

Anthropology Optional Syllabus

Description

Paper I

1.1 Meaning, Scope, and Development of Anthropology

1.2 Relationships with Other Disciplines

- Social Sciences
- Behavioral Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Medical Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Humanities

1.3 Main Branches of Anthropology: Scope and Relevance

- Social-Cultural Anthropology
- Biological Anthropology
- Archaeological Anthropology
- Linguistic Anthropology

1.4 Human Evolution and Emergence of Man

- Biological and cultural factors in human evolution
- Theories of Organic Evolution (Pre-Darwinian, Darwinian, and Post-Darwinian)
- Synthetic theory of evolution; terms and concepts of evolutionary biology (Dollâ??s rule, Copeâ??s rule, Gauseâ??s rule, parallelism, convergence, adaptive radiation, mosaic evolution)

1.5 Characteristics of Primates

- Evolutionary trends and taxonomy
- Adaptations (arboreal and terrestrial)
- Behavior, anatomy, and skeletal changes due to erect posture

1.6 Phylogenetic Status, Characteristics, and Geographical Distribution

- Plio-Pleistocene hominids (Australopithecines, Homo erectus, Neanderthal man, Rhodesian man, and Homo sapiens)

1.7 Biological Basis of Life

- Cell, DNA structure, replication, protein synthesis, chromosomes, mutations, cell division

1.8 Principles of Prehistoric Archaeology

- Chronology: Relative and Absolute Dating methods
- Cultural evolution (Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Copper-Bronze Age, Iron Age)

2. Culture and Society

2.1 The Nature of Culture

- Concepts of culture and civilization
- Ethnocentrism vs. cultural relativism

2.2 The Nature of Society

- Concepts of society, institutions, groups, and stratification

2.3 Marriage

- Definition, universality, and laws (endogamy, exogamy, incest taboo, etc.)
- Types and functions of marriage; marriage payments (bride wealth, dowry)

2.4 Family

- Definitions, universality, and functions
- Types of families; impact of urbanization and industrialization

2.5 Kinship

- Principles, types, and forms of descent
- Kinship terminology; descent, filiation, and alliances

3. Economic Organization

- Meaning, scope, and relevance of economic anthropology
- Principles governing production, distribution, and exchange

4. Political Organization and Social Control

- Band, tribe, chiefdom, kingdom, state
- Concepts of power, authority, legitimacy, law, and justice

5. Religion

- Anthropological approaches to religion
- Forms of religion (animism, animatism, totemism, etc.)
- Relationship between religion, magic, and science

6. Anthropological Theories

- Classical evolutionism, diffusionism, functionalism, structuralism, neo-evolutionism
- Culture and personality, cultural materialism, symbolic and interpretive theories, post-modernism

7. Culture, Language, and Communication

- Nature, origin, and characteristics of language
- Verbal and non-verbal communication

8. Research Methods in Anthropology

- Fieldwork tradition
- Tools of data collection: observation, interviews, genealogy, case studies, etc.
- Analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

9. Biological Anthropology

9.1 Human Genetics

- Methods for studying genetics (pedigree analysis, twin studies, DNA technology, etc.)

9.2 Mendelian Genetics in Humans

- Inheritance patterns (single factor, multifactor, polygenic)

9.3 Genetic Polymorphism and Selection

- Hardy-Weinberg law, mutation, isolation, inbreeding, and genetic drift

9.4 Chromosomal Aberrations in Humans

- Numerical and structural aberrations (e.g., Down syndrome, Turner syndrome)

9.5 Race and Racism

- Biological basis of racial classification and differentiation

9.6 Genetic Markers and Population Variation

- ABO, Rh blood groups, HLA, physiological characteristics

9.7 Ecological Anthropology

- Biocultural adaptations and physiological responses to environmental stress

9.8 Epidemiological Anthropology

- Health, disease, and nutritional deficiencies

10. Human Growth and Development

- Stages of growth (prenatal, childhood, adolescence, senescence)
- Factors affecting growth (genetic, environmental, cultural)

