

Generic Elective (GE)- History

RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Religious Traditions in the Indian Subcontinent	4	3	1	0	12 th Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This course seeks to provide an understanding of (a) multiple religious traditions that flourished through the ages in the Indian subcontinent; (b) how each religious tradition is dynamic and changing in relation to each other and in relation to its own past; (c) the ways in which each expanded or contracted; (d) how the modern Indian state and its constitution dealt with the issue of multiplicity of beliefs; and (e) to understand the varied approaches to each of the issues out-lined above.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

- Describe the basic chronological, spatial and substantive contours of each of the religious traditions as well as certain intellectual currents that questioned them.
- Analyse and articulate the long-term changes that each religious tradition undergoes in a dynamic relationship with its own past, with non-religious aspects of life, and with other religious traditions. · Identify and describe the formation of religious identities and the scope for the liminal spaces in between.
- Appreciate, examine and relate to the debates on the ways in which the modern Indian state and its constitution must deal with the issue of plurality of religious beliefs and practices.

SYLLABUS OF GE

Unit-I: Major Religious Traditions in Ancient India

1. Vedic and Puranic traditions

2. Schools of Buddhism and Jainism

Unit-II: Major Religious Traditions in Medieval India

1. Bhakti traditions: Saguna; Nirguna
2. Sufi traditions: Development of Chishtiyya and Suhrawardiyya
3. Emergence of Sikhism

Unit-III: Socialisation and Dissemination from the Early Medieval to Early Modern Era

1. Approaches to Shaiva, Shakta and Vaishnava in the Early Medieval Era
2. Approaches to Islamisation in the Medieval Period

Unit-IV: Modernity and Religion

1. Making of Sacred Spaces: Banaras; Modern Religious Identities
2. Debates on Secularism and the Indian Constitution

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/recommended readings

Unit-I. The unit should familiarise students with diverse religious traditions that originated in the Indian-subcontinent. It also explores intellectual currents that questioned them.

- Shrimali, K. M. (1998). 'Religion, Ideology and Society', Proceedings of Indian History Congress, General Presidential Address, 66th Session. यह ल ख हह म् म प . शम ल क ह एक हकत ब म स कहलत ह . शम ल, क षम हन.
(2005). धम , सम ज और स स हत, नई हैल: ग थहल. (अध य 6: धम , ह(र् ध र और सम ज, pp. 196-258).
- Chakrabarti, Kunal. (2001). Religious Process: The Puranas and the Making of a Regional Tradition, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, Chapter 2, pp. 44-80.
- Basham, A. L. (1954). The Wonder that was India, Calcutta: Rupa. Reprint, 1982. (Available online at the url: <https://archive.org/details/TheWonderThatWasIndiaByALBasham>).
- Also available in hindi, ब \$म, ए.एल. (1996). म् अ* +, त + रत, आगर : ह \$(ल ल अग (ल ए ि क पन.
- Sharma, R.S. (2006). India's Ancient Past, Oxford University Press, Relevant part is Chapter-14 ' Jainism and Budhhism'. यह ल ख हह म् म प . र म \$रण \$म क ह एक हकत ब म स कहलत ह . \$म , र म \$रण (2016), प र ह + क + रत क प र र र्य, ओर ए ट ब क स न , (अध य -14: ज न और ब 7 म् धम , pp.132-146).
- Schopen, G. (1997). Bones, Stones, and Buddhist Monks: Collected Papers on the Archaeology, Epigraphy, and Texts of Monastic Buddhism in India, Honolulu: