

School:	Undergraduate Studies
Programme with title:	BA (Honours)
Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)	III semester/Monsoon 2017
Course Title:	Medieval India I: Polity and Administration
Credits:	4 Credits
Course Code (new):	SUS HS404
Course Code (old):	H05
Type of Course:	
Compulsory	yes
Cohort	BA (H) History
Elective	yes
Cohort	BA (H) other than History

For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):

- Foundation (Compulsory)
- Foundation (Elective)
- Discipline (Compulsory) X
- Discipline (Elective) X
- Elective

Course Coordinator and Team: Tanuja Kothiyal
Email of course coordinator: tanuja@aud.ac.in

Pre-requisites: No

Aim: This course introduces undergraduate students to the processes of evolution of medieval polity in India, one that evolved from the coming together of the sedentary agrarian frontier of the Indo-gangetic basin and the mobile nomadic one from West and Central Asia. The course would examine the emergence of Indo-Islamic polity and society through an engagement with ideas like kingship, authority and religion among others. Medieval polity in India from 8th to 18th centuries AD has largely been understood in the context of dark and golden ages. This course attempts to explore enduring political processes and institutions that persisted through varied political formations. It also explores formation of centralised empires like the Sultanates and the Mughal empire, their interactions with existing regional polities and the manner in which the empire and the regions impacted each other.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

Part I: Polity in Medieval India

- What/when is “Early Medieval”?
- Medieval India and the historiography of “Medievalism”
- Religion and State
- Independent polities

Part II: Administrative Structures, Institutions and Practices in Medieval India

- Agrarianism and expansion of landed aristocracy
- State and Bureaucracy
- Markets, Ports, Trade routes and their administration

References:

- Blake, Stephen K, Shahjahanabad: The Sovereign City in Mughal India, 1639-1739, CUP
- Burton Stein. New Cambridge History of India :Vijayanagar.
- Chandra, Satish, Medieval India I and II

- Chattopadhyaya, B D, The Making of Early Medieval India, OUP, (Introduction)
- Gordon, Stewart, The Marathas 1600-1818, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993)
- Habib, Irfan, “ Formation of the Sultanate Ruling Class of the Thirteenth Century”, Medieval India 1: Researches in the History of India, OUP, 1992
- Jackson, Peter, The Delhi Sultanate: A Political and Military History, CUP, 1999.
- Khan, Iqtidar Alam, “The Mughal Assessment System during Akbar’s Early Years, 1556-1575”, Medieval India 1: Researches in the History of India, OUP, 1992
- Singh, Upinder, A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th century
- Talbot, Cynthia and Catherine Asher, India Before Europe
- Thapar, Romila, Early India, (Last four chapters)
- Veluthat ,Kesavan, The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India, Delhi, 1993.

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
1	Class Test	Third Week of August	20%
2	Take Home Assignment	End- September	20%
3	Take Home Assignment	End October	20%
4	End Semester Exam	As per SUS schedule	40%