

University of Colombo
Faculty of Arts
First Year Examination in Arts- Semester I- 2016

HIS 1101- Introduction to History

Two (02) Hours only

Answer Three (03) questions only

1. "Any aspect of man's past, provided it has some bearing upon its course, forms a legitimate field of historical study- the failure as well as the successes, the impalpable as well as the palpable" (Gorden Leff). Review this statement.
2. Critically discuss the two concepts of 'objective knowledge' and 'subjective knowledge' in relation to the field of historical knowledge.
3. Write a critical essay on the "Nineteenth Century Approach to History".
4. Review the new discourses of history that emerged in the twentieth century by questioning the paradigm of the "Nineteenth Century Approach to History".
5. What is 'source criticism'? Why is 'source criticism' important in historiography?
Answer these questions with reference to the sources that are employed in the reconstruction of the ancient history of Sri Lanka.
6. Write notes on **two (02)** of the following:
 - a. Double incompleteness of historical knowledge
 - b. Dialectics and historical development
 - c. Marx's notion of 'base and superstructure'
 - d. The Subaltern Study Group

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