

DRAFT LECTURE SCHEDULE
INDIAN AESTHETICS – POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA 2016-17

Lec.No./

Date **JULY 2016**

1. 23 1) Orientation
2) Classical Indian Aesthetics – Its Principles Part I
3) History of Indian Aesthetics and its Theories
2. 30 1) Classical Indian Aesthetics – Its Principles Part II
2) Abhinavagupta – His Yoga & Aesthetic Concerns

AUGUST

3. 06 1) Form - Rhythm, Harmony, Iconometry, Materiality
Line, Colour, Proportion
4. 13 1) Content & Meaning – Subject Matter
Iconography, Iconology
Dhvani, Symbolism
5. 20 1) Rasa – Theory
Content of Art
Aesthetic Experience
6. 27 1) Political-Cultural Background of India
Harappan Civilisation to Vedic Transition Period
2) Myths & Symbols As Processes in Human Thought,
Experience and Creative Effort

SEPTEMBER

**Karuna Rasa and Shanta Rasa – Compassion and
Equanimity as Paradigms in Buddhism**

7. 03 1) Buddha – Life, Events, the 3 Bodies:
Dharmakaya, Sambhogakaya, Nirmanakaya
Dhamma – Early Buddhist Philosophy:
The Noble Truths, Doctrine of Dependent Origination
Sangha – Tripitakas and the Development of
Viharas to Mahaviharas
2) Jatakas and Avadanas as Narratives:
Their Objectives and Types as seen in Bharhut,
Sanchi and Ajanta

8. 10 1) Aniconic and Iconic:
The Development of the Buddha Image and
The Notions of Kingship and Sovereignty
2) The World of Compassion:
Mahayana, Bodhisattvas and Prajnaparamita
- 9.17 Vajrayana – The Tantric Arm of Buddhism:
1) Understanding Buddhist Tantra and its
Practice in the Indo-Tibetan Sphere
2) Vajrayana: Text, Ritual and Architecture in the
Political Sphere

The Primacy of Vira Rasa or Heroic Forbearance in Jaina Thought

10. 24 1) Jainism: Philosophy and Art
2) Cave Architecture of the Victorious Ones

OCTOBER

11. 01 1) The Beginning:
Rishabhath As The Initiator of Change
2) Vir – The Hero as the Model of Ascetic:
Krishna – Balarama as Prototype
12. 08 1) Nagas and Yakshas:
Incorporating Human/Non-Human Heroes
From Folk Fabric
2) The Great Hero:
Vardhamana The Mahavira
3) Conquerors of Senses:
Heroes of the Non-Material World
13. 15 1) RudraShiva – The Erotic Ascetic
Origin, Legends, Icons, Sacred Spaces and Places
14. 22 1) Vishnu – The Encompassing Sustainer
Origin, Legends, Icons, Sacred Spaces and Places

DIWALI HOLIDAYS

NOVEMBER

15. 05 1) Devi – Cosmic Charm of Vatsalya and Raudra
Origin, Legends, Icons, Sacred Spaces and Places
2) Shakti

16. 12 Temple – Hallowed Space And Time

- 1) Kriya – Formulae for Sacred Building. Temple as Axis Mundi, Palace of the Gods and the Person of the Almighty
- 2) Jaina Temples as Exemplars of Architectonic Cosmograms or Mandalas

17. 19 1) Jnana – The Philosophical Systems as Formalized through Ritual and Iconography:
The Lakshmana Temple
Kandariya Mahadeva Temple

Aesthetics of Tantra – Expanding Consciousness

18. 26 1) Agamas & Tantras – The New Mystic Revelations And The Mechanisms of a Novel Order
- 2) Nada and Bindu – Primal Seeds of Sound, Space & Energy: Emanation of Mantras and Yantras
 - 3) Kundalini Yoga: The Released And Soaring Dormant Energy: Chakras as Points of Contact

