

**Department of History
Vidya-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati
Santiniketan**

SYLLABUS

for

**PH.D. COURSEWORK
(PAPERS I & II)**

2024

Paper-I HISTORICAL METHOD & RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

OBJECTIVES: Paper-I is an essential tool course designed to equip the research scholar with the wherewithal to identify her areas of interest and then to improve upon her analytical and argument-making skills, which is an essential criterion for good research. This course also trains the researcher in the mandatory skills of thesis-writing, viz., footnoting, bibliography-writing, etc.

- **Module-1:** What is History? Approaches to History
- **Module-2:** Time, Space and Narrative
- **Module-3:** Facts; Ontology of Facts: facticity versus factuality, fact versus fiction
- **Module-4:** Medieval Historiography: Ibn Khaldun, Al Beruni, Ziauddin Barani, Abul Fazl
- **Module-5:** Different Genres of History-writing: Positivism, Annales, Microhistory, Alltagsgeschichte, Marxism, Feminism, Nationalism, Subaltern, Structuralism, Postmodernism, etc.
- **Module-6:** Archives; Nature of archives; new forms of archives— oral history, visual records, performative records (*panchali*, dance, mime, etc), literary material, etc.
- **Module-7:** What constitutes primary and secondary sources? Debates over the distinction—Is the distinction air-tight?
- **Module-8:** Formulation of hypothesis; Review of existing literature; statement of the problem and testing
- **Module-9:** Preparing a research proposal
- **Module-10:** Organising the writing and drafting the thesis—chapters, sub-headings, footnotes, references & bibliography

Readings

- Ankersmit, F.R., 1995. *Language and historical experience*.
- Ankersmit, F.R., and Hans Kellner (eds.), 1995. *A new philosophy of history*.
- Bentley, Michael (ed.), 1997. *Companion to historiography*.
- Berkhofer, Robert F., 1995. *Beyond the great story: history as text and discourse*.
- Berlin, Isaiah, 2000. *Three critics of the Enlightenment: Vico, Hamann, Herder*, H. Hardy (ed.).
- Bloch, Marc, 1953. *The Historian's Craft*.
- Bouton, Christophe, 2016. "The Critical Theory of History: Rethinking the Philosophy of History in the Light of Koselleck's Work", *History and Theory*, 55(2): 163–184.
- Breisach, Ernst (ed.), 2007. *Historiography: Ancient, medieval, and modern*, 3rd edition.
- Burguière, André, 2009. *The Annales School: An intellectual history*.
- Carr, David, 2021. *Historical Experience: Essays on the Phenomenology of History*.
- Carr, David. 1986. *Time, Narrative, and History*.
- Carr, Edward Hallett, 1961. *What is History?*
- Chakrabarty, Dipesh, 1992. "Postcoloniality and the Artifice of History: Who Speaks for 'Indian' Pasts?" *Representations* 37: 1–26.
- Chakrabarty, Dipesh, 2000. *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*.
- Collingwood, R. G., 1946. *The idea of history*.

