

TDC SYLLABUS FOR ANTHROPOLOGY

[PASS COURSE—ARTS / SCIENCE STREAM]

COURSE STRUCTURE

B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester I		
Course 101 (Theory)	Foundations of Anthropology I	Marks 35
B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester II		
Course 201 (Theory)	Foundations of Anthropology II	Marks 35
Course 202 (Practicals)	Practicals in Physical Anthropology	Marks 30
B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester III		
Course 301 (Theory)	Physical Anthropology	Marks 35
B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester IV		
Course 401 (Theory)	Archaeological Anthropology	Marks 35
Course 402 (Practicals)	Practicals in Physical and Archaeological Anthropology	Marks 30
B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester V		
Course 501 (Theory)	Culture and Society	Marks 35
B.A./ B.Sc.		
Semester VI		
Course 601 (Theory)	Primitive Economy and Religion	Marks 35
Course 602 (Practicals)	Field Work and Report Writing	Marks 30

Note : There will be 60 lectures for each course.

B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester I

Course 101 (Theory)
Foundations of Anthropology I

Full Marks 35
Pass Marks 12

Approach

The subject matter of anthropology goes much beyond its simple definition. No other discipline encourages studying mankind, tracing its origin, development and the present day variations across the globe, taking into consideration all the aspects of biology and culture. Although various areas of specialization have emerged within all the four branches of anthropology it has always maintained its holistic, integrative approach and identity. Simultaneously it has also maintained very close relationship with other disciplines; viz., history, Sociology, Political Science, Geography, etc. However, the anthropological perspectives, approaches, methodology and intensive field work tradition have been kept intact maintaining its own identity. The course aims to help the students understand the holistic perspective and integrative approach of anthropology, not only amongst its four branches but also across a wide variety of other disciplines.

Course Contents

Unit I : Introduction to Anthropology

- Meaning, scope and history of anthropology
- Branches of anthropology-Physical/Biological anthropology, Archaeological anthropology, Social-cultural anthropology, Linguistic anthropology

Unit II : Introduction to Anthropology

- Relationship among various branches of anthropology
- Relationship with cognate disciplines-History, Sociology, Political Science and Geography

Unit III : Fundamentals in Physical Anthropology

Physical Anthropology: Meaning, scope and branches

Unit IV : Fundamentals in Physical Anthropology

General study of human skeleton

Unit V : Fundamentals in Physical Anthropology

- Man's place in animal kingdom upto class mammal
- Primates: Characteristics and classification by G G Simpson

Recommended Books :

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|------------------------------|--|
| Beals and Hoijer | : An Introduction to Anthropology |
| Das, B M | : Outlines of Physical Anthropology |
| Herskovits, M J | : Cultural Anthropology: Man and His Works |
| Hooton, E A | : Up from the Ape |
| Mair, Lucy | : An Introduction to Social Anthropology |
| Majumdar, D N and Madan, T N | : An Introduction to Social Anthropology |
| Montague, A | : An Introduction to Physical Anthropology |
| Sarkar, R M | : Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology |
| Singh, I.P. and Bhasin, M.K | : Anthropometry. |

B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester II

Course 201 (Theory)
Foundations of Anthropology II

Full Marks 35
Pass Marks 12

Approach

At the end of this course the students should be in a position to (a) trace the meaning, scope and history of anthropology; (b) identify the relationship amongst its four branches; (c) appreciate the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary nature of anthropology and (d) examine and comprehend the basic concepts contained in Biological Anthropology, Archaeological Anthropology, Social-Cultural Anthropology and Linguistic Anthropology.

