

## **Elective History Syllabus**

### **Programme Objective:**

- In general, as ODL is concerned, our main objective is to democratize education as a resource and provide every citizen, irrespective of gender, caste and creed, easy and affordable access to quality education in general and in the paradigm of Social sciences, in particular. The basic philosophy of our aim is to "Reach the Unreached".
- The teaching-learning process of History is closely related to the study of past not simply for the past alone; it aims to understand the present also in a critical manner. The mission and objective of the programme is to motivate the prospective learners to get acquainted with the latest findings as well as research methodology of history as a discipline. It aims to cater the growing demands of the learners not only for those who want to be a teachers or researchers, but also to those who intend to be administrators, journalists or even professionals.
- The relevance of the present programme, that is, B.A. in Elective History, is suited with the NSOU's mission and goal. The course is designed in such a way so that it can offer updated knowledge in the subject following the latest regulations of all the appropriate statutory bodies of government (both state and union). In order to spread the study of history in an optimum level, the programme is conducted in Bengali language though the learners have the liberty to write either in Bengali or in English in the examinations.

### **Expected Programme Outcome:**

- The Programme is designed with an understanding of certain expected outcome. The basic components of the syllabus offer an updated and equitable distribution of knowledge about past in a synchronous manner. Therefore, it is expected that learners will get a critical and thorough knowledge about the methodology and perspectives of history in detail.

The syllabus is formulated in such a way that it would enhance the both the skills and knowledge of the learners in practical sense of the term. It will further equip the learners in terms of employability, skill enhancement and general competency. It would cater the needs of both the professional world and academic sphere.

### **Graduate Attributes**

Some of the Graduate Attributes comprising of the skills, personal qualities and understanding which all students will have the opportunity to develop through their experience at NSOU are: -

- An intellectual curiosity in the pursuit of knowledge.
- An understanding and respect for the values, principles and methods of the university, cutting across disciplinary boundaries.
- Articulation of complex ideas as per the needs and capacities of particular audiences.
- A robust multi-disciplinary approach to learning that will facilitate further strengthening of the academic community at large.
- A strong sense of ethical, social and global responsibilities.
- Productive utilization of disciplinary knowledge to contribute to the academia and society at large.
- Engagement with the scholarly community and civil society at large, for the development and achievement of broader academic and social ends.

### **Curriculum Design:**

Course Duration: **Three Years**

**Course Structure**

1. Compulsory Subjects: Foundation Course
  - (a) Bengali (FBG) 4 Credits
  - (b) English (FEG) 4 Credits
  - (c) Humanities and Social Science (FHS) 8 Credits
  - (d) Science and Technology (FST) 8 Credits
2. Elective Subject: Eight Papers (8×8 Credits) 64 Credits
3. Subsidiary Course (3×8 Credits) 24 Credits
4. Compulsory Subject: Application Oriented Courses (Any One)
  - (a) Basic Accountancy (AOC-01) 8 Credits
  - (b) Food Processing (AOC-02)
  - (c) Household Chemistry (AOC-03)
5. Environmental Studies 4 Credits

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Total 124 Credits

**Detailed Syllabus:**

Name of the Papers

Paper	Title of the Paper
Paper I	Ancient India
Paper II	Medieval India
Paper III	Early Modern India
Paper IV	China & Japan
Paper V	South East Asia
Paper VI	Modern Indian History
Paper VII	Modern Europe
Paper VIII	Making of the Modern World

**Paper I: Ancient India**

Module-1: Sources of Ancient Indian History; Harappan Civilization—Origin. Extent, urban life and decline; Society, Economy and Polity during the Vedic Age; Religious Beliefs, Ideas and Practices during the Vedic Age.

Module-2: Rise of the Mahajanapada with special reference to the ascendancy of Magadha (up to the end of the Nanda Rule); The Maurya Empire Expansion. Extent, Administrative System. Policy of Dhamma. Collapse

of the Empire; Non-indigenous powers in India with special reference to Kushana empire (brief notices of the Greek, Saka and Parthian invasions)-Rise of the Satavahanas in the Deccan-a brief note on Polity and Administration: The Gupta Empire in the North-Foundation, Expansion, Decay, the Deccan under the Vakatakas, Polity and Administration with special reference to Provincial and Local Level Administration.

