

Faculty of Arts and Letters



GLOR2806 Arts and Civilisation : Ancient India

[15h] 2 credits

This two-yearly course is taught in 2005-2006, 2007-2008,...

This course is taught in the 1st semester

Teacher(s): Christophe Vielle
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

The aim of the course is to present the student with a general outline of the ancient Indian civilization (pre-Islamic and pre-colonial) through the history of plastic arts.

Main themes

A first part deals with various archaeological problems such as the emergence of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures in the Indian subcontinent, the growth and decline of the Indus civilization, the supposed coming of the Aryans and the so-called Indian 'Middle Ages', the material remains of the Vedic civilization. The main part of the course is devoted to the history of Buddhist, Hindu and Jain arts (architecture, sculpture, painting) in India, from the Mauryan period till about the 13th century A.D., following a dynastic, geographic or stylistic order and with a special attention drawn to the cultural (religious or political) context of each monument.

Content and teaching methods

The course presents a general outline of the ancient Indian civilization (pre-Islamic and pre-colonial) through the history of plastic arts. A first part deals with various archaeological problems such as the emergence of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures in the Indian subcontinent, the growth and decline of the Indus civilization, the supposed coming of the Aryans and the so-called Indian 'Middle Ages', the material remains of the Vedic civilization. The main part of the course is devoted to the history of Buddhist, Hindu and Jain arts (architecture, sculpture, painting) in India, from the Mauryan period till about the 13th century A.D., following a dynastic, geographic or stylistic order and with a special attention drawn to the cultural (religious or political) context of each monument.

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

No preliminary knowledge is required, but the level of the examination will be different according as the student knows or does not know Sanskrit (used for the architectural and iconographic vocabulary as well as for the Indian proper names and specific terms).

Teaching materials : series of lectures with lantern slides. A selection of documents (maps etc.) is furnished to the students.

Programmes in which this activity is taught

HORI2 Licence en langues et littératures orientales (philologie et histoire orientales)
HORI2M1 Master en langues et littératures anciennes, orientation "orientales"

Other credits in programs

ARKE21	Première licence en histoire de l'art et archéologie	(2 credits)
HORI21	Première licence en langues et littératures orientales (philologie et histoire orientales)	(2 credits)
HORI22	Deuxième licence en langues et littératures orientales (philologie et histoire orientales)	(2 credits)