Course Contents

Unit I: Fundamentals in Physical Anthropology

- Living Primates: Salient features and distribution of Trasiiformes, Lemuriformes, Lorisiformes, Platyrrhine, Catarrhine
- Living Anthropoid apes: Salient features and distribution of Gibbon, Orang-utan, Chimpanzee, Gorilla
- Distinguishing characters of man
- Comparative anatomy of man and apes

Unit II: Fundamentals in Archaeological Anthropology

- Prehistoric Archaeology: Definition, aims and scope
- Methods of Studying Prehistoric Archaeology: Geological; palaeontological and archeological

Unit III: Fundamentals in Archaeological Anthropology

- Chronology: Relative and absolute dating methods

- b) Geological Ages of the Earth: Plio-pleistocene boundary; Pleistocene environment-ice age; Pleistocene chronology

Unit IV : Fundamentals in Social-Cultural Anthropology

- a) Social Anthropology: Meaning, scope and branches
b) Society: Concept, characteristics and origin
c) Culture: Concept and characteristics

Unit V : Fundamentals in Linguistic Anthropology

- a) Linguistic Anthropology : Meaning, scope and subject matter
b) Sociolinguistics.

Recommended Books :

Beals and Hoijer	: An Introduction to Anthropology
Burkitt, M.C.	: The Old Stone Age
Das, B M	: Outlines of Physical Anthropology
Herskovits, M J	: Cultural Anthropology: Man and His Works
Hooton, E A	: Up from the Ape
Mair, Lucy	: An Introduction to Social Anthropology
Majumdar, D N and Madan, T N	: An Introduction to Social Anthropology
Montagu, A	: An Introduction to Physical Anthropology
Oakley, O.K.P.	: Man : The Tool Maker
Sarkar, R M	: Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology
Singh, I.P. and Bhasin, M.K	: Anthropometry

B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course) Semester II

Course 202 (Practicals) Practicals in Physical Anthropology

Full Marks 30
Pass Marks 10

- A) Drawing, description and identification of the following bones of human skeleton: (i) Frontal, (ii) Parietal, (iii) Occipital, (iv) Mandible, (v) Humerus, (vi) Radius, (vii) Ulna, (viii) Femur, (ix) Tibia, (x) Fibula.
- B) Somatometry: Candidates shall record somatometric measurements of five subjects on the following:
(i) Maximum head length (ii) Maximum head breadth, (iii) Bizygomatic breadth, (iv) Bigonial breadth, (v) Nasal height, (vi) Nasal breadth, (vii) Stature, (viii) Height radiale, (ix) Height dacrylion, (x) Biaeromial diameter, (xi) Body weight

- C) Indices : Cephalic index and Nasal index

- D) Somatoscopy - Study and observation of the following characters on five subjects: (i) Skin Colour, (ii) Hair on head, (iii) Eye, (iv) Nose, (v) Face, (vi) Lips, (vii) Supra orbital ridge, (viii) Forehead

B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course) Semester III

Course 301 (Theory) Physical Anthropology

Full Marks 35
Pass Marks 12

Approach

This course aims to help the students reconstruct the past of the mankind surveying the available theories on the processes of human evolution with the help of accumulated material evidences. Highlighting the anatomical peculiarities of the present day man, this course would further compare the anatomical details with the non-human primates. The course would follow mankind through the stages of evolution by analyzing fossil. The racial variation as a product of complex process of evolution and genetics would be analyzed. The course would introduce the students to the practicals in osteology, somatometry, somatoscopy, identification of ABO related antigens and the basics of dermatoglyphics. At the end of the course students would be capable to: (a) comprehend the available theories of organic evolution; (b) locate the position of man in the animal kingdom; (c) survey the anatomical similarities and differences between man and other non-human primates; (d) piece together the fossil evidences to comprehend human evolution and its stages; (e) identify the racial variation in the present day man and classification; (f) advance the genetic basis for such racial variations; (g) appreciate the UNESCO statement on race and (h) undertake basic practicals in physical anthropology.

