

# Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology

(Prof. Rajendra Singh (Rajju Bhaiya) University, Prayagraj)

(2024-2025 onwards)

## COURSE STRUCTURE WITH CREDITS DISTRIBUTION

### VAC Course: UNDERSTANDING INDIA

Programme: Undergraduate	Year: 1	Semester: I <sup>ST</sup>
Offered by : Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology		
Course Code: S010101T	Course: UNDERSTANDING INDIA	
Credit: 2	Value Added Course (Elective Course)	
<b>Course Outcome: after completion of the course, student will be able to:</b> <b>CO1:</b> Develop an understanding of the rich and diverse cultural heritage of India, including its traditions, languages, religions, and artistic expressions. <b>CO2:</b> Gain insights into India's historical evolution from ancient times to the modern era, focusing on key events, movements, and figures that have shaped the nation. <b>CO3:</b> Explore the social structure of India, including caste, class, gender, and the dynamics of urban and rural life. <b>CO4:</b> Learn about India's economic development, challenges, and its position in the global economy, covering topics like agriculture, industry, services, and economic reforms. <b>CO5:</b> Understand the Indian political system, including its constitution, governance, electoral processes, and the role of various institutions in shaping Indian democracy.		
Unit	Course Contents	
1	<b>Historical Perspective of India:</b> Beginning of the Indian Civilisation, Indus Civilisation, Vedic Culture, Basic introduction of Magadh Empire, Mauryan dynasty, Gupta dynasty, Development of Indian Political System, Origin of State, Kingship, Feudalism and Democracy	
2	The idea of Bharatvarsha, The Name of our Country: Jambudvipa, Sindhu (Indus), Inde, Hind, Hindustan, Bharat, India, Indus. Indian Education in Ancient India, Ancient Education system: Takshashila, Nalanda, Vikramshila, Art and Architecture of ancient India: Ajanta Paintings, Mauryan Art, Khajuraho temples	
3	<b>Social Structure of India:</b> Varna System, Ashrama, Samskara, Caste, Community, Class and Gender <b>Current Scenario of Society:</b> Class and Gender, Untouchability, Reservation system, Employment. <b>Indian Religion and Philosophy:</b> Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Islam, Bhakti Movement	
4	An introduction to Indian knowledge system, Ancient texts: Veda, Purana, Epics, Brihatsamhita.	
5	<b>Geographical features of India:</b> 1. India on the map of world and its neighboring countries 2. Physical features of India including mountain, plateau, plain, coast, island, vegetation, rivers, soils, and climate	
6	<b>Freedom Struggle:</b> India's Freedom struggle, Chauri-Chari Incident, Jalliwala Bagh tragedy, Non Co-operation Movement and Dandi March, Freedom fighters of Uttar Pradesh. <b>Indian Constitution as a living document:</b> Development of Indian Constitution, Salient features, Preamble, Fundamental rights, Justise, Fundamental duties and Constitutional Values.	
7	<b>Political ideas:</b> Non-violence, Satyagraha and Social Justice, Idealism, Liberalism, Marxism	
8	<b>Indian Economy:</b> The Indian Economy through the Ages (Agriculture, Industry and Trade-Transport)	
<b>Suggested Books:</b> ➤ Basam, A. L.: The Wonder that was India/अद्भुत भारत, London, 1954. ➤ R. S. Sharma, India's Ancient Past, New Delhi, OUP, 2007 ➤ Upinder Singh, The History of the Ancient and Early Medieval India, Pearson, 2008 ➤ Satish Chandra, History of Medieval India, Arihant Publication, 2020 ➤ Durga Das Basu, Introduction to the Constitution of India, Lexis Nexis, 2018 ➤ NCERT, classes 6-12 books on History, Political Science, Economics, Geography etc. ➤ A. L. Basham, A Cultural History of India, Oxford University Press, 1997 ➤ Deva, Indian Music, ICCR, 1976 Braj, B. Kachru, et.al., Languages in South Asia, Cambridge University Press, 2013 ➤ Hemant, Jharkhand, Prakashan Sansthan, New Delhi, 2008 ➤ Herman Kulke and Deitmar Rothermund, A History of India, Taylor and Francis, 2016 ➤ Krishna Chaitanya, A Profile of Indian Culture, The Indian Book Company, New Delhi, 1976		

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- N.R. Ray, An Approach to Indian Art, Publication Bureau, Chandigarh, 1974
- R.S. Sharma, India's Ancient Past, Oxford University Press, 2020
- R.C. Majumdar (ed.), History and Culture of Indian People (Relevant Volumes and Chapters), Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay.
- S.C. Ghosh, History of Education in Modern India, 1758-1986, Orient Longman, Hyderabad, 1995
- Romila Thapar, The Penguin History of Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300, Penguin India, 2003
- Tirthankar Ray, The Economic History of India 1857-1947, OUP, 2006
- Vijay Joshi and I.M.D. Little, India's Economic Reforms, 1991-2001, OUP, 1996

## **E-RESOURCES:**

- E-Books: <https://www.indianculture.gov.in/ebooks>
- Ancient India Bulletin of ASI: [https://asi.nic.in/Ancient\\_India/](https://asi.nic.in/Ancient_India/)
- Purana: <https://ignca.gov.in/purana/>
- Epigraphia Indica: <https://ignca.gov.in/epigraphia-indica/>
- National Digital Library: <https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/>
- IGNCA Kalanidhi: <https://ignca.gov.in/divisionss/kalanidhi/>
- IGNCA Online Resources: <https://ignca.gov.in/online-digital-resources/>
- ICSSR e-Resources: <https://nassdoceresources.remotexs.in/>
- UGC e-Resources: <http://ugceresources.in/>
- Parliament Library: <https://parliamentlibraryindia.nic.in/Ebooks.aspx>
- Project Gutenberg: <https://www.gutenberg.org/>
- Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/digitallibraryindia>
- Rare Books: <https://www.rarebooksocietyofindia.org/>
- Indian Culture-: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqIQDjktkPBLGElstqmPa8w>
- Archaeology: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqKVoafPg1adHUxPurKvfyxr>
- Numismatic: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqK7h0w9azROUht\\_rx79UHry](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqK7h0w9azROUht_rx79UHry)
- Museology: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqJOzKcGDV1KIjPF7yG9tWfl>
- Pre & Prehistoric Culture: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqL6xyR81PvNk30NlekhGDbd>
- Economics History of India: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqJjT-C9dPCeeztJ-857N2-0>
- Social & Culture History of India: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn14bzqH5QqII89W80EnH96HDnlbdg6Bc>