



**SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY**  
Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat  
(Reaccredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC (CGPA 3.25)  
Syllabus with effect from the Academic Year 2021-2022

**Master of Arts: History**  
**M. A. History: Semester II**

|                             |            |                     |                           |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Course Code                 | PA02EHIS52 | Title of the Course | Debates in Indian History |
| Total Credits of the course | 4 + 1      | Hours per Week      | 5                         |

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| Course objectives: | History writing takes place in a socio-cultural environment and depends much on political ideology of the historian. This course introduces the students to some of the debates in Indian history and shows how historians manipulate evidence and how given their prejudices interpret data to suit their pet theories or dates. |
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| Course Content |   |               |
|----------------|---|---------------|
| Unit           | Description   | Weightage (%) |
| 1.             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Political position and interpretation</li><li>The Harappan question</li><li>The Aryan Debate and the date of the Rgveda</li></ul> | 25%           |
| 2.             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Date of the Buddha</li><li>The Date of Ashtadhyayi</li><li>The Date of Arthasastra</li></ul>                                  | 25%           |
| 3.             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The question of 'golden age'</li><li>The problem of deurbanisation</li><li>When was Mediaevalism?</li></ul>                       | 25%           |
| 4.             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Composite Culture?</li><li>1857: Mutiny or War of Independence?</li><li>Indian freedom movements: debates</li></ul>               | 25%           |

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| Teaching-learning Methodology | Direct lectures, quizzes, seminars, tutorials, home assignments, audio-visual media (movies, documentaries, ppts, slides, etc.) |  |
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| Evaluation Pattern |  |           |
|--------------------|--|-----------|
| Sr. No.            | Details of Evaluation  | Weightage |
| 1.                 | Internal Written Exams (as per CBSC R. 6.8.3)  | 15%       |
| 2.                 | Internal Continuous Assessment in the form of Practical, Viva-voce, Quizzes, Seminars, Assignments, Attendance (as per CBSC R.6.8.3) | 15%       |
| 3.                 | University Exams   | 70%       |





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| Course outcomes: Having completed this course, the learner will be able to |   |
| 1.   | understand the politics of scholarship  |
| 2.   | learn that practise of historical writing is not objective, nor neutral but affected by socio-political agendas |
| 3.   | learn to evaluate data and to interpret them  |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Suggested References: |   |
| Sr. No.               | References  |
| 1.                    | Bryant, Edwin. 2001. <i>The Quest for the Origins of Vedic Culture: The Indo-Aryan Migration Debate</i> . New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press.   |
| 2.                    | Bryant, Edwin F. and Laurie L. Patton (ed.). 2005. <i>The Indo-Aryan Controversy: Evidence and Inference in Indian History</i> . London and New York: Routledge.  |
| 3.                    | Chaturvedi, Jayati. 1990. <i>Indian National Movement: A critical study of five schools</i> . Agra: M. G. Publishers.   |
| 4.                    | Singh, Bhagwan. 1995. <i>The Vedic Harappans</i> . New Delhi: Aditya Prakashan.   |
| 5.                    | Lal, B. B. 2015. <i>The Rigvedic People : 'Invaders'?'/Immigrants'? or Indigenous: Evidence of Archaeology and Literature</i> . New Delhi: Aryan Books International.   |
| 6.                    | Sharma, R. S. 2002. Rg [sic] Vedic and Harappan Cultures: Lexical and Archaeological Aspects. <i>Social Scientist</i> 30 (7/8): 3-12. <a href="https://doi.org/10.2307/3518148">https://doi.org/10.2307/3518148</a> |
| 7.                    | Bechert, Heinz. <i>The Dating of the Historical Buddha/Die Datierung des Historischen Buddha</i> . Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.   |
| 8.                    | Narain, A. K. 2008. <i>The Date of the Historical Sakyamuni Buddha</i> . New Delhi: B. R. Publishing Corporation.   |
| 9.                    | Cardona, George. 1985. <i>Panini: A Survey of Research</i> . New Delhi: Motilal Banarasidass.   |
| 10.                   | Majumdar, R. C. 1963. <i>The Sepoy Mutiny and the revolt of 1857</i> . Calcutta: Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay  |
| 11.                   | Sen S. N. 1957. <i>Eighteen Fifty Seven</i> . New Delhi: Publication Division.  |
| 12.                   | गोयल, श्रीराम. १९८७. गुप्तकालीन क्लासिकल संस्कृति. तदीय, गुप्त साम्राज्य का इतिहास, पृ० ४१९-४५४. मेरठ: कुसुमांजलि प्रकाशन.  |

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| On-line resources to be used if available as reference material  |
| On-line Resources  |
| Relevant entries in Wikipedia ( <a href="https://www.wikipedia.org/">https://www.wikipedia.org/</a> ) and Encyclopaedia Britannica ( <a href="https://www.britannica.com/">https://www.britannica.com/</a> ) |
| Relevant books available on archive.org  |
| Relevant articles on Jstor ( <a href="https://www.jstor.org/">https://www.jstor.org/</a> ), Project Muse ( <a href="https://muse.jhu.edu/">https://muse.jhu.edu/</a> )                                       |