Course Contents

Unit I

- a) Mendelian principles
b) Concept of organic evolution
c) Theories of organic evolution
d) Synthetic theory of evolution

Unit II

- a) Concept of race
b) UNESCO's statement on race
c) Racial criteria: Skin colour, stature and ABO blood groups

Unit III

- a) Racial classification by Risley and Guha
- b) Racial elements in North East India

Unit IV

- a) Fossil evidences of human evolution
- b) Australopithecine, Pithecanthropus, Neanderthal man and Homo-sapiens

Unit V

Evolutionary changes in human skeleton with special reference to skull, vertebral column, pelvis, femur and foot

Recommended Books :

Das, B M	: Outlines of Physical Anthropology
Hooton, E A	: Up from the Ape
Montague, A	: An Introduction to Physical Anthropology
Sarkar, R M	: Fundamentals of Physical Anthropology
Sarkar, S S	: Aboriginal Races of India
Singh, I.P. and Bhasin, M.K	: Anthropometry

B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)

Semester IV

Course 401 (Theory)

Archaeological Anthropology

Full Marks 35

Pass Marks 12

Approach

This course would introduce the students to prehistoric tools as well as material artifacts including pottery and other household implements in relation to cultural development. The course projects man as a cultural being in historical perspective. It also deals with glimpses on origin and development of tool forms and technology. Handling of material remains such as stone, bone and wooden tools, metal objects, pottery of different shapes, function - all help the students to understand the cultural evolutions through typo-technology. At the end of the course students would be capable to: (a) undertake basic practicals in archaeological anthropology; (b) know the material equipment of culture; (c) understand the cultural revolution through typo- technologies and (d) explain the implications of artifacts, tools, objects and pottery in the socioeconomic organization of the society.

Course Contents

Unit I: Methods of Studying Prehistoric Archaeology

- a) Geological (Statigraphical)
- b) Paleontological
- c) Archeological (Typological)

Unit II: Prehistoric Tool Typology and Technology

- a) Core, flake, blade and bone tool industry
- b) Lithic Technology: Percussion, pressure flaking, grinding and polishing

Unit III: Evidences of Prehistoric Culture

- a) Artifact
- b) Industry
- c) Assemblage
- d) Culture and civilization

Unit IV: Classification of Prehistoric Cultures

- a) Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic Cultures of Europe: A Brief Outline
- b) Lower, middle and upper Paleolithic cultures of India

Unit V: Development of Neolithic Culture

- a) Neolithic revolution
- b) Development of Neolithic culture in India
- c) Emergence of metal age culture
- d) Urban revolution- Harappan civilization of India

Recommended Books :

Burkitt, M.C.	: The Old Stone Age
Hooton, E A	: Up from the Ape
Oakley, O.K.P.	: Man: The Tool Maker

**B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester IV**

**Course 402 (Practicals)
Practicals in Physical and Archaeological Anthropology**

**Full Marks 30
Pass Marks 10**

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| (A) Physical Anthropology | 15 |
| a) Measurement of bones, viz.: humerus, radius, ulna, tibia and femur | 7.5 |
| b) Dermatoglyphics: Identification of Whorl, Loop and Arch on finger balls of five individuals | 7.5 |
| (B) Archaeological Anthropology | 15 |
| a) Identification of prehistoric tools, pottery and other household objects | |
| b) Tools and implements used in economic activities - Hunting, fishing, food gathering and agriculture | |

**B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester V**

**Course 501 (Theory)
Culture and Society**

**Full Marks 35
Pass Marks 12**

Approach

This course provides an overview of fundamental human institutions as well as the basic concepts for understanding and explaining these institutions. In this course the students are exposed to a wide variety of human societies at different levels of development to bring out the uniqueness as well as commonness in these institutions. To bring home the point that the human society and the culture are not static phenomena and that they constantly change at different pace and in different contexts. The students are also acquainted with the dynamics of social and cultural change. The course aims at imparting the students with the understanding of the wide variety of human societies and cultures in time and space; the fundamental institutions in human social-cultural life; the basic definitions and concepts to interpret and explain human phenomena in a scientific manner and the cross-cultural understanding of the uniqueness as well as commonalities between human cultures. After learning the course the

student should be able to appreciate the importance of variety and multiplicity in human socio-cultural phenomena; to evaluate their own prejudices and develop a cross cultural perspective; to shun ethnocentrism and look at others' customs and traditions on par with one's own and to identify the interconnections between various institutions and their impact on human action.