- Creyghton, Camille, Pieter Huistra, Sarah Keymeulen, and Herman Paul, 2016. "Virtue Language in Historical Scholarship: The Cases of Georg Waitz, Gabriel Mond and Henri Pirenne." *History of European Ideas*, 42(7): 924–36.
- Danto, Arthur Coleman, 1965. *Analytical philosophy of history*.
- Darnton, Robert, 1984. *The great cat massacre and other episodes in French cultural history*.
- De Vries, Bert, and Johan Goudsblom, 2002. *Mappae mundi: humans and their habitats in a long-term socio-ecological perspective: myths, maps and models*.
- Donagan, Alan. 1966. "The Popper-Hempel Theory Reconsidered", in *Philosophical Analysis and History*, W.H. Dray (ed.), pp. 127–159.
- Dray, William, 1957. *Laws and explanation in history*.
- Dray, William, 1964. *Philosophy of history*.
- Dray, William (ed.), 1966. *Philosophical analysis and history*.
- Elster, Jon, 1989. *Nuts and bolts for the social sciences*.
- Fay, Brian (ed.), 2004. "Historians and Ethics", *History and Theory*, 43 (Theme Issue).
- Foucault, Michel, 1971. *The order of things: An archaeology of the human sciences*.
- Gardiner, Patrick L., 1952. *The nature of historical explanation*.
- Gardiner, Patrick L. (ed.), 1974. *The philosophy of history*.
- Hacking, Ian, 1999. *The social construction of what?*
- Hacking, Ian, 2002. *Historical ontology*.
- Jenkins, Keith (ed.), 1997. *The Postmodern History Reader*
- Jenkins, Keith, 1991. *Rethinking History*.
- Jenkins, Keith, 1995. *On "What is History": From Carr and Elton to Rorty and White*.
- Koselleck, Reinhart, 2002. *The practice of conceptual history: Timing history, spacing concepts*.
- Koselleck, Reinhart, 2004. *Futures and past: On the semantics of historical time*.
- LaCapra, Dominick, 1994. *Representing the Holocaust: History, theory, trauma*.
- LaCapra, Dominick, 1998. *History and memory after Auschwitz*.
- Le Roy Ladurie, Emmanuel, 1979. *Montaillou, the promised land of error*.
- Little, Daniel, 2010. *New contributions to the philosophy of history*.
- Little, Daniel, 2017. "Microfoundations", in *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Social Science*, edited by Lee McIntyre and Alex Rosenberg, pp. 228–239.
- Little, Daniel, 2018. "Disaggregating Historical Explanation: The Move to Social Mechanisms", in *Routledge Handbook of Mechanisms and Mechanical Philosophy*, edited by Stuart Glennan and Phyllis Illari, pp. 413–422.
- Mackie, J.L., 1974. *The cement of the universe; a study of causation*.
- Mandelbaum, Maurice, 1971. *History, man, & reason; A study in nineteenth-century thought*.
- Mann, Michael, 1986. *The sources of social power. A history of power from the beginning to A.D. 1760*, Volume 1.
- Maritain, Jacques, 1957. *On the philosophy of history*.
- Mink, Louis O., 1966. "The autonomy of historical understanding", *History and Theory*, 5(1): 24–47.
- Mink, Louis O., 1987. *Historical understanding*.
- Momigliano, Arnaldo, 1990. *The classical foundations of modern historiography*.
- Munslow, Alun, 2006. *Deconstructing History*.

- Munslow, Alun, 2007. *Narrative and History*.
- Munslow, Alun, 2012. *A History of History*.
- Nagel, Ernest, 1961. *The structure of science; problems in the logic of scientific explanation*.
- Nandy, Ashis, 1995. "History's Forgotten Doubles," *History & Theory* 34.2: 44–66.
- Olson, Niklas, 2012. *History in the plural: An introduction to the work of Reinhart Koselleck*.
- Pankakoski, Timo, 2010. "Conflict, Context, Concreteness: Koselleck and Schmitt on Concepts", *Political Theory*, 38(6): 749–779.
- Passmore, J. A., 1966. "The Objectivity of History", in *Philosophical Analysis and History*, W.H. Dray (ed.), pp. 75–94.
- Paul, Herman, 2015. *Key issues in historical theory*.
- Pierson, Paul, 2004. *Politics in Time: History, institutions, and social analysis*.
- Pompa, Leon, 1990. *Human nature and historical knowledge: Hume, Hegel, and Vico*.
- Ricoeur, Paul, 2004. *Memory, history, forgetting*, translated by Kathleen Blamey and David Pellauer.
- Ricoeur, Paul, 1984, 1985, 1988. *Time and narrative (Volumes 1–3)*, translated by Kathleen McLaughlin and David Pellauer.
- Rust, Eric Charles, 1947. *The Christian understanding of history*, London: Lutterworth Press.
- Sachsenmaier, Dominic, 2011. *Global perspectives on global history: Theories and approaches in a connected world*.
- Scott, Joan Wallach, 2011. *The fantasy of Feminist history*.
- Scott, Joan Wallach, 2020. *On the judgment of history*.
- Tucker, Aviezer (ed.), 2009. *A companion to the philosophy of history and historiography*.
- Walsh, William Henry, 1960 [1951]. *Philosophy of history: An introduction*.
- Whatmore, Richard and Brian Young (eds.), 2015. *A companion to intellectual history*.
- White, Hayden, 1973. *Metahistory: The historical imagination in nineteenth-century Europe*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