Module-3: Major North Indian Powers (600-1200): Harsha, Gujrata-Pratharas-Brief discussion on Kashmir, Kolachuris of Dahala and the Gahadhavalas of Kanauj; Bengal as a Regional Power: Sasanka, the Palas and the Senas (600-1205)—Polity and Administrative organization; Regional Powers in the Deccan-The Chalukyas of Badami and the Rashtrakutas; Powers in the far South. The Pallavas, the Cholas (Rayaraju, Rajendra, Chola Maritime Expeditions).

Module-4: Salient features of early Indian Rural Economy: Agriculture and Irrigation, Ownership of land, Landed Intermediaries and Peasants— Debates on Indian Feudalism; Non-agrarian Sector of the Economy: Crafts, Organisations of Craftsmen and Professionals (Sreni, Samgha etc). Trade and Urban Centres; Society and Religious Life; Family, Varna-Jati, Marriage, position of women. Science, technology and society; attitude to science and technology in ancient India; Art history: Stupa, Chaitya and Structural Temples (Regional Styles), Sculpture including terracotta and painting.

### **Paper II: Medieval India**

Module-1: Impact of Islam and political change in India—the foundation of Delhi Sultanate ; The early history of the Sultanate and the emergence of a centralized monarchy ; The Khilji Revolution ; The Tughlaques ; Independent Sultans of Bengal-the Vijaynagar Empire.

Module-2: The Delhi Sultanate and the changing framework of agriculture-the Iqta System-emergence of new urban centres with an expanding commercial life; The nature of the impact of Islam on Indian Society-Sufism-emergence of syncretic ideas and beliefs-the Bhakti movement. Role of the Indo-Saracenic style in architecture; Disintegration of the Sultanate and the foundation of the Mughal Empire-Babur-Mughal & Afghan contest-Sher Shah; Akbar and the consolidation of the Mughal Empire—Political expansion. Administrative reorganization including the Mansabdari System.

Module-3: The imperial expansion under Jahangir and Saha Jahan—consolidation of the Mughal ruling class; The history of Aurangzeb—Political expansion in the Deccan, the Mughal-Maratha contest-state and religion; The break-up of the Mughal Empire. Political and economic explanations for Imperial decline; Mughal rule in Bengal.

Module-4: The Mansabdari System—Mughal revenue policy and agriculture; Commercial expansion—Urbanization and foreign trade; The Mughals and the European trading companies; Religious Syncretism-devotional cults-art & architecture in Mughal era.

### **Paper III: Early Modern India**

Module-1: Decline of the Mughal Empire during the early Eighteenth Century; Agrarian crisis: Peasant insurrection; Political Parties and conflicts in the Mughal Court, The decline of the aristocracy; Emergence of Regional States: Bengal, Hyderabad, Awadh; European Traders in the early eighteenth century.

Module-2: The rise of the British Empire: Bengal 'The British Bridge head'-1757- 1760-1765; The framework of the early Colonial State in Bengal; Political Expansion: North India, Mysore, Maharashtra-Settlement of 1818; The rise of Pararnoutcy: Hastings, Dalhousie.

Module-3: The Colonial Impact: The changing structure of India's foreign trade- Drain-Early 19th Century: Domination effect-deindustrialization; Changes in rural Society-Land revenue policies-Causes of revenue maximization: The three different settlements; The New Administrative framework: Law-Judicial reforms—Penal Law—Educational policy; Westernization and its impact on Indian society; Three different responses: Eclectic, Conservative and Radical.

Module-4: Early rural resistance : Landlords and peasants ; Peasant Resistance- Civil Disturbance, Tribal unrest-Santal resistance, Farizis, Pagal Panthi etc. ; Urban politics of the Indian notables-Bengal, Bombay and Madras ; The Revolt of 1857 : Context-Historiography.

**Paper IV: China & Japan**

Module-1: Elements of traditional Chinese Society, Culture and polity; Agents of change-internal contradictions within imperial system including land system-gentry-peasant rebellions; Decentralized polity of traditional Japan before 1603, Japanese feudalism-Samurai-features of Samurai tradition; Emergence of new system of political control and economic change in the Tokugawa Shogunate-drive towards centralization and erosion of old economic order.

