

M. PHIL./ PH.D. IN HISTORY

(Course Work)

SEMESTER	PAPER NO. AND TITLE	CREDITS
Semester I	Paper 1: Research Methodology	4
	Paper 2: Readings in Trends In Historiography	4
	Paper 3: Language	4
	Paper 4: Seminar	4

PROGRAMME:M.PHIL/Ph.D
HISTORY**SEMESTER:**

I

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**COURSE ID:****CREDITS:**

04

(This course in historical methodology introduces research students to the philosophical underpinnings of history, key concepts that have shaped historical research and the influence of significant schools of historical writing. Its purpose is to make the apprentice historian conscious of the epistemology of his subject and the ideas that have animated history writing.)

UNIT-I**THE DEBATE ABOUT HISTORY'S CLAIM TO TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PAST.**

1. Karl Popper and the argument from falsification
2. Richard Rorty and the post-modernist critique of historical objectivity
3. E.H. Carr, E.P. Thompson, Gertrude Himmelfarb: the defence of the historical method

UNIT-II**KEY HISTORICAL CATEGORIES AND SCHOOLS OF HISTORY THAT HAVE SHAPED HISTORICAL WRITING
HISTORICAL CATEGORIES:**

1. Gender
2. Class
3. Environment
4. Nation
5. Community

SCHOOLS OF HISTORICAL ENQUIRY

1. Ranke, Acton and historical positivism
 2. The Annales School and the *longue duree*
 3. The English social historians: Hill, Hobsbawm, Thompson
 4. The 'subaltern' historians
 5. Colonial Indian history and the 'Cambridge School'
- Readings

UNIT-III**SOURCES AND APPROACHES***Sources:*

- a) Archaeology and anthropology
- b) Epigraphy and numismatics
- c) Written sources and the divide between prehistory and history.
- d) Malfuz literature and India's medieval past
- e) Travellers and their chronicles
- f) Oral history, folklore and the problem of authenticity

Approaches:

- a) Narrative history and its revival
- b) Quantitative techniques and social science history

READINGS**Unit I**

1. E.H. Carr, *What is History*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1961.
2. Edward Thompson, *The Poverty of Theory*, Merlin Press, London, 1978.
3. Gertrude Himmelfarb, *The New History and the Old*, Harvard University Press, Harvard, 2004.

4. Karl Popper, *The Poverty of Historicism*, Routledge, London, 1957.
5. Perry Anderson, *Arguments within English Marxism*, Verso, London, 1980.
6. Richard Rorty (ed.) *Philosophy in History*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1985).

Unit II

1. Amitav Ghosh, 'The Slave of Ms. H.6', in *Subaltern Studies VII* (Delhi: Oxford, 1993), pp. 159- 220.
2. Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Verso, London, 1983.
3. Edward Thompson, *The Making of the English Working Class*, Penguin, New York, 1991.
4. G.P. Gooch, *History and Historians in the Nineteenth Century*, Green and Co. New York, 1920.
5. Gyanendra Pandey, 'The Colonial Construction of 'Communalism: British Writings on Banaras in the Nineteenth Century', in *Subaltern Studies VI*, pp. 132-68.
6. Harvey J. Kaye, *The British Marxist Historians* Ranajit Guha and G. Spivak, eds., *Selected Subaltern Studies*, Oxford University Press, New York.
7. Joan W. Scott: 'Gender: A useful category of historical analysis', *The American Historical Review*, Vol. 91, No. 5. (Dec., 1986), pp. 1053-1075.
8. John Gallagher, Gordon Johnson, Anil Seal (eds) *Locality, province, and nation: essays on Indian politics 1870 to 1940*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1973.
9. Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid (ed.), *Recasting Women: Essays in Indian Colonial History*, Kali for Women, New Delhi, 1997.
10. Marc Bloch, *The Historian's Craft*, Vintage Books, New York, 1953.
11. Patha Chatterjee, 'Caste and Subaltern Consciousness', in *Subaltern Studies VI*, pp. 169-209.
12. Ramachandra Guha and Madhav Gadgil, *This Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1992.
13. Ramachandra Guha, *The Unquiet Woods*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1989.

Unit III

1. Bridget and Raymond Allchin, *The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1982.
2. D.D. Kosambi, *The Culture and Civilisation of Ancient India in Historical Outline*, Routledge, London, 1965.
3. K. A. Nizami, *On History and Historians of Medieval India*, Mushiram Manoharlal, New Delhi, 1983.
4. K. A. Nizami, *Some Aspects of Religion and Politics in India During the Thirteenth Century*, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, 1974.
5. Moosvi Shireen, *The Economy of the Mughal Empire c. 1595: A Statistical Study*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1987.
6. Mortimer Wheeler, *Civilizations of the Indus Valley and beyond*, Thames and Hudson, London, 1966.
7. Nayanjot Lahiri, *Finding Forgotten Cities: How the Indus Civilization was discovered*, Permanent Black, New Delhi, 2006.
8. Peter Hardy, *Historians of Medieval India*, Greenwood Press, Westport, 1982.
9. R. G. Collingwood, *The Idea of History*, Oxford University Press, London 1993.
10. Rajan, S. Irudaya and K.S. James, 'The Interdependence of Vital Events: Twentieth-Century Indian Kerala', *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, vol. 31 no. 1, 2000, pp. 21-41.
11. S. H. Askari, *Maktub and Malfuz Literature as a Source of Socio-Political History*, Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, 1981.
12. Shahid Amin, *Event, Metaphor, Memory*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2006.
13. Sumit Guha (ed) *Growth, Stagnation or Decline? Agricultural Productivity in British India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1994.

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READINGS IN TRENDS IN HISTORIOGRAPHY

This paper is designed to train students in understanding the method of history writing. It will consist of a set of readings. Listed below are books that the students will be expected to read and review. Every year changes will be made in the reading list.

UNIT-I**DEBATES ON READINGS IN HISTORICAL METHOD**

1. Bloch, Marc, *The Historian's Craft*, New York, 1953.
2. F. Braudel, *On History*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1980.
3. Jenkins Keith, *What is History? From Carr and Elton to Rorty and White*, Routledge, London, 1995.
4. Roger Chartier, *Cultural History: Between Practices and Representations*, Polity Press, Cambridge, 1988.

UNIT-II**READING TEXTS ON INDIAN HISTORY THAT RAISE ISSUES OF METHOD**

5. Chattopadhyaya, B.D. *Representing the Other*, Delhi, 1988.
6. Subramanyam Sanjay, Velcheru Narayana Rao and David Shulman, *Textures of Time: Writing History in South India, 1600-1800*, New Delhi/New York, Permanent Black/Other Books, 2001/2003.
7. Thapar, Romila, *Somanatha: The Many Voices of A History*, Viking 2004.

UNIT-III**SOME IMPORTANT TEXTS THAT ENGENDERED NEW PERSPECTIVES.**

1. Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Verso, London, 1983.
2. Scott, James, *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday forms of Peasant Resistance*, Yale 1985.
3. Thomas, Keith, *Man and the Natural World*, Penguin, 1984.