PAPER–II ELECTIVE

OBJECTIVES: Paper-II—given its variety and number of elective modules—provides the research scholar to choose comfortably from among themes that relate to her research. This allows her to deepen and widen her understanding of the theme of her own research even as it creates solid historiographical command. In Paper–II, the researcher is required to choose any five of the following modules (a short description is provided after each module, to aid the researcher choose efficiently):

MODULE 1: Source Materials of Maratha History

Maratha History began in the seventeenth century with the foundation of the Maratha Swarajya by Chhatrapati Shivaji. The documents of the Maratha Empire have been well-preserved allowing the modern researcher a unique experience of consulting first-hand source materials composed in different languages. This paper aims at examining the perspectives and significance of the various source materials of Maratha History.

Basic Readings:

- Deshpande, Prachi. *Creative Pasts: Historical Memory and Identity in Western India (1600-1960)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007.
- Gordon, Stewart. *The Marathas (1600-1818)* [The New Cambridge History of India, Volume 2, Part 4]. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- Kulkarni, A.R. *Maratha Historiography*. New Delhi: Manohar Publications, 2006.
- Sen, S.N. *Siva Chhatrapati: Being a Translation of Sabhasad Bakhar with Extracts from Chitnis and Sivadigvijaya*. Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1920.

MODULE 2: Environmental History of India—Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

At a time when global climatic and environmental crises have reached a feverish pitch and social movements of massive proportions are being organised around such issues as global warming, ecological degradation, plastic pollution, etc—all of which are critically important to human survival on the blue planet itself—this module would introduce PhD students to the environmental history of the Indian subcontinent and sensitise them to the environmental issues plaguing this part of the planet.

Basic Readings:

- Gadgil, Madhav, & Ramchandra Guha. *This Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India*, 1992
- Guha, Sumit. *Environment and Ethnicity in India, 1200-1991*, 1999 (relevant parts)
- Hill, Christopher V. *South Asia: An Environmental History*, 2008
- Rangarajan, Mahesh, & K. Sivaramakrishnan, eds. *India's Environmental History*, Vol. II, 2012
- Rangarajan, Mahesh, & K. Sivaramakrishnan, eds. *Shifting Ground: People, Mobility, and Animals in India's Environmental Histories*, 2014
- Shiva, Vandana. *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology, and Development*, 1988

MODULE 3: Gender Studies

This module aims at developing a better understanding and analysis of male and female relationship in a socio-cultural context, flowing from deeply entrenched patriarchy and age-old systems of dominance. It focuses on the meaning and identity of gender; social, cultural and political constructs of gender; and gendered representations as reflected in society, politics, science and medicine, history, anthropology, environment and literature. Gender Studies is an inter-disciplinary academic field that tries to comprehend power relationships and encapsulates historical, structural, economic and political themes.

Basic Readings

- Kent, Susan Kingsley. *Gender and History*
- Meade, Teresa A., & Merry E. Weisner-Hanks, eds. *Companion to Gender History*
- Scott, Joan Wallach. *Feminism and Theory*
- Sen, Sujata. *Gender Studies*
- Weisner-Hanks, Mary E. *Gender in History*

MODULE 4: Caste in Colonial India

This module discusses the historiographical and various theoretical approaches to understanding caste. It describes the colonial state's perception and intentions in dealing with caste. It addresses the issue of mobility and the rise of caste consciousness, leading to anti-caste movements in colonial India.

Basic Readings

- Banerjee-Dube, Ishita, ed. *Caste in History*, OUP, 2008.
- Bates, C. "Race, Caste and Tribe in Central India: The Early Origins of Indian Anthropometry," in Peter Robb, ed. *The Concept of Race in South Asia*, Delhi, 1998.
- Cohn, Bernard S. *Colonialism and its form of Knowledge*, Princeton University Press, 1996.
- Dirks, Nicholas B. *Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*, Princeton University Press, 2001.
- Jaffrelot, Christophe. *India's Silent Revolution: The Rise of Low Castes in North Indian Politics*, Permanent Black, 2003
- Omvedt, Gail, *Dalits and the Democratic Revolution: Dr. Ambedkar and the Dalit Movement in Colonial India*.
- Sarkar, Sumit, and Tanika Sarkar, eds. *Caste in Modern India*, Vols. I and II, Permanent Black, 2014
- Srinivas, M.N. *Caste in Modern India*, Asia publishing House. 1970

