

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad

Introduction to History, HS3.201

End Semester Exam

Date-01/12/2025

Maximum Time: 180 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 60 (12x5)

Instructions: Answer any five of the following six questions in approximately 600 words each.

✓ Q1) What do the concepts of, 'productive forces' and 'relations of production' mean within the Marxist canon and what is the relationship between the two? How does this relationship inform Marx's theory of historical materialism?

✓ Q2) What were the reasons for the decline of social history and the rise of cultural history? What the discernible shifts in how historians have approached the study of 'culture' as a legitimate field of historical enquiry?

✓ Q3) In what ways does post-structuralism diverge from structuralism? Reflect on why Jacques Derrida's theorisation of 'deconstruction' is considered a cornerstone of post-structural thought.

✓ Q4) What do you understand by postcolonial criticism? Edward Said, one of the most important postcolonial scholars of all time described Orientalism as both a field of knowledge and a field of power. Reflect on what he means by this.

Q5) What do you understand by subaltern studies and how did it challenge colonialist, nationalist, and Marxist interpretations of Indian history? Discuss why is David Hardiman's book *The Coming of the Devi* (1987) considered an important piece of scholarship to have come out of the Subaltern Studies collective.

✓ Q6) Write a short note on the following:

✓ i) Contribution/compensation history

✓ ii) Episteme and archaeology in Foucauldian theory