

History UG

Semester: 4				
Programme : History				
Course : Cultural Heritage of India (Skill Paper for Raghampur Campus)				
Paper code: S2HS250421P			Credits: 3	
Hours/week : 3				
Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : SEC				
Theory / Practical / Composite : Practical				
No of Modules : 2				
<p>Course Overview: This course provides a comprehensive exploration of India's cultural heritage, balancing tangible architectural achievements with intangible traditions like classical dance and music. Students will trace the evolution of Indian art from the Indus Valley through the rock-cut Buddhist caves, the classical temple styles of Nagara and Dravida, and the synthesis of Indo-Islamic and Colonial architecture. The curriculum also highlights living heritage, including handloom textiles, culinary traditions, and festivals like the Kumbh Mela. Beyond appreciation, the course addresses the practicalities of heritage management, examining the roles of the ASI and UNESCO in conservation. By analyzing modern threats like urbanization and the benefits of digital archiving, students will understand how heritage functions as a cornerstone of identity in a globalized world</p>				
Course Outcome:				
1. Identify major UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India and recall the defining characteristics of classical dance forms and music traditions				
2. Explain the philosophical concepts of <i>Parampara</i> and <i>Sanskriti</i> and how they maintain the continuity between ancient and modern Indian practices				
3. Relate the principles of traditional water management and vernacular architecture, such as stepwells and havelis, to modern sustainable living				
4. Compare the stylistic differences between Nagara, Dravida, and Indo-Saracenic architecture to understand how political shifts influenced Indian aesthetics				
5. Critique the impact of cultural tourism and urbanization on heritage sites, assessing the effectiveness of conservation efforts by agencies like the ASI and INTACH				
6. Design a digital archiving proposal or a heritage walk plan that integrates both the tangible and intangible aspects of a specific regional site.				
Prerequisites: Basic knowledge about any prior course				
SYLLABUS				
UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	Unit 1.1: Introduction to Cultural Heritage a) Defining Cultural Heritage: Tangible (monuments, artifacts, literature) and Intangible (traditions, performing arts, rituals).	14	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6

	<p>b) The Philosophical Basis: Concepts of Parampara (tradition), Sanskriti(culture), and the continuum of ancient and modern.</p> <p>c) Major Historical Periods: An overview of cultural developments from Indus Valley to the present.</p>			
	<p>1.2: Architectural Heritage I (Ancient and Medieval)</p> <p>a. Rock-cut Architecture: Early Buddhist innovations at Barabar Caves, Karla, Bhaja, and Ajanta.</p> <p>b. Temple Architecture: Evolution of the Nagara, Dravida, and Vesara styles with key examples (Kandariya Mahadev, Brihadeeswara, Sun Temple Konark, Khajuraho).</p> <p>c. Indo-Islamic Synthesis: Introduction to the Arch and Dome; study of the Qutub Complex and Mughal architecture (Fatehpur Sikri, Taj Mahal).</p>			
	<p>Unit 1.3: Intangible Heritage I (Performing Arts and Literature)</p> <p>a) Classical Dance Forms: Origins, themes, and distinctive features of Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, and Kathakali.</p> <p>b) Classical Music: Hindustani and Carnatic traditions; concept of Raga and Tala.</p> <p>c) Literary Heritage: A glimpse into seminal texts – The Epics (Ramayana, Mahabharata), Sangama Literature and classical Sanskrit literature (Kalidasa), The Persian Literary World</p>			
II.	<p>Unit 2.1: Architectural Heritage II (Regional and Colonial)</p> <p>a) Regional Styles: Vijaynagar Empire (Hampi), Rajput Forts and</p>	14	CO1 CO2 CO3	K1,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6

	<p>Palaces (Chittorgarh, Amer), Temple towns of Tamil Nadu. Architecture of Bengal.</p> <p>b) Colonial and Indo-Saracenic Architecture: Legacy of the British Raj (Victoria Terminus, Rashtrapati Bhavan) and the fusion style.</p> <p>c) Vernacular and Living Heritage: Stepwells, Havelis, and traditional water management systems.</p>		<p>CO4 CO5 CO6</p>	
	<p>Unit 2.2: Intangible Heritage II (Crafts, Traditions, and Practices)</p> <p>a) Living Craft Traditions: Handloom textiles (Banarasi, Kanchipuram, Patola), pottery, metalwork, and jewellery.</p> <p>b) Festivals and Fairs: Deepavali, Holi, Eid, Christmas, Pongal; Kumbh Mela as a cultural phenomenon. Sonpur Mela.</p> <p>c) Oral Traditions and Knowledge Systems: Folk music and theatre, traditional medicine (Ayurveda), and culinary heritage.</p>			
	<p>Unit 2.3: Preservation and Contemporary Issues</p> <p>a) Agencies of Conservation: Role of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), INTACH, and UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India.</p> <p>b) Threats to Heritage: Urbanization, pollution, neglect, and unsustainable tourism.</p> <p>c) Heritage and Identity: The role of heritage in a globalized world; cultural tourism and its impact; digital archiving of heritage</p>			
Text Books				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basham, A.L, The Wonder That Was India, New York: Grove Press, 1959 				