MODULE 5: History through Performance

Colonial India, spanning over almost a hundred years, was a period of immense fluidity and transformation. It was a stage where not only political and social landscapes, but also identities and expressions were constantly being reshaped. In this complex interplay of forces, performance emerged as a powerful tool for understanding and navigating the realities of the time. From traditional folk forms to new theatrical productions, from magic shows to puppet show, performances became sites of both contestation and collaboration, reflecting the diverse experiences and perspectives of colonial India.

Basic Readings

- Ali, Mir Mohammad, and Mir Ahamad Ali. "Beni Putul or the Glove Puppetry: A Performing Tool for Resistance to Colonialism", *Chitralkha, Journal of an Art and Design*, vol. 5, No. 2 (2015).
- Chatterjee, Sudipto. *Theatre in Colonial India*, Seagull Titles CHUP, Kolkata, 2007.
- Posner, D., C. Orenstein, & J. Bell, eds. *The Routledge Companion to Puppetry and Material Performance*, New York: Routledge, 2014.
- Sinha, Babli. *Cinema, Transnationalism, and Colonial India: Entertaining the Raj*, Routledge, New Delhi, 2013).
- Zubrzycki, John. *Empire of Enchantment: The Story of Indian Magic*, OUP, London, 2018.

MODULE 6: Corporate Identity of the Colonial Sepoy

This module deals with identity formation of the Colonial Indian Sepoy. It was a two-way process in which the sepoy continuously sought to negotiate and mould the markers of identity which the British sought to foist on them. Invariably the issue of Identity formation was a conflict-ridden process wrought with conflicts, tensions and contradictions.

Basic Readings

- Dasgupta, Sabyasachi. *In Defence of Honour and Justice: Sepoy Rebellions in the Nineteenth Century*. Delhi, Primus Books, 2019.
- Huntington, Samuel P. *The Soldier and the State: The Theory and Politics of Civil-Military Relations*. Belknap Press, 1981.
- Roy, Kaushik. *Brown Warriors of the Raj: Recruitment and the Mechanics of Command in the Sepoy Army, 1859-1913*. Manohar Publishers, 2008.

MODULE 7: Military System of the Mughals

This module has been designed for an in-depth exploration of military developments during the Mughal period and its profound impact on Indian history. The aim of this course is to examine the foundational conquests, leadership transitions and the sophisticated military system of the Mughals. The main emphasis will be on the following aspects: Military Structure, Military Administration, and Military Technology

Basic Readings

- Aziz, A. *The Mansabdari System and the Mughal Army*, Delhi: Chand Publication, 1971.
- Gommans, Jos J.L., and Dirk Kolff, eds. *Warfare and Weaponry in South Asia, 1000-1800*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- Khan, I.A. *Gunpowder and Firearms: Warfare in Medieval India*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Majumdar, B.N. *Military System of the Mughals*. Delhi: Army Educational Stores, 1959.
- Phul, R.K., *Armies of the Great Mughals: 1526–1707*, New Delhi: Oriental Publications, 1978.
- Prasad, S.N., *Historical Perspective of Warfare in India: Some Morale and Material Determinates*, New Delhi: Project of History of Indian science and civilization, 2012.
- Qaisar, A.J. *The Indian Response to European Technology and Culture, (1498-1707)*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1982.

- Roy, A., and S.K. Bagchi, eds. *Technology in Ancient and Medieval India*, Delhi: Sundeep Prakashan, 1986.
- Sarkar, J.N., *Some Aspects of Military Thinking and Practice in Medieval India*, Calcutta: Ratna Prakashan, 1974.

MODULE 8: Tourism in India: Planning, Practice and Scope of Research

Tourism has emerged to be a revolutionising phenomenon, outpacing the manufacturing and extractive industries as a catalyst of the development process. In certain economies, it is the foundation of the environs (economic, socio-cultural and even human), while in most others it is contributing to a significant extent in the development process. In this module, it is aimed to discuss the periodic evolution of tourism in India which led to the age of planned development after independence. This module will also deal with the practical procedure taken by Government and private organisations during the current century and scope of academic research about tourism that emerged from it.

