COURSE 3.1 PRINCIPLES OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY – 50 Marks

Unit I: Meaning, Definition & Scope of History. History and its relation with other disciplines.

Unit II: Philosophy of History, Historicism, Objectivity, Historical Determinism, Concept of Time & Progress.

Unit III: Objectives of Research in Social Science; Sources, Criticism of Sources, Primary & Secondary sources. Archival documents, Contemporary texts, Oral testimony.


Unit V: Quantitative methods: Historical Statistics. Aggregates and sample. Counter-factual statistics building; Qualitative research (only in brief outline).

SELECT READINGS:
On History, Fernand Braudel (Translated by Sarah Mathew)
Philosophies of History (ed.) Robert. N. Burns & Hugh Raymen
The Nature of History Author Marwick
The Companion to the Study of History, Michael Stanford
What is history today, J. Gardiner
The order of things, Michel Foucault
What is history, E.H. Carr
The Idea of History, R.G.Collingwood
Telling the truth about history, Appleby
The Historians's Craft, Marc Bloch
The Territory of the Historian, Emanuel.Le Roy Ladarie
History: Its Purpose and Method, G.J. Renier
A Guide to Historical Method R.J. Shafer
Philosophy of History: An Introduction, W.H. Walsh
Knowledge and Explanation in History, R.F. Atkinson
Philosophical Analysis and History, W.H. Dray, (Ed)
The Nature of Historical Explanation, Patrick Gardiner
The Structures of History, Christopher Lloyd
Research Methodology, Pradip Kumar Bose
Quality and Quantity in Social Research, Alan Bryman
The Philosophy of Social Research, John Hughes
Methodology in Social Research, Dilemmas and Perspectives, P.N Mukherjee (eds)
Introduction to Methodology, Keith Punch
Applied Social Research, Monette R Duane et al
Research Methods in Social Relations Rick H Hoyle, Monica J Harris, Charles M Judd
Studying History, Jesminy Black and Donald M. Macraida
Recent trends in Historiography, Satish Bajaj
Times of Feast, Times of Famine: A history of climate since the year 1,000, E. Leroy Ladusse
COURSE 3.2 MAJOR CURRENTS IN HISTORICAL THOUGHT AND HISTORIOGRAPHY - 50 Marks

Unit I: Origins of Historical narrative, Greek and Latin historiography; Medieval Church historiography; Chinese tradition: Su-ma-Chi’en. Ancient Indian Historical tradition: Epics, Itihasa-Purana, Charita Sahitya. Regional Historical Literature.


Unit III: Modern Europe: German, French, Italian & British historians; Ranke: History as past politics. History & the idea of progress. Empirical & Universalist/ Idealist traditions; Positivism; Annales school; Marxist Tradition. Rise of Social History; Some western historians of 19th & 20th centuries.

Unit IV: India’s encounter with new methods of history writing. Archaeological knowledge and discovery of India’s past. Main features of historical writings about India by Indian and western scholars in 19th c.

Unit V: Different dimensions of nationalist history writing in India. Historical writings on ancient, medieval and modern India. 20th c. trends in Indian Historiography and life & works of some major historians.

SELECT READINGS:
A History of Historical Writing, Vols. I & II, J.W. Thompson and Bernard Holm
The Blackwell Dictionary of Historians, John Cannon, et. al
The Annales Historians–Critical Assessment, Vol-I, Stuart Clark
The Idea of History, R.G. Collingwood
In Defence of History, Richard J. Evans
Studies in Indo-Muslim Historical Writing, Peter Hardy
Historians of Medieval India, (ed.) Mohibbul Hassan
An introduction to the study of Indian History, D.D. Kosambi
Historiography in Modern India, R.C. Majumdar
Ancient Indian Historians, V.S. Pathak
History and Historians in the 19th Century, G.P. Gooch
The Historians Craft, Marc Bloch
History of Historical writings, J.P. Thompson
Ideas in History, B. Prasad (ed)
The English Utilitarian and India, Eric Stokes,
Historians and Historiography in Modern India, S.P. Sen (ed)
Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon, C.H. Philips
A Survey of Recent Studies in Modern Indian History, K.K. Datta
History and Historians of British India, S.A. Khan
The History of British India, James Mill
Historians and Historiography in India, Subodh Mukhopadhyay
A Companion to the Study of History, Michael Stanford
White Mythologies: Writing History and the West, Robert Young
History: Its Theory and Method, B. Sheik Ali
Historiography and Historical Methods, N. Subramanian
The Archeology of Knowledge, Foucault, Michel,( translated by Sheridan Smith)
The ideas of History, Debaprasad Choudhury
COURSE 3.3 LOCAL HISTORY – HISTORY OF SOUTH 24 PARGANAS (I) –
50 Marks

Unit I: Concepts – Understanding Local History: methodological issues: relationship with oral History and Micro History, Local History as history of space: the question of urbanization.

Unit II: Introducing the region: the administrative boundaries and the cultural boundaries — Location, Geography, and the natural world: Population and Migration, Language and Castes.

