

GAUHATI UNIVERSITY
T.D.C.(SEMESTER) SYLLABUS
IN FOLKLORE

2010
GOPINATH BORDOLOI NAGAR
GUWAHATI 781014
ASSAM

COURSE STRUCTURE FOR T.D.C. PASS COURSE IN FOLKLORE

FIRST SEMESTER
Paper -1
Introduction to folklore

SECOND SEMESTER
Paper I
Folk literature of Assam

THIRD SEMESTER
Paper I
Cultural Situation in Assam
Paper II
Folk Literature of Assam: Narrative Genre

FOURTH SEMESTER
Paper I
Material Culture
Paper II
Social Folk Customs

FIFTH SEMESTER

Paper I
Folk Religion

Paper II
Theory I

SIXTH SEMESTER
Paper I
Theory II
Paper II
Research Methodology and Field Report

**FIRST YEAR
FIRST SEMESTER
PAPER-I
MARKS-100
Introduction to Folklore**

Paper I will introduce the definition and scope of folklore, Methods of folklore study. This paper will also cover history of folklore studies with special reference to India.

- Unit-1 : Definition, meaning and scope of folklore.
The importance of studying folklore in context.
- Unit-2 : Origin and beginning of folklore as a discipline.
- Unit-3 : Classification of folklore material. Four sectors of folklore forms.
- Unit-4 : Short History of folklore studies in North-East India.
- Unit-5 : Field work, Methods of field data collection.

Books recommend (Relevant portion only)

- Dorson, R.M. (ed.). : Folklore and Folk Life : An Introduction.
- Dundes, A. (ed.). : The Study of Folklore.
- Leach, Maria (ed.). : The Standard Dictionary of Folklore. Mythology and Legend.
- Handoo, J. : Folklore : An Introduction.
- Handoo, J. : Theoretical Essays in Folklore.
- Datta, B. et al. (eds) : Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India.
- Sarma, N. C. : Lokasamskriti.

**SECOND SEMESTER
PAPER-I
MARKS-100**

Folk literature of Assam (Non-narrative Genres) Paper I will cover folk literature of Assam. It will give focus on classification of non-narrative genres of folk literature of the Assamese and tribal communities.

- Unit-1 : Introduction and identification of the following items of Assamese folk literature-
(i) Folksongs, (ii) Proverbs and (iii) Riddles.
- Unit-2 : Introduction and identification of the following items of Boro and Rabha folk literature.
(i) Folksongs, (ii) Proverbs and (iii) Riddles.
- Unit-3 : Introduction and identification of the following items of Dimasa, Karbi and Mising folk literature
(i) Folksongs, (ii) Proverbs and (iii) Riddles.
- Unit-4 : Introduction to the following items of folk literature
(i) Marriage songs of Barak Valley
(ii) Jhumur songs of tea garden labourers of Assam.
(iii) Songs connected with Karam Puja

Recommend Books :

- Bhattacharyya, P.C. : Asomor Janajati
- Das, B.M : People of Assam.
- Goswami, P. : Folklore literature of Assam.
: Asomiya Janasahitya
Bara Mahar Tera Geet
Bohag Bihu of Assam and Bihu Songs
- Gogoi, L. : Asomiya Loka Sahityar Ruprekha.
- Sarma, H.K. : Kamrupi Lokageet Sangrah
- Datta, B. *et al.* : Goalpariya Lokageet Sangrah
: Siphung-Gungang
: Folksongs of the Misings

	:	A Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India.
Pegu, G.	:	Mising Loka Sahitya
Tamuli, J.C.	:	Asomiya Lokageet Sangrah
Kagyung, Bhriyumuni:		Mising Sanskritir Alekhya
Narzi Bhaben	:	Boro-Kachari Jana Sahitya
Brahma, M.	:	Folksongs of the Bodos
Rabha, R.	:	Rabha Lokageet.
Rabha, R.	:	Rabha Janajati.
Terang, R.	:	Karbi Loka Sahitya.
Boro, A.K.	:	Folk Literature of the Bodos.
Duara, D.	:	Uttar-Kachar Pahar Anchalar Janasahitya
Malik, Sayed Abdul	:	Asomiya Zikir Aru Jari.
Barua, P.C.	:	Assamese Proverbs.
Brava Prasanna Chandra	:	Patantarmala.
Dutta, D.	:	Sathar, Phakara, Yojana
Datta, B. et al (eds.)	:	Asomiya Biswakosh Vol. V.
Bhattacharyee, A	:	Barak Upatakyar Baranashi

**THIRD SEMESTER
PAPER I
CULTURAL SITUATION IN ASSAM**

This paper will introduce basic ethnography of Assam as a background of folklore.