Basic Readings

- Hannam, Kevin, and Anya Diekmann. *Tourism and India: A Critical Introduction*, Routledge Publication, 2015.
- Krishan, Kamra K., *Tourism Theory, Planning and Practice*, Indus Publishing Co., 2004.
- Kumar, Pradeep, and Anil Kumar. *Cultural Tourism in India: Problems and Prospects*, Aayu Publications, 2022.
- Prasad, Suneshwer, *Tourism in 21st Century India: Challenges and Prospects*, Giantstep Publication, 2022.
- Seth, Rabindra, and Om Gupta. *Tourism in India: An Overview* (2 vols), Kalpaz publications, 2005.
- Sharma, J.K. *Tourism Planning and Development, A New Perspective*, Kanishka Publishers, 2015.

MODULE 9: Memory in History

Professional historians have been confronting problems regarding the ties between memory and history since long. This paper aims to explore and understand the phenomenology of memory. The issues like the manner in which the memory is perceived individually and is subsequently shaped and conditioned by the society or state through the acts like ‘memorialization’ have been taken up in this paper. This paper also aims to explore the experience and documentation of the events and their ensuing interpretation by the historians.

Basic Readings

- Aron, Raymond. *Introduction to the Philosophy of History: An Essay on the Limits of Historical Objectivity*. Translated by George J. Irwin. Boston: Beacon Press, 1961.
- Collingwood, R. G. *The Idea of History*. Edited by T. M. Knox. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1956.
- Browning, C.R. “German Memory, Judicial Interrogation, and Historical Reconstruction: Writing Perpetrator History from Postwar Testimony.” In Saul Friedlander, ed., *Probing the Limits of Representation: Nazism and the “Final Solution,”* 22–36. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1992.

- Deshpande, Prachi. *Creative Pasts: Historical Memory and Identity in Western India (1600-1960)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2007.
- Halbwachs, Maurice. *On Collective Memory*. Edited and translated by Lewis A. Coser. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992.
- Ricoeur, Paul. *Memory, History, Forgetting*. Translated by Kathleen Blamey and David Pellauer. Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press, 2004.

MODULE 10: Social History of Health and Dietary Practices in Colonial India

This module will introduce researchers to the complex world of health and dietary practices of colonial India. Thematically, it will discuss such issues as—public health in colonial India and institutions related to it; race as a category in medical thought and practice; interrelated themes of gender, morality, hunger and diet; Indian medical traditions; epidemics and social dislocation. Within these overarching themes, special attention would be paid to the diverse worlds of white women and women of colour; childbirth, motherhood and midwifery; female sexuality and the politics of diet and hunger; famines; and so on.

Basic Readings

- Arnold, David. *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India*, 1993.
- Arnold, David. *Science, Technology and Medicine in Colonial India* (The New Cambridge History of India III–5) 2000.
- Engels, Dagmar, and Shula Marks, eds. *Contesting Colonial Hegemony: State and Society in Africa and India*, 1994.
- Forbes, Geraldine. “Medical Careers and Health Care for Indian Women: Patterns of Control”, *Women’s History*, 3: 1994, 515–30.
- Harrison, Mark. *Climates and Constitutions: Health, Race, Environment and British Imperialism in India 1600–1850*, 1999.
- Harrison, Mark. *Public Health in British India: Anglo-Indian Preventive Medicine 1859–1914*, 1994.
- Hodges, Sarah, ed. *Reproductive Health in India: History, Politics and Controversies*, 2006.
- Mukharji, Projit Bihari. *A Social History of Healing in India: De-Centring Indigenous Medicine*, 2009.
- Pande, Ishita. *Medicine, Race and Liberalism in British Bengal: Symptoms of Empire*, 2010.
- Pande, Ishita. *Sex, Law, and the Politics of Age: Child Marriage in India, 1891–1937*, 2020.
- Pati, Biswamoy, and Mark Harrison, eds. *Health, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India*, 2001.
- Pati, Biswamoy, and Mark Harrison, eds. *The Social History of Health and Medicine in Colonial India*, 2009.