



University of Kerala

Discipline	HISTORY				
Course Code	UK3DSCHIS200				
Course Title	STATE AND SOCIETY IN ANCIENT INDIA				
Type of Course	DSC				
Semester	III				
Academic Level	200-299				
Course Details	Credit	Lecture per week	Tutorial per week	Practical per week	Total Hours/Week
	4	4			4
Course Summary	<p>This course, with an interdisciplinary vision, will help students' to trace fundamentals of continuity and changes in configuration of polity, society, economy after 300 B C. Acquaint them with conceptual understanding of the emergence of empires, their nature and their contributions. By understanding the significance of space and time, they can differentiate the socio- political processes and power relations in subsequent periods. They were enriched by the values of religious toleration and developing the ability to generate opinion by learning the lessons and examples of better co-existence from early times. They will get knowledge of the origin, evolution and features of art and to figure out the key factors contributed to the development of Gandhara, Mathura and Amaravati School of Art. Inculcate a sense of pride among them and enrich the students by the developments of Science, Technology and Medicine in early India.</p>				

Detailed Syllabus:

Module	Unit	Content	Hrs
I	Mauryan State and Society		12
	1	Sources and Historiography-Archaeological- Literary evidences - Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and Tamil literature- Scientific treatises.	
	2	Mauryan Empire – debate on the nature of the State- Mauryan polity- <i>Arthasatra</i> and statecraft	
	3	Mauryan economy and Society- Ashoka's Dhamma-Debate on decline	
	4	Mauryan art and architecture	

II	Post Mauryan Transitions		12
	5	Post Mauryan polities-Sungas and Kanvas-Naga -Vakatakas-Satavahanas, debate on dark age-proliferation of caste and social stratification.	
	6	Foreign invasions-Indo- Greeks, Shakas, Parthians & Kushanas.	
	7	Social, economic, political and cultural developments – Trade relations.	
III	Gupta State		12
	8	Gupta Polity, Society, Economy, Religion, Art, Literature, Science & Technology.	
	9	Institution of land grants-Indian Feudalism – Debate.	
	10	Debate on Gupta golden age.	
IV	Tamil South and Historic Traditions		12
	11	Ancient <i>Tamilakam</i> - <i>Muvender</i> – Chera, Chola, Pandya.	
	12	Ecology and Human Settlements- <i>Tinai</i> concept- Subsistence pattern.	
	13	<i>Sangam</i> polity- society- economy- Roman trade Towards Early medieval- Pallavas- Chalukyas, Vardhanas.	
V	Art and State power		12
	14	Schools of art- Gandhara- Mathura- Amaravati- features	
	15	Mauryan art and architecture – Asokan Edicts and Pillars	
	16	Gupta art and architecture	
	17	Dravidian style of architecture- Pallava and Chalukya	

Essential Readings

1. Chattopadhyaya, B. D. (1994). *The Making of Early Medieval India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
2. Thapar, Romila (2012). *Ashoka and the Decline of the Mauryas*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
3. Sastri, K. A. N. (2008). *A History of South India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
4. Gurukkal, Rajan (2016). *Rethinking Indo-Roman Classical Trade*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
5. Sharma, R. S. (2007). *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*, New Delhi: MacMillan.
6. Sharma, R. S. (2010). *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*, New Delhi: Mac Millan.
7. Thapar, Romila (1984). *From Lineage to State*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
8. Kosambi, D. D. (1956). *An Introduction to the Study of Indian History*. New Delhi: Sage Publications