

WEST BENGAL COUNCIL OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION
SYLLABUS FOR CLASSES XI AND XII
SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

Course overview :

Anthropology is the study of human beings in time and space. This course is based on an integrated approach to the subject which incorporates insights from physical, social and archaeological anthropology. The course attempts to provide an in-depth understanding which involves a holistic approach of Anthropology using theoretical and practical techniques.

Course objective :

The course aims to develop competence among students to explore key questions about human diversity in the past, present, and future. It would also equip the learners to employ anthropological insights to understand and relate contemporary bio-social shifts.

CLASS - XI

SEMESTER – I

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 35

CONTACT HOURS : 80 Hours

COURSE CODE : THEORY

Subject Topics : Introducing Anthropology :

UNIT NO.	TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS	MARKS
Unit -1	1. Introduction to Anthropology i. Definition, concept of Anthropology, history, development of Anthropology in India [Major stages]. ii. Branches of Anthropology, relationship of Anthropology with other disciplines [Biology, Geography, Geology, Psychology, Sociology, Economics, Political Science and History].	8	3
Unit -2	2. Biological Anthropology i. Concept, aim, scope and branches. ii. How can we identify ourselves in the animal kingdom, in order primates following the classification of Simpson. iii. How some of our living ancestors Indian monkeys and apes (like Macaque, Langur, Gibbon) and African ape (like Chimpanzee) are similar and different in morphological, skeletal and behavioural features and distribution.	20	9
Unit -3	3. Social-Cultural Anthropology i. History, branches and scope of Social-Cultural Anthropology ii. Why do we study society and culture? iii. Concept of society, community, institution, association and social groups. iv. Concept of culture (material and non-material culture), acculturation, social change, enculturation, diffusion and assimilation. Cultural relativism and ethnocentrism.	20	9
Unit -4	4. Archaeological anthropology i. Introduction to Archaeological anthropology – aim and scope and its relation to palaeoanthropology and prehistoric archaeology. ii. Geological time scale, palaeo-environment [Glacial, inter-glacial, pluvial and inter-pluvial phases] iii. Evidences of palaeoenvironment – biotic and abiotic components. Paleoenvironment and human interface.	20	9
Unit -5	5. Theories of organic evolution and basic genetics i. Lamarckism, Darwinism and Neo-Darwinism and the criticisms ii. Laws of Mendel. Concept of chromosome and allele. Significance of crossing over and recombination. Application of Mendel's laws in human [PTC tasting ability, ABO blood groups system, albinism and colour blindness].	12	5

CLASS - XI

SEMESTER – II

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 35

CONTACT HOURS : 70 Hours

COURSE CODE : THEORY

UNIT NO.	TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS	MARKS
Unit -1	1. Evolutionary trends i. Evolutionary trends of Primates, locomotory changes, encephalization. ii. External morphological features of humans, skeletal morphology [only name, number and position of bones].	14	7
Unit -2	2. Human biological evolution i. Who are humans? How and why we evolved? Role of genetics and environment in human evolution. [Distribution and salient features only of the following specimens] ii. <i>Australopithecus</i> [afarensis and africanus variety] iii. <i>Homo erectus</i> [Java man and Peking man] iv. <i>Homo sapiens neanderthalensis</i> [La-Chapelle-aux-saints] v. <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i> [Cro Magnon man].	14	7
Unit -3	3. Cultural evolution i. Geological time scale, salient features and distribution of the following] ii. Why do we study prehistoric culture? How can we reconstruct the life and livelihood of our ancestors by studying prehistoric culture? iii. Three age paradigm: Distribution, general characteristic features and typical tool types and technology iv. Palaeolithic [Lower, Middle and Upper] v. Mesolithic vi. Neolithic.	14	7
Unit -4	4. Indian Tribal populations i. Concept of tribe. Colonial construct and postcolonial construct of tribal population. ii. Tribal population and Particular Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India. Distribution, traditional economic pursuits and changes in subsistence economy iii. Constitutional provisions and safeguards for Indian Tribal populations. Why are these safeguards required ?	14	7
Unit -5	5. Social stratification i. Concept of social stratification. ii. Emergence of stratified society iii. Caste, Class and Clan [definition, features] iv. Origin of Indian Caste system, debates and changes in the Indian caste system.	14	7

[20 contact hours for remedial teaching, tutorials and home assignment for Semester I and II]

CLASS - XI

SEMESTER-I & SEMESTER-II

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 30

CONTACT HOURS : 20 hours (1st sem) + 10 hours (2nd sem)

COURSE CODE : PRACTICAL

Subject Topic : Practical in Biological Anthropology :

- a. Identification of the following tools [handaxe, cleaver, scraper, point, harpoon, one microlith, celt] with salient features from original/cast/photograph. Drawing and labelling of the tools, their features, cultural age, technology and probable use need to be documented in the laboratory note book. (6 Marks)
- b. Identification of the following human bones with salient features from original/cast/photograph [scapula, humerus, ulna, radius, innominate, femur and tibia]. Drawing and labelling of these bones need to be documented in the laboratory note book. (8 Marks)
- c. Identification of the skull cap/cranium of the following fossil remains from cast/photograph based on salient features. Drawing and labelling of these fossils need to be documented in the laboratory note book. (6 Marks)
 - i. Australopithecus (africanus)
 - ii. Java man
 - iii. Neanderthal man
 - iv. Cro Magnon man
- d. Laboratory Note Book (5 marks)
- e. Viva-voce (5 Marks)

CLASS - XII

SEMESTER – III

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 35

CONTACT HOURS : 80 Hours

COURSE CODE : THEORY

Subject Topics : Introducing Anthropology :

