability.

MODULE 4: Environmental Legislations

MODULE 5: Urban Environment

Suggested Readings
Madhav Gadgil and Ramachandra Guha, This Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India, OUP, New Delhi, 1992.
SEMESTER III

HIST 511 – ANCIENT INDIA (From earliest times up to 5th Century A.D.)

The course seeks to impart to the students a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of historical change in early Indian society and economy. It deals with the structure of early Indian society and the nature of economic transformation. It will trace the emergence of political institutions and ideas in Early India. Focus is also placed on analysis and explanation of ancient India’s cultural achievements.

MODULE 1
Scope of the Study – Sources – Periodization – Historiographical trends in early Indian History – Schools of thought.

MODULE 2

MODULE 3

MODULE 4

MODULE 5

Suggested Readings
Basham, A.L. The Wonder that was India Oxford: New Delhi. Jha, D.N. Ancient India in Historical Outline.
Thapar, Romila. 2002. The Penguin History of Early India (From the Origins to 1000A.D). Delhi.
This course examines the last imperial political formation in Peninsular India and locates the history of the empire within the context of cultural, religious and ideological changes which were taking place during the late medieval period stretching from the middle of the fourteenth century till the Battle of Talikota in 1565. The course analyses the social, economic and political changes which swept across India in the late medieval period. The urban experience of Vijayanagara is also studied.

**MODULE 1**
The emergence of the Vijayanagara State-Origin myths and Political processes from the 14\textsuperscript{th} century onwards-The Impact of the Khilji’s invasion on peninsular polities.

**MODULE 2**
The Sangama Dynasty and the expansion of the empire-Kumara Kampana and the Tamil Region.

**MODULE 3**
Social and Economic history of the Vijayanagara period- Amaranayankara System-Urbanization and the monetary system-International Trade-Temples as economic institutions during the Vijayanagara period.

**MODULE 4**
Reign of Krishnadevaraya-Relationship with the Deccan Sultanates-Wars with the Adil Shahis and the Gajapathis-Relationship with the Portuguese.

**MODULE 5**
Decline of the Vijayanagara-Battle of Talikota 1565.

**Suggested Readings**


SEMESTER III
HIST 513 – GANDHIAN ERA OF INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT (1920-1947)

The Gandhian Era of Indian National Movement was characterised with the prolonged struggle on moral, political and ideological levels. There were active movements launched during this phase of struggle but at the same time they were strategically followed by passive movements. The period also witnessed constitutional developments which was utilised effectively to overthrow the existed political structure. The National Movement was also an example of creating diverse political and ideological currents like revolutionary and left movements that co-existed and worked for the common cause. The students will be benefitted from the deeper understanding of this phase of National Movement as it provide clues for the questions of how the diversity and tensions did not actually weaken the movement, instead became the major source of strength.

MODULE 1

MODULE 2
Revolutionary and Left Movements.

MODULE 3
People’s Movements in Princely States.

MODULE 4
Communalism and Partition of India.

MODULE 5
Indian National Congress and Provincial Governments.

Suggested Readings
Chandra, Bipan, History of Modern India, Orient BlackSwan, New Delhi, 2010.
Chandra, Bipan, Nationalism and Colonialism in Modern India, New Delhi, 1987.
This course is designed to create awareness among the students about women’s agency in historical change especially in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in India. It looks at the woman question which loomed large in India in the nineteenth century; examines the role of women in India’s struggle for freedom; reviews women’s legal status in pre and post independent India; discusses women’s participation in politics; focuses on women’s contribution to social and environmental movements and analyses women centered issues in contemporary India.

MODULE 1: Advent of the Turks in India
The Expedition of Mahmud of Gazni - Alberuni -The debate over Somnath Temple - Muhammad Ghori and his invasions.

MODULE 2: Society, Economy and Polity during the Sultanate

MODULE 3: Regional States in Southern India
The Four Kingdoms - Malik Kafur’s Invasion of South India - Rise of Vijayanagara - Vijayanagara State and Society.

MODULE 4: The Mughals

MODULE 5: Land and Economy in Mughal India
Land Revenue System - Zamindars, Chaudhuries and other intermediaries – Peasantry - Internal Trade and Artisanal Production - Foreign Trade and Advent of the European Companies.