Unit III: The Economic evolution: Agriculture and extension of cultivation during the colonial period; the evolution of other occupations tied with Forest and Fishery; the emergence of a market economy: Trade, Commerce, Markets: Transport & Communications in the railway age.

Unit IV: Religion and Local Cults: beliefs & practices; socio-religious communities & groups; Local Fairs and Festivals.

Unit V: Communications, markets and the impact of tourism on a process of local urbanization in contemporary times - Market centers and tourist spots.

SELECT READINGS:
Castes and Tribes of Bengal. H.H.Risley
Studying History Jeremy Black & Donald M MacRaild
A Revenue History of the Sundarbans from 1870—1920 pub by the Bengal Secretariat (1921)
"Discourses in Local History", Rethinking History Geroge Sheeranand Yanina Sheeranand
Oral Tradition as History Jan Vansina
On History E. Hobsbawm
New Perspectives on Historical Writing Peter Burke (ed.)
Bengal District Gazetteers: 24 Parganas L S S O’Malley
A Statistical Account of Bengal Vol I: W W Hunter
West Bengal District Census Handbooks: 24 Parganas (1951) A Mitra
Geological framework of the Bhagirathi Hooghly Basin Supriya Sengupta
Titoomeeer Beharial Sarkar
A Revenue History of the Sundarbans from 1765 to 1870 F E Pergiter
Missionaries and Education in Bengal 1793-1837 M.A Laird
Brajendra Nath Bandopadhyay: Sahitya Sadhak Charitamala.
A Profile of Sundarban Tribes S. Mukhopadhyay
Sundarbaner Itikatha Sukumar Singh (Edi.)
Sundarbaner Anchaler Khyatiman Byaktider Jibancharit Subarno Das
The Sundarbans of India A.K. Mandal
Bangalir Ithas Nihar Ranjan Roy
Paschimbanga Patrika (in Bengali) – Spl. Issue on 24 Parganas.
Sundarbaner chitti Jogendra Nath Gupta
Sundarbaner arthaniti, janasanskriti o paribesh. R.Chakrabarty & I.K. Mistry
Tebhaga movement in Kakdwip. R.N. Mondal
The Mystery of the Sundarbans. H.P. Chattopadhyay
Sundarban- a socio bio ecological Study A.K. Mandal & R.K. Ghosh
Sundarbans Mangrove- ecology and wildlife. A.B. Chaudhuri & K. Chakravarti
COURSE 3.4 LOCAL HISTORY– HISTORY OF SOUTH 24 PARGANAS (II) – 50 Marks

Unit I: The region as a part of a political structure in early medieval and medieval times
Unit II: The colonial intervention and the creation of administrative institutions: Revenue Administration, Law and Justice, Local self-government, Health and other Services.
Unit III: Modern education and a literary culture: The local intelligentsia—Establishment of educational institutions, the Press and associations and societies during the turn of the nineteenth century.
Unit IV: The region and the freedom movement - Swadeshi, Salt Satyagraha, Quit India. Agrarian struggle and left wing politics: The Tebhaga Movement
Unit V: Political change in post-independence period – civil society initiatives and Non-Government Organizations in the region.

SELECT READINGS:
A Revenue History of the Sundarbans from 1870—1920 pub by the Bengal Secretariat (1921).
West Bengal District Gazetteers -24 Parganas Barun De (ed.)
Bengal District Gazetteers: 24 Parganas L S S O’Malley
A Statistical Account of Bengal Vol I, W W Hunter
West Bengal District Census Handbooks: 24 Parganas 1951, A Mitra
A Revenue History of the Sundarbans from 1765 to 1870 F E Pergiter
Missionaries and Education in Bengal 1793-1837 M.A Laird
On History E. Hobsbawm
New Perspectives on Historical Writing Peter Burke (ed.)
Brajendra Nath Bandopadhyay: Sahitya Sadhak Charitamala.
A Profile of Sundarban Tribes S. Mukhopadhyay
Sundarbaner Itikatha O A-sarkari Umayan Sangsthya Sukumar Singh (Edi.)
Sundarban Anchaler Khyatiman Byaktider Jibancharit Subarno Das
The Sundarbans of India A.K. Mandal
Bengalir Itihas Nihar Ranjan Roy
Paschimbanga Patrika (in Bengali) – Spl. Issue on 24 Parganas.
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Sundarban-a socio bio ecological Study A.K. Mandal & R.K. Ghosh
Sundarbans Mangrove- ecology and wildlife. A.B. Chaudhuri & K. Chakravarti
Tensions in Bengal Rural Society Chittabrata Palit
The History of Bengal (1757-1905) N K Sinha (ed.)
Vaishnavism, Saivism and Minor Religious System R G Bhandarkar
Descriptive Ethnology of Bengal E T Dalton
Paschimbanger Sanskriti vol 4 Benoy Ghosh
Geological framework of the Bhagirathi Hooghly Basin Supriya Sengupta
Titoomeer Beharilal Sarkar