

As Per NEP 2020

Title of Paper

University of Mumbai



Syllabus for Basket of OE	
Board of Studies in GEOGRAPHY	
UG Second Year Programme	
Semester	IV
Title of Paper -	Credits
I) An Introduction to Historical Geography	2
From the Academic Year	2025/2026

Title of Paper:- An Introduction to Historical Geography

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	Description of the course : Including but not limited to :	The open elective course on “An Introduction to Historical Geography” is designed for second-year undergraduate students across all faculties and offers a comprehensive 30-hour learning experience for 2 credits. Historical geography is an interdisciplinary field that blends geographical and historical methods to study how geographical features influence human activity over time. The relevance and usefulness of this course lie in its ability to provide students with a deeper understanding of India's rich historical and geographical landscape, especially focusing on Maharashtra. By integrating the disciplines of history, geography, archaeology, and cultural studies, this course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of how natural features such as rivers, mountains, and climate have profoundly influenced India's historical trajectory. Focusing on both broad themes and regional case studies, with a special emphasis on Maharashtra, students will examine the interplay between geography and human development from ancient times through the medieval and modern periods. The curriculum is organized into two modules. The first module investigates ancient historical geography, revealing how early civilizations interacted with their environment through archaeological and literary sources to trace the footprints of prehistoric and ancient inhabitants. The second module delves into the medieval and modern eras, exploring the impact of trade routes, urbanization, and socio-economic transformations brought about by historical milestones such as the rise of port cities and the influence of colonial expansion. In terms of application, students will develop critical analytical skills to evaluate historical and geographical data. This knowledge can be applied to various fields such as archaeology, cultural studies, environmental studies, and urban planning. The interdisciplinary nature of the course fosters connections with other subjects, making it an excellent complement to courses in history, archaeology, and environmental science. The demand for expertise in historical geography is growing in industries such as heritage conservation, tourism, urban planning, and academia. Understanding historical geography equips students with the ability to analyse and preserve cultural and historical landscapes, a skill highly valued in these sectors. Graduates with knowledge of historical geography have promising job prospects in heritage conservation agencies, museums, research institutions, and government bodies involved in

		urban and regional planning.
2	Vertical :	Open Elective
3	Type :	Theory
4	Credit:	2 credits (1 credit = 15 Hours for Theory)
5	Hours Allotted :	30 Hours
6	Marks Allotted:	50 Marks
7	Course Objectives: (List some of the course objectives) 1. To introduce students to the fundamental concepts, methods, and themes of historical geography. 2. To explore the interplay between India's physical geography and its historical developments. 3. To analyse regional case studies, focusing on Maharashtra, to understand cultural and economic landscapes. 4. To foster interdisciplinary thinking by linking geography with history, archaeology, and cultural studies.	
8	Course Outcomes: (List some of the course outcomes.) On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Define key terms and concepts in historical geography. 2. Identify how geographical features like rivers, mountains, and climate shaped historical events in India. 3. Analyse the role of trade routes and urbanisation in shaping regional identities. 4. Evaluate Maharashtra's unique historical geography through case studies.	
9	Modules:- Module 1: Themes in the Ancient Historical Geography of India and Maharashtra (15 hours) 1.1 Historical Geography: Meaning, Nature, Scope, and Relationship with Physical Geography, History, and Archaeology 1.2 Literary and Archaeological Data Sources, and Traditional and Modern Methods in Historical Geography 1.3 The Civilization along River Saraswati, Tracing the Footprints of Prehistoric Inhabitants in Konkan 1.4 Port Cities and Global Trade in Ancient India through the Maritime Silk Route – The Legacy of the Port of Sopara, and Buddhist Caves in Konkan Module 2: Themes in the Medieval and Modern Historical Geography of India and Maharashtra (15 hours) 2.1 Trade and Urbanisation in Early Medieval India – Ports and Trade in Medieval Konkan 2.2 Trade, Urbanisation, and Cultural Synthesis in Late Medieval and Pre-Modern India – Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and his Geographical Vision in the Making of Forts, Navy, and Empire	

2.3 Territorial Expansion of the Colonial Powers and the Rise of Port Cities in India – Colonial Urbanisation and the Legacy of Bombay
2.4 The Past in the Present: Urban Heritage, Identity, and Conservation in India
- Coastal Heritage in Konkan and the Challenges of Conservation

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Text Books:

1. Basham, A. L. (2004). *The wonder that was India* (Vol. I). Picador India.
2. Balsari-Shah S., Nair, S., and Yewale. A (2024). *Gateways to the sea: Historic ports and docks in the Mumbai region*. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
3. Chandra, S. (2001). *Medieval India* (Parts I & II). Har-Anand Publications Pvt. Ltd.
4. Khobrekhar, V. (2002). *Konkan: From the earliest to 1818 AD*. Snehvardhan Prakashan.
5. Purandare, V. (2022). *Shivaji: India's warrior king*. Juggernaut.
6. Ramchandran, R. (1989). *Urbanisation and urban system in India*. Oxford University Press.
7. Singh, U. (2009). *A history of ancient and early medieval India*. Pearson.
8. कठारे, अ. (२०१५). *मध्ययुगीन भारताचा इतिहास*. प्रशांत पब्लिकेशन्स.
9. ग्रोवर, बी., बेल्लेकर एन. (२०१९). *आधुनिक भारताचा इतिहास: एक नवीन मूल्यमापन*. एस. चंद.
10. चंद्र. स. (२०१७). *मध्ययुगीन भारत, खंड दुसरा*. के'सागर पब्लिकेशन्स.
11. चंद्र. स. (२०१७). *मध्ययुगीन भारत, खंड पहिला*. के'सागर पब्लिकेशन्स.
12. देगलूरकर, गो. (२०००). *प्राचीन भारत: इतिहास आणि संस्कृती*. अपरांत.
13. पंडित, सू. (२०२१). *महाराष्ट्रातील बौद्ध लेणी*. अपरांत.
14. पेंडसे, स. (२०१०). *मराठा आरमार. एक अनोखे पर्व*. मार्वन टेक्नॉलॉजीज.
15. शर्मा, आर. (२०१७). *प्राचीन भारत*. के'सागर पब्लिकेशन्स.

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Reference Books:

1. Apte, B. (1973). *A history of the Maratha navy and merchant ships*. Maharashtra Rajya Sahitya Sanskruti Mandal.
2. Arunachalam, B. (2004). *Mumbai by the sea*. Maritime History Society.
3. Baker, A. (2003). *Geography and history: Bridging the divide*. Cambridge University Press.
5. Danino. M. (2010). *The Lost River: On the trail of Sarasvati*. Penguin.
6. Gokhale, B. (1976). *Buddhism in Maharashtra: A history*. Popular Prakashan.
7. Habib, I. (1982). *An atlas of the Mughal Empire: Political and economic maps with detailed notes, bibliography, and index*. Oxford University Press.
8. Hebalkar, S. (2001). *Ancient Indian ports with special reference to Maharashtra*. Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers.
9. Kosambi, D. (1972). *The culture and civilisation of ancient India in historical outline*. Vikas Publishing House.
10. Kulkarni, A. (1996). *The Marathas (1600–1848)*. Books and Books.
11. Kulkarni, U. (2021). *The Maratha century*. Mula Mutha Publishers.
12. Pendse, S (2017). *Maritime Heritage of Konkan*. Maritime History Society.
13. Rizvi, S. A. A. (2022). *The wonder that was India* (Vol. II). Picador India.
14. Sanyal, S. (2017). *Ocean of churn: How the Indian Ocean shaped human history*. Penguin Random House.
15. Sanyal, S. (2012). *Land of Seven Rivers: A brief history of India's geography*. Penguin.
16. Sarkar, J. (2010). *Shivaji and his times*. Orient Blackswan.
17. Spear, P. (1965). *A history of India: From the sixteenth century to the twentieth century* (Vol. II). Penguin Books.

	18. Thapar, R. (1966). <i>A History of India</i> (Vol. I). Penguin Books. 19. टीकेकर, अ. (२००४). स्थल काल. मौज प्रकाशन गृह. 20. भावे, वा. (२०१०). महाराष्ट्राचा सामाजिक इतिहास: मुसलमानपूर्व महाराष्ट्र (खंड एक आणि दोन). वरदा प्रकाशन. 21. भावे, वा. (२०१०). महाराष्ट्राचा सामाजिक इतिहास: मुसलमानपूर्व महाराष्ट्र (खंड एक आणि दोन). वरदा प्रकाशन. 22. भावे, वा. (२०१०). महाराष्ट्राचा सामाजिक इतिहास: शिवकालीन महाराष्ट्र. वरदा प्रकाशन. 23. मेहेंदळे, ग. (२०१७). राजा शिवछत्रपती भाग एक आणि दोन. डायमंड पब्लिकेशन्स.	
12	Internal Continuous Assessment: 40%	External, Semester End Examination Individual Passing in Internal and External Examination: 60%
13	Continuous Evaluation through: Quizzes, Class Tests, presentations, projects, role play, creative writing, assignments, etc.(at least 3) Internal Continuous Assessment of 20 Marks 1. One Assignment/Project work/Case study /Presentation /Seminar /Field visit report/Book review, etc., to be conducted in the given semester before the semester-end examination. (Marks – 10) 2. One online/ offline class test (Marks – 5) 3. Active participation in regular class instructional deliveries and fieldwork. & Overall conduct as a responsible learner, mannerism and articulation and exhibit of leadership qualities in organizing environment-related activities (Marks – 5)	Semester-End Examination of 30 Marks 1. This examination shall be of a 1-hour duration. Maximum marks 30. 2. There shall be two questions, each of 15 marks. 3. All questions shall be compulsory with internal choice within the questions. (Each question will be of 15 marks with options.)
14	Format of Question Paper: for the final examination Q. 1. Based on Modules 1 & 2 (15 Marks) Q. 2. Based on Modules 3 & 4 (15 Marks)	

Sd/-

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