Suggested Readings
Chandra, Satish *History of Medieval India*, Orient Longman, 2007
Habib, Irfan *The Agrarian Systems of Mughal India*, Oxford University
Hubbi Bullah, A B M *Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, Allahabad, 1973
Mooreland *From Akbar to Aurangzeb*, New Delhi, (Reprint) 1992.
Mukhia, Harbans *Historians and Historiography of the Age of Akbar*,
This course is designed to create awareness among the students about women’s agency in historical change. It looks at the woman question which loomed large in India in the nineteenth century; examines the role of women in India’s struggle for freedom; reviews women’s legal status in pre and post independent India; discusses women’s participation in politics; focuses on women’s contribution to social and environmental movements and analyses women centered issues in contemporary India. The theoretical approach of the course emphasizes that the position and power of the participants gives rise to varied historical experiences. As women in India do not constitute a monolithic category, the course will be examining how women’s life experiences intersected and continue to intersect with caste, class and religion and how colonialism, resistance, urbanization, social change and nationalism were experienced differently by women in Modern India.

MODULE 1: Women in Colonial India
The “Women Question” in colonial India - Reform Movements and Women - Growth of female education - Women’s organizations - The Movement for Women’s Suffrage.

MODULE 2: Women in the National Movement
Women’s role in Swadeshi, Non – Cooperation, Civil Disobedience and Quit India Movements – Women in the Revolutionary Movement - The Indian National Army and the Jhansi Rani Regiment - Women and the Partition.

MODULE 3: Women and the Law

MODULE 4: Women’s Political Participation
Panchayats and municipal councils- State legislatures, and Parliament - Role in movements for economic and social justice.

MODULE 5: Women’s Issues in Contemporary India
Deficit of Women - Feminization of Poverty - Violence against Women.

Suggested Readings
HIST 523 – TWENTIETH CENTURY WORLD

The course is intended to develop a comprehensive understanding of the nature of the changing political relations among the different nations with the beginning of the First World War. Emphasis is laid on promoting among the students a critical approach to the study of rise of totalitarian ideologies such as Nazism, Fascism, and Militarism and also the emergence of anti-colonial movements in Asia and the Communist revolution in China. The course will also delineate the Non-aligned movement and the disintegration of Soviet Union and the emergence of Uni-polar system in the world.

MODULE 1

MODULE 2
League of Nations- its success and failure – Great Depression – Emergence of Nazism (Germany) Fascism (Italy) and Militarism (Japan).

MODULE 3
Second World War - Origins, Nature and Results - Nationalist Movements in Asia; Case Study; Indonesia – Communist Revolution in China.

MODULE 4
Cold War – Its ideological and political basis - Non-aligned Movement and the Third World.

MODULE 5
Disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Unipolar World System.

Suggested Readings


Magdoff, H.H. Imperialism from the Colonial Age to the Present.

HIST 615 - SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE IN MODERN INDIA

This course discusses the spread of Western science among non-Western peoples, the role and place of science in the colonial process and the nature of scientific development in a colony with special reference to India. It examines the role of the East India Company in the dissemination of science in India, the introduction and impact of the technologies of the Steam Age, the emergence of a scientific community and the beginnings of national science in India. It highlights the introduction of Western medicine in India, the interaction between Western and indigenous systems of medicine and the movements for the revival of the later.

MODULE 1: Science and Empire: Theoretical Perspectives
The Concept of Colonial Science - Debate regarding the Spread of Western Science among Non-Western Peoples - The Role and Place of Science in the Colonial Process.

MODULE 2: Science and Colonial Explorations
East India Company and Scientific Explorations - Science and Orientalism - Early European Scientists: Surveyors, Botanists, Doctors under the Company’s Service - The “Tropicality” of India.

MODULE 3: Western Medicine
The Indian Medical Service - Encounters with Indian Medicine - Epidemic Diseases, Medical Topographies and Imperial Policy - Women, Missions and Medicine.

MODULE 4: Technologies of the Steam Age

MODULE 5: Indian Response to Western Science
Indian Response to New Scientific Knowledge: Interactions and Predicaments - Science and Indian Nationalism: Emergence of National Science; Mahendra Lal Sarkar, P.C. Ray, J.C. Bose - Ideas of Mahatma Gandhi and other Indian nationalists.

Suggested Readings


The course describes the making of the Indian constitution, economic planning and the linguistic reorganization of Indian states. It gives a picture of how India’s political and economic agenda and basics of foreign policy were evolved and developed since independence. It also focuses on the development of education, science and technology and dwells on the consolidation of the nation, examining contemporary issues related to religion, caste and politics in India.

MODULE 1: The Making of Modern India

MODULE 2: India's Foreign Policy: Origins, Continuity and Changes

MODULE 3: Economic Policies and Progress in Science and Technology

MODULE 4: Social Change and Transformation

MODULE 5: Contemporary Issues and Challenges
Regional Separatism – Identity Politics in India – Left Wing Extremism and Insurgency – Corruption in Indian Public Life: Scams and Scandals -- Women and Personal Laws – The Affirmative Action Debate in India.

Suggested Readings
------, India’s Foreign Policy: Emerging Challenges, New Delhi: Pentagon, 2012.