Course Contents

Unit I : Aspects and Components of Culture

- Aspects of Culture: Material and Non-material
- Components of Culture: Cultural traits, culture complex and cultural area

Unit II: Cultural Processes

Enculturation, transculturation, contraculturation and acculturation; cultural change

Unit III: Culture, Society and Civilization

- Culture and Society
- Culture and civilization

Unit IV: Social Institutions

- Marriage: Definition, types, modes of acquiring life mate, residence after marriage, divorce, exogamy
- Family: Definition, characteristics, types, functions

Unit V: Social Institutions and Groups

- Kinship: Definition, characteristics and types; descent, inheritance and succession; kinship terminology; kinship usages including couvade, amitate, avunculate
- Kingroups - Lineage and clan: Definition, characteristics, types, functions

Recommended Books

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|------------------------------|--|
| Herskovits, M J | : Cultural Anthropology: Man and His Works |
| Hooton, E A | : Up from the Ape |
| Mair, Lucy | : An Introduction to Social Anthropology |
| Majumdar, D N and Madan, T N | : An Introduction to Social Anthropology |

**B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester VI**

**Course 601 (Theory)
Primitive Economy and Religion**

**Full Marks 35
Pass Marks 12**

Approach

This course provides an overview of fundamental economic and religious institutions as well as the basic concepts for understanding and explaining these institutions. In this course the students are exposed to a wide variety of human societies at different levels of development to bring out the uniqueness as well as commonness in these institutions. The course aims at imparting the students with the understanding of the wide variety of human societies and cultures in time and space; the fundamental institutions in social-cultural life; the basic definitions and concepts to interpret and explain human phenomena in a scientific manner and the cross-cultural understanding of the uniqueness as well as commonalities between human cultures. After learning the course the student should be able to appreciate the importance of variety and multiplicity in human socio-cultural phenomena and to identify the interconnections between various institutions and their impact on human action.

Course Contents

Unit I: Primitive Economy

- a) Concept of primitive economy; its comparison with modern economy
- b) Primitive economic activities: Food gathering, food collection, hunting and fishing
- c) Types of primitive economy: Food producing economy, advanced hunting, pastoralism and agriculture

Unit II: Primitive Economy and Social Life

Socio-economic life of food gatherers and food producers

Unit III: Primitive Religion

- a) Definition and characteristics
- b) Supernaturalism
- c) Primitive versus modern religion

Unit IV: Religious Beliefs and Practices

- a) Animism and animatism
- b) Rites and rituals
- c) Rites de passage
- d) Anthropomorphism
- e) Fetishism

- f) Idolatry
- g) Totem and taboo

Unit IV: Primitive Magic

- a) Definition, characteristics, classification and functions of primitive magic
- b) Magic and Religion
- c) Magic and science

Recommended Books

Herskovits, M J	: Cultural Anthropology: Man and His Works
Hooton, E A	: Up from the Ape
Lang, A	: Magic and Religion
Mair, Lucy	: An Introduction to Social Anthropology
Majumdar, D N and Madan, T N	: An Introduction to Social Anthropology
Norbeck, E	: Religion in Primitive Societies
Pritchard, Evans	: Theories of Primitive Religion

**B.A./ B.Sc. (Pass Course)
Semester VI**

**Course 602 (Practical)
Field Work and Report Writing**

**Full Marks 30
Pass Marks 10**

The students shall undertake a whole day field work for at least three consecutive days in a village. They should collect data about the village by undertaking family census as instructed by the teacher concerned. On the basis of the data they should prepare a field report containing the following headings:

- (a) Introduction
- (b) Methodology
- (c) Village plan
- (d) Brief history of the village
- (e) General description of the village
- (f) Census data analysis
- (g) Conclusion
- (h) Relevant photographs