Unit -1 : Cultural situation in Assam.

Unit-2 : Brief ethnographic description of the people of Assam.

Unit-3 : Boro, Rabha, Karbi, Dimasa, Tiwa and Misings : Ethnographic Outline

Recommend Books

Bhattacharyya, P.C.	:	Asomor Janajati
Das, B.M	:	People of Assam.
Kagyung, Bhriyumuni:		Mising Sanskritir Alekhya
Datta, B. et al (eds.)	:	Asomiya Biswakosh Vol. V.
	:	A Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India.

S. Endle	:	The Kacharis
R. Rabha	:	The Rabhas
Lyall and Stacks	:	Karbis
Pegu, N	:	The Misings

**THIRD SEMESTER
PAPER II
FOLK LITERATURE OF ASSAM: NARRATIVE GENRE
MARKS-100**

Paper III covers folk narratives of Assam. The main focus is on Assamese and tribal language material.

- Unit-1 : Classification and Analysis of Assamese folktales and Assamese Legends.
- Unit-2 : Myths of the Assamese, Bodos and Rabhas
- Unit-3 : Assamese Ballads and Baramahi Songs and Baramasi Songs of Barak Valley.
- Unit-4 : Boro, Karbi and Dimasa Ballads.
- Unit-5 : Ramayan Tradition among the tribes of Assam.

Recommended Books :

- Goswami, P. : Ballads and Tales of Assam.
- : Tales of Assam.
- : Asamiya Jana Sahitya.
- Barua, B.K. : Asomor Loka Sanskriti.
- Datta, B. And Singh, K.S. (eds.) : Ramakatha in Folk and Tribal Traditions of North-East India.
- Bhuyan, S.K. : Barphukanar Geet.
- Bora, B. : Phulkowar Mani Kowar Geet.
- Kalita, P. : Baramahi Aru Bilap Geet.
- Sarma, N.C. : Asomiya Lokasanskritir Chamu Abhash.
- Bharatar Uttar-Purbanchalar Loka Sanskriti.
- Bhattacharjee, A : Barak Upatyakar Baramasi Geet.

**FOURTH SEMESTER
PAPER II
MATERIAL CULTURE
MARKS-100**

Paper-IV Deals with material culture.

- Unit-1 : The Concept of Material Culture.
- Unit-2 : House types found in Assam. Assamese Ornaments.
- Unit-3 : Folk Toys and Folk Painting, Customs.
- Unit-4 : Agricultural implements.
- Unit-5 : House Decoration.

Book Recommended

- Dorson, R.M. : Folklore and Folk life : An Introduction.
- M.J. Herscovits : Cultural Anthropology.
- Barua, B.K. : Asomar Loka-Sanskriti.
- Bhattacharya, P.C. : Asamor Janajati.
- Yoder, Don : American Folk life.
- Sarma, N.C. : Asomor Samskritik Itihas.

**FOURTH SEMESTER
PAPER II
SOCIAL FOLK CUSTOMS
MARKS-100**

Paper-II Deals with the concepts of customs and customs of the communities of Assam.

- Unit-1 : The Concept of folk Custom
- Unit 2 : General Survey of beliefs and customs of selected tribal communities (Boro, Karbis, Mising, Karbi and Dimasa).
- Unit 3 : Festivals of Assam
- Unit-4 : Ceremonies connected with agriculture observed by the tribal and non-tribal communities with special reference to Assamese, Boro, Rabha, Mising, Karbi and Dimasa,
- Unit 5 : Life-Cycle ceremonies of the Assamese Hindus.

Book Recommended

- Dorson, R.M. : Folklore and Folk life : An Introduction
Barua, S.K. : Asomar Loka-Sanskriti.
Bhattacharya, P.C. : Asamor Janajati
Datta, B. : A Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India.
Sarma, N.C. : Asomiya Lokasanskritir Chamu Abhas.
Narzi, B. : Boro-Kacharir Samaj Aru Samskriti
Bhattacharya, P.C. : Asomor Loka Utsav
Rabha, R. : Rabha Janajati
Kagyung, Bhriyumuni: Mising Sanskritir Alekhya
Teron Longkam : Karbi Janajati
Hagjer, Nirupama : Dimasa
Bordoloi, B.N. : The Dimasa Kacharis
Chomang Kan
Goswami, P. (ed.) : Bohag Bihur Bare Baraniya Rup.
Bohag Bihu of Assam and Bihu Songs.
Festivals of Assam.

