



Sub Committee for History

Faculty of Humanity and Social Sciences Curriculum Development

Name of Institute: Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

Course Name: History Minor Paper 1: Historiography, Its Philosophy and Politics

Course Code :

(UG/PG): UG ,Semester 3

Number of Credits: 4

Level: 2

Course Description:

The subject matter of the discipline of history is the ‘past’, as is most commonly and popularly understood. But for a student, the ‘past’ isn’t a category of study that is available at an actual, physical or experiential level. So how should a student comprehend the past? The ‘past’ is available to any reader through the writings of a historian. History thus becomes a ‘constructed’ discipline. The historian constructs, nay reconstructs the past as he writes it and the reader re-constructs it in the process of reading it. But how does the historian write it? The present course in historiography attempts to make sense of the historian’s craft – ‘writing history’, of the how, and why of the same.

By the end of this module, students will learn to describe discuss and classify the difference between the past and its re-construction, paraphrase the various motivations of writing history and the underlying politics of the same, identify and indicate the historian's craft in terms of the text composed and the context in which the text is framed, and also review, summarize and translate the significance of the changing trends in historiography especially after the 'subaltern' turn. The lectures will be taught via class discussions regarding terms and concepts, and paper presentation and analysis with the help of audio-visual aids.