

## **HSS ELECTIVES FIRST YEAR**

### **SIANG HOSTEL**

- 1) Course Name: Introduction to Linguistics  
Course Instructor: Prof. S. Mahanta

**About the Course:**

The content is on language structure: phonetics (sounds in languages like use of s- instead of sh- in North India etc.), morphology (sentence formation like order of subject, verb and object in a sentence), syntax (grammar), semantics (meaning)

**About the Instructor:**

The instructor of this course is very good in teaching as well as grading. The instructor makes question papers having questions with one line answer and also gives good grades. Lecture Notes are given and there is no much need to memorize in this course. Going to classes is more than enough in this course.

- 2) Course Name: Language, Culture and Cognition  
Course Instructor: Prof. B. Som

**About the Course:**

The content is on evolution of language and then on the relation between language and the mental processes, for example, on the mental process when a person learns a second language.

**About the Instructor:**

The instructor teaches well.

**Last Year:**

There was attendance but it was not taken seriously at all. The questions in the paper will be entirely from slides. If you can memorize the slides, you can easily get 8 or 9. Absolute grading was done - Gave 10 grade to students who scored 80 marks, 9 who scored 70 and 8 to those above 60. However this was the case last year

**Previous Years:**

No attendance. She does very easy grading. You need to memorize the slides and grading was good

- 3) Course Name: Introduction to Phonetics  
Course Instructor: Prof. P. Sarmah

About the Course:

The content is on sound production, reception and physical representation (for example waveform of various sounds).

About the Instructor:

The instructor is known to do very poor grading. Take this course only if you have an interest in learning this.

- 4) Course Name: Economic Theory: An Introduction  
Course Instructor: Prof. B. Sengupta

About the Course:

This is one of the most sought after HSS course as it has some real life application. It is an interesting course covering concepts of basic macro and micro economics. If you attend all the classes you would definitely do well without any personal effort to study the subject.

About the Grading:

As this course is generally taken up by the brightest students grading gets tough. But, attending all classes with a slight personal effort would assure you of atleast 8 or 9. Getting 10 in this course would require you to study about the important terms from internet and also a bit of luck!

- 5) Course Name: History of Modern India  
Course Instructor: Prof. J. Thomas

About the Course:

What you will learn in this course will be very similar to your 10<sup>th</sup> class history. The course is not though on learning facts and the question asked in the exam will require you to think.

About the Instructor:

The instructor teaches very well. The question papers have descriptive type questions and you need to write very long answers. You need to study in this course regularly to get good grades.

- 6) Course Name: Ethnic Conflict and Management  
Course Instructor: Prof. P. Saikia

About the Course:

The content is on the reasons and forms in which two ethnic groups fight with each other and how it impacts society and how two or more groups manage to live in same society.

About Grading:

The course is interesting. People who got average marks got 7 and 8 and those who got higher by 15 marks got 9s and 10s.

- 7) Course Name: Introduction to Psychology  
Course Instructor: Prof. N. Kashyap

About the Course:

The content is on how various cognitive (mental) processes occur. These will include theories of learning, forgetting, memory (short term, long term, working) and emotions (and how to manage them) and personality (conscious, unconscious, sub-conscious mind) etc.

About the Instructor:

For this course, there will be no lecture slides. The instructor will ask to refer books for whatever he teaches. The instructor teaches well and the course is interesting. He, however takes surprise quizzes and you will have to read regularly for this course.

- 8) Course Name: Sociology of Science  
Course Instructor: Sambit Mallick

Attendance is not very strict. Questions will come from whatever has been taught in the class only (so take notes from anyone who goes to the class) and does good grading. The content is half for mugging up and half to understand. Handouts will be given.