UNIT NO.	TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS	MARKS
Unit -1	Indian prehistory Study of the following prehistoric sites of India [Location, general features, tool typology and technology and other associated findings and significance] i. Sohan and Attirampakkam ii. Nevasa iii. Bhimbetka iv. Birbhanpur v. Burzahom	12	5
Unit -2	Human Biological diversity i. Historical concept of race and racial criteria (skin colour, head hair, nose form, stature, ABO blood group), concept of typological (Blumenbach and Hooton; for Indian population H.H. Risley, B.S. Guha and S.S. Sarkar) and evolutionary models (Garn) of race. ii. Racism, inequality; UNESCO statement on race, concept of ethnic group and ethnicity. Contemporary relevance of studying ethnic diversity [prehistoric migration, ethnicity and disease]	16	8
Unit -3	Anthropology and Religion i. Concept of religion. Religion and society. ii. Supernatural Beliefs, Animism, Animatism, Naturism, Manaism, Totemism, Taboo, Sacred and Profane, Myth, Cult iii. Ancestor Worship, religion and magic, Witchcraft and Sorcery, Evil Eye iv. Religious beliefs and practices of tribal communities with respect to Santal, Chenchu, Garo, Toda	16	8

UNIT NO.	TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS	MARKS
Unit -4	Overview of some applied areas of anthropology i. Forensic anthropology: Definition, Basic Concept, evidences generally used for personal identification (like use of ABO blood group, skeletal remains and finger prints) and paternity diagnosis (use of ABO blood group) ii. Nutritional Anthropology: Concept, Ecology and food, culture and food; effect of globalization on dietary habit, gender and food, measures of nutritional status (BMI and waist-hip ratio) . iii. Anthropology and Museum Studies: Notion of Museum, types of museum, material conservation and documentation, and cataloging, museum as education and public engagement. iv. Anthropology and Development: Concept of development, anthropological insights on development, relevance and contribution of anthropology to development, outline of tribal development in India.	26	10
Unit -5	Contribution of some Indian Anthropologists S.C. Roy, H.D. Sankalia, Dharani Sen, Nirmal K. Bose, Ashok Ghosh, P.K. Bhowmik, D.P. Mukherjee, Amitabha Basu, B.M. Das.	10	4

CLASS - XII

SEMESTER – IV

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 35

CONTACT HOURS : 70 Hours

COURSE CODE : THEORY

UNIT NO.	TOPICS	CONTACT HOURS	MARKS
Unit -1	Subsistence economy i. Define modes of subsistence. Concept of surplus, exchange, reciprocity and market economy. ii. Describe the general elements of all modes of subsistence. iii. Distribution of Indian tribal populations on the basis of subsistence economy. iv. Subsistence economy of tribal populations [Garo , Toda, Santal and Chenchu] v. Subsistence economy of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups [Toto and Lodha].	14	7
Unit -2	Social Organisation of some Indian tribal populations Santal, Toda, Lodha, Chenchu, Garo	14	7
Unit -3	Indian Protohistory i. Chalcolithic period: Definition, Geographical distribution, Characteristic features, Chalcolithic pottery, Chalcolithic settlements [Ahar culture, Malwa culture, Pandurajar Dhibi] ii. Indus valley civilization (IVC): Concept of civilization, geographical distribution of IVC, town planning, art and craft, religion, trade, possible causes of decline.	14	7
Unit -4	Human Growth and Adaptation i. Basic concepts of growth, development and maturation; overview of prenatal and postnatal growth, factors affecting growth ii. Definition, concept and significance of studying human adaptation, biological adaptation, cultural adaptation and developmental adjustment iii. Adaptation to cold iv. Adaptation to hot and humid v. Adaptation in high altitude.	14	7
Unit -5	Fieldwork in Anthropology i. Anthropological fieldwork: Definition, concept and prospect ii. Field work tradition in Anthropology from colonial to contemporary period. iii. Steps and techniques of fieldwork [site selection, rapport establishment, ethnography (participant and non-participant observations), interview (structured and unstructured), case study, bias in fieldwork, culture shock.	14	7

[20 contact hours for remedial teaching, tutorials and home assignment for Semester III and IV]

CLASS - XII

SEMESTER-III & SEMESTER-IV

SUBJECT : ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

FULL MARKS : 30

CONTACT HOURS : 20 hours (1st sem) + 10 hours (2nd sem)

COURSE CODE : PRACTICAL

Subject Topics : Fieldwork

A. Fieldwork in Social-cultural Anthropology

25 Marks

- a. Training of students in carrying out local fieldwork. The candidates are required to collect census data [age, sex, marital status, occupation, education] on 15 households, conduct interviews from at least 10 adult individuals about their perception and attitudes towards any one of the following social issues: child marriage, dowry system, domestic violence, child labour.

Field report (handwritten or typed to be submitted at the time of examination), the report should contain (i) Introduction to fieldwork, (ii) utility of fieldwork, (iii) selection of study area, (iv) description of the study area, (v) process of rapport establishment, (vi) method of data collection, (vii) presentation of census data in the form of tables (viii) documentation of interview excerpts (ix) Conclusion and references. (20 marks)

- b. Viva-voce (5 Marks)

B. Estimation of the nutritional status based on BMI

5 Marks

- a. Students should collect data (measurements of height and weight) at least from 10 individuals and calculate BMI and finally assess their nutritional status based on WHO (1995) standard.
- b. A report should be prepared (handwritten or typed) duly signed by the teacher for examination (3 marks)
- c. Viva voce. (2 marks)