**Teaching Plan Academic Year (2021-2022)**

**SEC-II Archives and Museums**

**Teacher Name: Anita kumara(Sharing with Supriya Sinha)**

**Semester- 3,Course and Year :(History Hons 2nd year ):**

**No. of classes: (per Week) 2 Lectures +Nil Tutorials**

**Total weeks (8 weeks Approx.)**

**Internal Assessment: 25 Marks**

**Written Exam: 75 Marks**

**Total: 100 Marks**

**Course Objective:**

The aim of this course is to make students familiar with the structure and functioning of archives and museums with a view to understand how history is written. The special focus of the paper will be India and it will enlarge on the relationship between the reading, writing and interpretation of history and the preservation and display of its manuscripts, art objects and heritage. It will show how carefully archives and museums organise their materials to create particular interpretations of the past. The paper will be of particular value to those who are interested in seeking careers as archivists or working in museums, art galleries and keepers of private and public collections.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

Examine these two repositories of history from close quarters.

Discuss the role of Colonialism in the growth of Archives and Museums.

Explain how the documents and artefacts are preserved and the difficulties faced in the process.

Demonstrate the way in which museums are organised and managed.

Examine the considerations which govern the way exhibitions in museums are managed.

**Course Content:**

**Unit 1: The Archive: (Teaching Time: 8 weeks Approx.)**

a. Early Manuscript Collections (Jain, Persian, Sitamau Library)

b. Colonialism and collections

c. National project and the archive

d. Taxonomies and cataloguing

e. Project work: learn the cataloguing system of your college library and compare with

the catalogue of a major collection (see online catalogues of Ethe and Rieu).

Unit-I: This unit introduces students to the concept of Archive. It traces the history and nature of collections maintained since early times. It also deals with the impact of Colonial policies. The course examines the context for the establishment and maintenance of archives, and questions their purpose and institutions to manage it are examined. It also elaborates on the questions of access to the archival materials. Students will also be exposed to taxonomies and cataloguing.

**ESSENTIAL READINGS AND UNIT WISE TEACHING OUTCOMES:**

Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi. (2018). A*rchiving the Raj: History of Archival Policy of the Govt.*

*of India with Selected Documents 1858- 1947.*Delhi: OUP

Kathpalia, Y. P. (1973).*Conservation and Restoration of Archive Material.*Paris: UNESCO

1973

Singh, Kavita.(2003). “Museum is National: The Nation as Narrated by the National Muse

um New Delhi” in Geeti Sen, (ed.), *India: A National Culture.* Delhi: Sage.

Carol Breckenridge. (1989). “Aesthetics and Politics of Colonial Collecting India at World

Fairs”, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, vol. 31, No 2 April, pp. 195-216

Ravindran, Jayaprabha.(2013). ‘Liberalization of access policy and changing trends of research in the National Archives of India, 1947–2007’, *Comma*, vol. 2013, Issue 2, pp. 103-19. (https://doi.org/10.3828/comma.2013.2.11)

Aziz, Sana.(2017). ‘The Colonisation of Knowledge and Politics of Preservation’, *Economic and Political Weekly.*Vol. 52, No.16 pp.

Caroline Williams managing Archives: Foundations Pricipal and Practice ( Chandos Publishing 2006)

**Assessment methods:**

Students will be assessed on the basis of regular group presentations and a detailed (individual) project submission-cum-presentation. The project should be professionally written and referenced, as well as creatively put together. The project has to be based on active field and library work and should reflect an analysis of primary source material and an engagement with secondary material.

**Keywords:**

Collections, National Archives, Cataloguing, Artefacts, National Museum National Gallery of Modern Art

**Unit 2: The Museum ( Taught by Supriya)**

a. The colonial gaze

b. Artefacts

c. The post-colonial state and the museum – project work: National Museum and Na

tional Gallery of Modern Art