11. Fertility and Demographic Studies

11.1 Relevance of Bio-events

- Menarche, menopause, fertility patterns

11.2 Demographic Theories

- Biological, social, and cultural theories

11.3 Factors Influencing Fecundity and Mortality

- Biological and socio-ecological factors

12. Applications of Anthropology

- Anthropology of sports, nutritional anthropology
- Forensic anthropology, personal identification, genetic counseling
- DNA technology in diseases, serogenetics, cytogenetics

Paper II

1. Evolution of Indian Culture and Civilization

1.1 Prehistoric Period

- **Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, and Neolithic-Chalcolithic periods**
- Protohistoric period: Indus Civilization (Pre-Harappan, Harappan, and Post-Harappan cultures)
- Contributions of tribal cultures to Indian civilization

1.2 Palaeo-Anthropological Evidences

- Special reference to Siwaliks and Narmada Basin:
 - *Ramapithecus*
 - *Sivapithecus*
 - *Narmada Man*

1.3 Ethno-Archaeology in India

- Concept of ethno-archaeology
- Survivals and parallels among:
 - Hunting, foraging, and fishing communities
 - Pastoral and peasant communities
 - Arts and crafts-producing communities

2. Demographic Profile of India

- Ethnic and linguistic elements in Indian population and their distribution
 - Factors influencing population structure and growth
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3. Traditional Indian Social System

3.1 Structure and Nature

- Varnashram, Purushartha, Karma, Rina, and Rebirth

3.2 Caste System in India

- Structure and characteristics of caste and Varna
- Theories of caste origin
- Concepts:
 - Dominant caste
 - Caste mobility
 - Future of caste system
 - Jajmani system
 - Tribe-caste continuum

3.3 Sacred Complex and Nature-Man-Spirit Complex

3.4 Impact of Religions on Indian Society

- Buddhism, Jainism, Islam, and Christianity
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4. Contributions to Indian Studies

- Contributions of 18th, 19th, and early 20th-century scholar-administrators
 - Contributions of Indian anthropologists to tribal and caste studies
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5. Indian Villages and Socio-Cultural Change

5.1 Indian Villages

- Significance of village studies in India
- Indian village as a social system
- Patterns of settlement and inter-caste relations
- Agrarian relations
- Impact of globalization

5.2 Linguistic and Religious Minorities

- Social, political, and economic status

5.3 Processes of Socio-Cultural Change

- Sanskritization, Westernization, and Modernization
- Interplay of little and great traditions
- Panchayati Raj and social change
- Media and its impact on social change

6. Tribal Situation in India

6.1 Characteristics of Tribal Populations

- Bio-genetic variability
- Linguistic and socio-economic traits
- Distribution

6.2 Problems of Tribal Communities

- Land alienation
- Poverty and indebtedness
- Low literacy and poor educational facilities
- Unemployment and under-employment
- Health and nutrition issues

6.3 Developmental Projects and Impact

- Tribal displacement and rehabilitation
- Forest policy and its impact on tribals
- Effects of urbanization and industrialization

7. Issues of Exploitation and Deprivation

7.1 Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

- Problems of exploitation and deprivation
- Constitutional safeguards

7.2 Social Change in Tribal Societies

- Impact of:
 - Modern democratic institutions
 - Development programs and welfare measures

7.3 Ethnicity and Tribal Movements

- Concept of ethnicity

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- Ethnic conflicts and political developments
 - Tribal unrest and regionalism
 - Pseudo-tribalism
 - Social change during colonial and post-independence India
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8. Impact of Religions on Tribal Societies

8.1 Influence of Religions

- Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and others

8.2 Tribe and Nation-State

- Comparative study of tribal communities in India and other countries
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9. Tribal Administration and Development

9.1 Tribal Policies and Programs

- History of tribal area administration
- Tribal policies, plans, and development programs
- Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs):
 - Distribution
 - Special development programs
- Role of NGOs in tribal development

9.2 Role of Anthropology

- Tribal and rural development

9.3 Anthropology and Social Issues

- Understanding of regionalism, communalism, and ethnic and political movements