DECEMBER

Islamic Aesthetics: In Praise of Aj'aib, The Wondrous

19. 03 1) The Endless Inventiveness of Islamic Art:
Paradisiacal Imagery and Ornamentation as Forms of Expression
Celebrating the Splendour and Beauty of Allah's Creation
- 2) Sufism- Mystical Path in Islam and its Expression in Art
20. 10 1) Architecture and Design as Manifestations of Faith and Environmental Quest for Beauty:
- a) Indo-Islamic Architecture – Sophisticated Urbanism
 - b) Syncretic Themes in Indo-Islamic Architecture- A Case of Unique Absorption and Integration of Disparate Cultural Forms and Tradition

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

JANUARY 2017

21. 07 1) Design - where human 'as beauty' and divine 'as perfection' meet:
Craft, cast and context in Islamic artistic thinking

The Poetics of Painting

22. 14 1) Ajanta Murals and Chitrasutra
of the Vishnu Dharmottara Purana

23. 21 1) Collection of Leaves – The Dignity of Measured Rhythmic
Tread in Early Jain and Buddhist Manuscripts
2) The Courtly Bibliographic Tradition in the Sultanate Period:
a) Timurid and Persian Links.
b) The Indigenous Chaurapanchashika
24. 28 1) The Imperial Library of the Great Mughal:
The Myriad Worlds of Biographic Pageantry, Realistic
Portraiture and the Concern for Naturalism
2) The Eloquence of Illustrated Narratives in the Mughal Ateliers:
Benchmarks of Refinement and Sophistication
3) Sub-Imperial or Provincial Mughal: The Search, The Context

FEBRUARY

25. 04 1) The Sultans of the Deccan and their Artists:
Scanning the Heights of Fantasy with a Direct Gaze and
Rare Sensitivity
2) Lyrical Visions from the Hills –
Pahari Painting and its Masters

Krishna Shringara

The Many Manifestations and Meanings of Krishna's Love

26. 11 1) Origins of the Amorous – From Gathasaptashati to
Tamil Bhakti Poetry to Gita Govinda
2) In Braj Country with Vallabhacharya, Narsimha Mehta
and Chaitanya
27. 18 1) Texts and Genre Paintings in Bhashas and Popular Art –
Rasikapriya, Barahamasa and Ragamala
2) Centres of Devotion –
Temples at Nathadwara, Pandharpur and Puri

The Interplay of Colonialism and Nationalism

28. 24 1) Interaction of Cultures – European Focus on India
Arrival of British Professionals and Portraiture in a New Medium
(Fri. from 6:00-8:00pm)
29. 25 1) Widening Horizons – Changing Attitudes to Landscape and
Architecture and the Categories of the Sublime, Picturesque
and the Exotic.
2) Natural History, Human Society -
Response of Company Artists to European
Pictorial Requirements

MARCH

Modern And Contemporary Art Practices

30. 04 1) Orientalism
31. 11 1) Colonialism/Nationalism -
A. K. Coomaraswamy and E. B. Havell
2) Colonialism/Nationalism -
Raja Ravi Verma
32. 18 1) Introduction to Print Making:
Early Archaeology in India - Ferguson & Curzon
2) Photography, Archaeology and Ornament in 19th C India

An Unfathomable Abundance – Folk, Tribal and Urban Popular Visual Expressions – Made by the People For the People

33. 24 1) Kalighat Painting: Images from a Changing World
(Fri. from 6:00-8:00pm)
34. 25 1) Aesthetics & Politics of the Printed Image in India

APRIL

35. 01 1) Early 20th century thinkers of Indian Aesthetics
36. 08 1) 19th century Architecture:
Many Permutations of the Gothic; Rajput Revival and the
Mesmerizing Fantasy of “Indo-Saracenic” Hybridization.
2) 20th century Architecture:
Modernist Interventions, Patronage as Hallmark of Authority
37. 15 1) Modernism:
Contents and Discontents: Movements,
Meanings, Moods
38. 22 1) Post Modernism

NOTE:

1. September 2016 - Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd 6:00-8:30pm
Nagarajuna and Other Buddhist Philosophers - Supriya Rai
2. Dr. Neeraja Poddar's lecture dates on Malwa painting and Rajasthani painting will be given later.