Module-2: Commercial contact & cultural encounter: Opium War and their aftermath up to Sino-Japanese War: Arrival of Commodore Perry and its implications-decline or consolidation or imperial control-the rise of modern state up to constitution of 1889.

Module-3: From Reform movement (1889) to Sun Yat-sen (1911); 1911 to establishment of Communist Party of China; Post Constitution Japan to 1915: the growth of militarism Japanese Modernization: Japan from 1915-1931.

Module-4: China (1921-1949); Japanese Polity (1931-1945), Japanese Economy (1931-1945)

**Paper V: South-East Asia**

Module-1: European expansion and Consolidation in South-East Asia.

Module-2: Society and economy under Colonial Rule.

Module-3: Emergence and phases of nationalism in South-East Asia.

Module-4: South-East Asia in contemporary polities to 1970s, with special reference Indonesia.

**Paper VI: Modern Indian History (1858-1964)**

Module-1: India after 1857: Administrative reorganization-The Acts of 1858, Queen's Proclamation and Act of 1861-Changes in the Army, the Police and other instruments of Governance ; Peasant and tribal unrest in India in later 19th Century; Colonial Economic Transformation ; Social Reform Movements.

Module-2: Social Roots of Indian National Congress: The Early Congress and the ideological framework of moderate nationalism; Extremism, Swadeshi Movement and Congress split at Surat; Revolutionary Nationalism.

Module-3: India after the First World War—Rise of Gandhi; Gandhi and Mass Politics, 1921-42 (Khilafat, Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience. Quit India Movements) ; The left in the Congress, Trade Union Movement, Subhas Chandra Bose and the INA, Post-War Upsurge ; The Partition and its aftermath (with reference to Communal mobilization, Pakistan Movement, the Partition and the transfer of Power).

Module-4: The Constituent Assembly and the Framing of the Indian Constitution; Politics in Independent India: Nehru Era; Planning and the Indian Economy; Nehruvian Foreign Policy-Non Alignment.

**Paper VII: Modern Europe (1789-1919)**

Module-1: Reform and Revolution (1789-1815): Background and causes of French Revolution of 1789; Trends of the French Revolution of 1789; Rise of Napoleon-Empire building; Napoleonic Reforms and their effects-Child of Revolution.

Module-2: The Conservative Order and the Revolutionary Challenge (1815-1871); Vienna Settlement-Metternich-Concert of Europe; Revolts of 1830 & Revolution of 1848 ; France under Second Empire—Paris Commune ; Formation of Nation States-Italy & Germany-Problems of the Old Empires-Hapsburg Empire of Austria, Hungary & the Ottoman Empire.

Module-3: The Industrial Revolution and the Rise of Socialism: Industrial Revolution -England and the Continent; Socialist Movements in Europe; Reforms in Russia; Revolution of 1905 and 1917 in Russia.

Module-4: Imperialism, Nationalism and New Diplomacy: Colonial expansions. Balkan Nationalism, New Diplomacy and First World War.

**Paper VIII: Making of the modern world (1919-1956)**



## **NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY**

### **Bachelor's Degree Programme (BDP) in History (EHI)**

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Module-1: The peace settlement and its effects: Europe in 1919: Search for security; Reparation - Economic Nationalism - Great depression; The foreign policies of the United States and Soviet Russia two World Wars.

Module-2: Efforts at peace and its breakdown: League of Nations: Disarmament- Locarno Pact: Rise of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy: Japan's Expansionism-Manchurian Crisis – Italy-Abyssinian War - Spanish Civil War— Rome, Berlin, Tokyo Axis-Appeasement-coming of the Second World War.

Module-3: The Cold War: Effects of the second World War-Decolonization- Emergence of the United States and Soviet Russia as super powers; The Chinese Revolution; The origin of the Cold War its growth; The United Nations- Functions and peace efforts.

Module-4: Nationalism and the Developing World: Arab Nationalism; Nationalism on Africa: Neo-Colonialism and new forms of Domination; Policy of Non-Alignment.