Course Overview:

Course Title: History – I
Course Code: BALLB-104
Semester: First
Credits: 4

Medium of Instruction/Assessment: English

Objectives of the course: The objective of this course is to study the socio-political structures of the past by focusing specifically on the intersections of history and law. Students will learn how law was framed and justified during the Ancient and Medieval periods, the latter phase giving way to the current common law system. A study of selected legal documents will be undertaken with a view to reveal the form, philosophy, and rationale behind ancient and medieval law as well as train students in analyzing historical legal sources. This paper offers students a chance to contrast our present circumstances with the past, a chance to understand the long path of development that led to the legal problems we grapple with in the present, and the chance to see the deep roots of the social forces that are changing the shape of our own world.

Assessment and Evaluation:

The course has a weightage of 100 marks. 75 % of the marks will be covered by the End Semester Examination; while as 25 % will constitute internal assessment to be done by the concerned instructor.

(A) End Semester Examination: There will be ten questions in the Question paper with two from each unit. Students will have to answer five questions in all selecting one from each unit.

(B) Internal Assessment: A student will be assessed and evaluated by the concerned teacher during the entire semester at regular intervals. This will be done by employing a wide range of methods including written tests, tutorials, term paper writing, presentations etc. Attendance of the students will also form a part of the internal assessment.
Course Outline:

The course is based on five units.

Unit I
Definition and Nature of History, Relevance of History to Law
Sources- Nature and types of sources

Unit II
Social Differentiation- Origin of Caste and Class and its Legal standpoint,
The Understanding of Violence and Crime, Judicial system, Procedures - Murder, Robbery, Rape etc

Unit III
Origin of Family- Issues and concerns, Kinship patterns, Genealogy of marriage and legal perspective, Inheritance

Unit IV
Commercial Laws- Economy, Trade, Commerce, Property
Treaties with neighboring empires and kingdoms

Unit V
Protest and Alternate Practices- Homosexuality, Incest, Prostitution
The State’s Legal positions on Protest/Rebellion

Suggested Readings:

1. Romila Thapar, *Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300*, University of California Press, 2004
7. N. Mani Tripathi, *Jurisprudence the Legal Theory*, 2013
19. Shireen Moosvi, *People, Taxation and Trade in Mughal India*, OUP, 2009