



ARSD College, University of Delhi

Model Course Handout/Lesson Plan

Course Name : B.A. Hons History						
Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)	Credit (C)
IV	518	Indian Art and Architecture	4			4
Teacher/Instructor(s) Session		Dr. Chhaya 2021-22				

Course Objective:

This course aims to provide an understanding of Indian art forms from ancient to contemporary times, fostering appreciation of its diversity and plurality of aesthetic richness. The course begins with how Indian art was perceived in the west and the construction of the orientalist canon, laying stress on the primacy of religion and race in Indian art and superiority of Western aesthetics. It also explores the nationalist response, underlining the transcendental and metaphysical aspects of Indian art, which gave it its 'Indianness' and reviews new concerns in Indian art studies regarding its social context. The course studies three vital manifestations of Indian art, keeping in view the transitions in terms of style, material, historical contexts, regional variations, elite/popular art, patterns of patronage, representation of gender and the study of iconography of different works of art.

Course Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student should be able to:

- Explain how Indian art was perceived and received in the west under colonial rule and its changing perspectives. This will set the template for examining its various manifestations.
- Through specific examples the student will be able to identify the historical context, socioeconomic processes that went in the formation of art and architectural forms.
- Identify the stylistic features of different genres of art.
- Discuss the iconography of art forms.
- Differentiate between high/courtly art, popular art/folk, and tribal art.
- Point out the continuity in patterns and regional variations.
- Elaborate patronage patterns, artist-patron relations and representation of gender.

Lesson Plan:

Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be covered
1.	This unit introduces student to the historiographical issues related to study of Indian Art and how these have altered over time. Students will also be introduced to different categories of art; classical/high/elite and popular/folk/tribal art and craft	1-4	Historiography of Indian art: orientalist, nationalist and the making of 'Indian' art.
		5-8	Categories of classical/high/elite and popular/folk/tribal art and crafts; regional variations.
2.	This unit examines historical development in the evolution of sculpture with special reference to stone, metal and terracotta.	9-12	Gandhara and Mathura.
		13-16	Chola bronzes
		17-20	Terracotta art.
3.	This unit examines developments in architecture in India with reference to temples, mosques, forts and colonial buildings. Students are also introduced to the differing ideological underpinnings noticeable in architectural constructions.	21	Sanchi: stupa and monastery architecture, pattern of patronage.
		22-23	Brihadeshwara: the Dravida style, imperial iconography.
		24-25	Khajuraho temple complex: the Nagar style, iconic scheme, patterns of patronage.
		26-28	Jama Masjid: the mosque of Shahjahanabad
		29-31	Humayun's Tomb: Timurid prototype, introduction of the Persian chaharbagh.
		32-33	Sufi Dargahs: Nizamuddin Auliya dargah at Delhi
		34-36	Construction of New Delhi and the imperial vision.
4.	This unit deals with the traditions of Painting in India with reference to Mural, miniature; Mughal and Rajputs. It also examines major trends of painting during the national movement and in contemporary India	37-38	Ajanta Murals: characteristics, material culture
		39-43	Mughal painting: formation of the school, features, themes, artist-patron relationship
		44	Kangra painting: spectatorship and femininity.
		45-52	Colonial art and modernism in India: Raja Ravi Verma; the Bengal school; Amrita Sher-Gil; M. F. Husain. e. Folk, tribal art
5.			

Evaluation Scheme:

No.	Component	Duration	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment		25
	• Project		
	• Attendance		
	• Assignment		
2.	End Semester Examination	3 hr	75

Details of the Course		
Unit	Contents	Contact Hours
1	Perspectives on Indian Art and Architecture. a. Historiography of Indian art: orientalist, nationalist and the making of 'Indian' art. b. Categories of classical/high/elite and popular/folk/tribal art and crafts; regional variations.	8
2	Sculpture: styles, iconography. a. Gandhara and Mathura. b. Chola bronzes. c. Terracotta art.	12
3	Architecture: forms, contexts. a. Sanchi: stupa and monastery architecture, pattern of patronage. b. Brihadeshwara: the Dravida style, imperial iconography. c. Khajuraho temple complex: the Nagar style, iconic scheme, patterns of patronage. d. Jama Masjid: the mosque of Shahjahanabad. e. Humayun's Tomb: Timurid prototype, introduction of the Persian chaharbagh. f. Sufi Dargahs: Nizamudin Auliya dargah at Delhi. g. Construction of New Delhi and the imperial vision.	16
4	Painting: styles, representation, popular and folk. a. Ajanta Murals: characteristics, material culture. b. Mughal painting: formation of the school, features, themes, artist-patron relationship. c. Kangra painting: spectatorship and femininity. d. Colonial art and modernism in India: Raja Ravi Verma; the Bengal school; Amrita Sher-Gil; M. F. Husain. e. Folk, tribal art: Maithili painting.	16
5	Field Trip	
	Total	52
Suggested Books:		
Sl. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers	Year of Publication/Reprint

1	Huntington, Susan. (1985).The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain, New York and Tokyo: John Weather Hill Inc.	1985
2	Dhar, P. P. (2011). ed. Indian Art History Changing Perspective, New Delhi: DK.	2011
3	Mitter, Partha. (2011).Indian Art, Delhi: Oxford University Press	2011
4	Verma S. P. (2005), Painting the Mughal Experience, Delhi: Oxford University Press	2005
5	Asher, Catherine B. (1992).The New Cambridge History of India: Architecture of Mughal India, 1.4, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press	1992
Mode of Evaluation:		Internal Assessment / End Semester Exam