**FIFTH SEMISTER
PAPER I
FOLK RELIGION**

This paper will introduce folk religions of Hindu caste and Muslims and some tribes of Assam.

- Unit-1 : The Concept of Folk religion.
Unit-2 : Ritual and ceremonies.
Unit-3 : Folk deities and connected ceremonies like Subasani Puja, Opesari Sabah, Amati and Sath.
Unit-4 : Folk deities of West Assam : Kati Puja, Hudumdeo Puja, Mare Puja, Bas Puja
Unit-5 : Godlings in Assamese Society.
Unit-6 : Bodo and Karbi religion.

Recommend Books :

Dorson, R.M.	:	Folklore and Folklives : An Introduction
Rajkhowa, B.	:	Assamese Popular Superstitions and Assamese Demonology.
Bhattacharya, P.C.	:	Asamor Janajati
Datta, B. (ed.)	:	A Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India.
Barua, A.C.	:	Loka Devata Siva
Narzi, B.	:	Boro-Kacharir Samaj Aru Samskriti
Teron Longkam	:	Karbi Janajati
Sarma, N.C.	:	Panchali Sahitya

**FIFTH SEMESTER
PAPER-II
THEORY-I**

This paper will give a preliminary introduction to folklore theory.

- Unit-1 : What is folklore and historical evolution of the term, significance of studying folklore.
- Unit-2 : Contribution of Herder and Grimm brothers.
- Unit-3 : Basic feature of folklore and transmission of folklore.
- Unit-4 : Folklore bearers- active and passive.
- Unit-5 : Brief introduction to works of R. M. Dorson, Alan Dundes, Birinchi Kumar Baruah and Prafulla Dutta Goswami.

Recommends Books :

Dorson R.M.	:	Folklore and Folk life : An Introduction.
Datta, B. et.al. (eds.)	:	Asomiya Kiswa Kosh.
Dundes, A.	:	The Study of Folklore.
	:	Interpreting Folklore.
Handoo, J.	:	Folklore : An Introduction.
	:	Theoretical Essays in Folklore.
Claus, P and Korom, F.:	:	Folkloristics and Indian Folklore.
Sarma, N.C.	:	Loka Samskriti

**SIXTH SEMISTER
PAPER-I
THEORY-II**

This paper will introduce the major theories of folklore at the advanced level.

- Unit-1 : Anthropological evolutionism and the study of folklore contributions of E.B. Tylor, Andrew Lang and James Frazer.
- Unit-2 : Indianist Theory. Historical Geographical Method.
- Unit-3 : Folklore in context and functions of folklore.\
- Unit-4 : Folklore forms used in identity movements, folklore as a saleable commodity in the modern world.

Recommends Books :

- Dorson R.M. : Folklore and Folk life : An Introduction.
- Datta, B. et.al. (eds.) : Asomiya Kiswa Kosh.
- Dundes, A. : The Study of Folklore.
: Interpreting Folklore.
- Handoo, J. : Folklore : An Introduction.
Theoretical Essays in Folklore.
- Claus, P and Korom, F.: Folkloristics and Indian Folklore.

**SIXTH SEMISTER
PAPER II
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND FIELD REPORT**

This paper will consist of two parts. The first part will deal with research methodology and the second part will contain 50 marks for preparing report based on field work on a selected community.

Part-1 : Research Methodology (Marks-50)

Unit-1 : What is Research Methodology.

Unit-2 : Methods of Data Collection- observation method, participant observation method. interview method and questionnaire method, case study method.

Unit-3 : Methods of Report Writing including citation of references.

Recommend Books :

Dorson R.M. : Folklore and Folk Life : An Introduction.

Goldstein, K. : A Guide for Field Worker's In Folklore.

Bora, M. : Gabeshanar Tatva Parisay

Saikia, N. : Gabeshana Paddhati Parisay

Pelto and Pelto Anthropological Research

Part-2 : Field Report (Marks-50)