- The Cultural Heritage of India.,8 Volumes.Kolkata: The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, 1936- (Multiple Editions).
- Thapar, Romila., The Penguin History of Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300. Penguin Books, 2002.
- Singh, Upinder.A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century, Pearson Education, 2008.
- Mitter, Partha.Indian Art. Oxford History of Art Series. Oxford University Press, 2001.
- Dehejia, Vidya, Indian Art, London: Phaidon Press, 1997.
- Huntington, Susan L., and John C. Huntington.The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*. Weatherhill , 1985.
- Brown, Percy.Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu Period). Mumbai:
- D.B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., 1971 (Reprint).Indian Architecture (Islamic Period). Mumbai: D.B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., 1975 (Reprint).
- Michell, George.The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms*. University of Chicago Press, 1988.
- Architecture and Art of Southern India: Vijayanagara and the Successor States*. Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- Tadgell, Christopher.The History of Architecture in India: From the Dawn of Civilization to the End of the Raj*. London: Phaidon Press, 1990.
- Nilsson, Sten., European Architecture in India 1750-1850*. London: Faber and Faber, 1968.
- Davies, Philip.,Splendours of the Raj: British Architecture in India, 1660 to 1947*.
- Penguin Books, 1987. Vatsyayan, Kapila.Indian Classical Dance. New Delhi: Publications Division, Government of India, 1992.
- Sarabhai, Mrinalini.Understanding Bharata Natyam. Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, 1997.
- Wade, Bonnie C.Music in India: The Classical Traditions., New Delhi: Manohar, 1999.
- Irwin, John, and Margaret Hall. Indian Embroideries., Ahmedabad: Calico Museum of Textiles, 1973.
- Guy, John, and Deborah Swallow (eds.).Arts of India: 1550-1900. London: Victoria and Albert Museum, 1990.

Suggested readings

- 1.Jayakar, Pupul. The Earth Mother: Legends, Ritual and Goddesses of India San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1990.
2. Sen, Colleen Taylor. Feasts and Fasts: A History of Food in India, Reaktion Books, 2015.
3. Gupta, Narayani, Delhi Between Two Empires, 1803-1931: Society, Government and Urban Growth*. Oxford University Press, 1981.
4. Menon, A.G. Krishna., Conservation in India: A Status Report, INTACH, 2003.
- 5.Chakrabarty, Dipesh. Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference. Princeton University Press, 2000.
6. Nandy, Ashis. The Intimate Enemy: Loss and Recovery of Self Under Colonialism . Oxford University Press, 1983.

Web Resources
1. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):https://asi.nic.in/ - The official repository for information on nationally protected monuments. Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage
2. (INTACH):https://www.intach.org/ - Leads grassroots conservation efforts; publishes valuable reports and a journal.
3. Google Arts & Culture: Incredible India:https://artsandculture.google.com/ - Features high-resolution images and virtual tours of museum collections and heritage sites from partners across India
4. The Met Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History - South Asia: https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/06/ssa.html - Provides scholarly essays, timelines, and images from a world-class collection.
5. Sahapedia:https://www.sahapedia.org/ - An open online resource on the arts, cultures, and heritage of India.
Evaluation : Practical Internal Assessment: 48 + Attendance: 2 = 50 Total marks-50
Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam:

Course outcomes (COs) and Cognitive Level Mapping

COs	CO Description	Cognitive levels
CO1	Identify major UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India and recall the defining characteristics of classical dance forms and music traditions	K1
CO2	Explain the philosophical concepts of <i>Parampara</i> and <i>Sanskriti</i> and how they maintain the continuity between ancient and modern Indian practices	K2
CO3	Relate the principles of traditional water management and vernacular architecture, such as stepwells and havelis, to modern sustainable living	K3
CO4	Compare the stylistic differences between Nagara, Dravida, and Indo-Saracenic architecture to understand how political shifts influenced Indian aesthetics	K4
CO5	Critique the impact of cultural tourism and urbanization on heritage sites, assessing the effectiveness of conservation efforts by agencies like the ASI and INTACH	K5
CO6	Design a digital archiving proposal or a heritage walk plan that integrates both the tangible and intangible aspects of a specific regional site.	K6