

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
26HS608	Folklores and Folktales in Northeast India	04

Course Objectives

- Introduce students to the rich folklore traditions of Northeast India.
- Familiarize students with oral traditions as important sources of historical knowledge and cultural memory.
- Examine the relationship between folklore, identity, community, and indigenous knowledge systems.
- To develop an understanding of the historical, cultural, and environmental contexts of folktales.
- To encourage documentation, preservation, and critical engagement with oral traditions.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course it is intended that a student will be able to:

- Explain the significance of folklore in preserving history, memory, and cultural heritage.
- Identify major folktale traditions and storytelling practices across Northeast India.
- Analyze folktales within their socio-cultural and historical contexts.
- Understand the role of oral traditions in the construction of identity and community.
- Evaluate folklore as a source for historical reconstruction and cultural interpretation.

Unit 1 - Introduction to Folklore, Oral Tradition and History (12 Hrs.)

Meaning, nature, and scope; Folktales, myths, legends, ballads, proverbs, riddles, and songs; Oral tradition and collective memory; Storytelling Traditions: Village elders as custodians of memory, Storytellers and oral performers, Folklore in festivals and community gatherings.

Unit 2 – Folktales of Assam, Sikkim and Tripura (12 Hrs.)

Historical and Cultural Background; Representative Folktales: Tejimola, Legend of Guru Padmasambhava, Tale of the Yeti, Legend of Unakoti; Historical Themes and Cultural Significance: Kingship and authority, Religion and spirituality, Community values and moral instruction.

Unit 3 - Folktales of Nagaland and Manipur (12 Hrs.)

Historical and Cultural Background; Sumi Creation Story, Ao and Angami origin traditions, Meitei cosmological narratives; Khamba and Thoibi, The Tiger and the Man (Naga folktale); Community Identity; Folklore as a source of indigenous historical consciousness.

Unit 4 – Folktales of Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh (12 Hrs.)

Historical and Cultural Background; Representative Folktales: U Thlen, Ka Likai, Chhura and Nahaia, Origin of the Mizos, Abotani Narratives, Nyanyi Myete.

Unit 5 - Contemporary Issues and Methods for Preservation (12 Hrs.)

Folklore and Cultural Identity: Ethnicity and belonging, Tradition and modernity; Folklore in Contemporary Society: Digital archiving, Translation and preservation, and Tourism and cultural heritage; Oral History Methods: Interview techniques, Recording and transcription, and Ethical considerations.

Reference Books:

1. Ao, M. A. (1989). *Folk tales from Nagaland (Parts I & II)*. Directorate of Art and Culture, Government of Nagaland..
2. Ao, T. (2000). *The Ao-Naga oral tradition*. Bhasha Publications.
3. Barua, L. K. (1999). *Oral tradition and folk heritage of North East India*. Spectrum Publications
4. Bezbaroa, L. (1911). *Burhi Aair Sadhu*. Banlata Prakashan.
5. Datta, B. N. (Ed.). (1995). *Ballads and tales of Assam*. Sahitya Akademi.
6. Datta, Birendranath, Nabin Chandra Sarma, & Prabin Chandra Das. *A Handbook of Folklore Material of North-East India*.
7. Elwin, V. (1958). *Myths of the North-East Frontier of India*. North-East Frontier Agency..
8. Khiantge, L. (2009). *Mizo songs and folk tales*. Sahitya Akademi.
9. Kire, E. (2009). *Naga folktales retold*. Children's Book Trust.
10. Kshetrimayum, J. S. (1989). *Khamba and Thoibi: The unscaled height of love*. Imphal Publishing House.
11. Lall, K. (1991). *Folktales of Sikkim*. Sterling Publishers.
12. Rafy, K. U. (1960). *Folk-tales of the Khasis*. Firma KLM.
13. Ramanujan, A. K. (1991). *Folktales from India: A selection of oral tales from twenty-two languages*. Pantheon Books
14. Singh, N. T. (Ed.). (1993). *Folktales of Manipur*. Akansha Publishing House.

15. Thompson, Paul. *The Voice of the Past: Oral History*.
16. Tripura, B. K. (2000). *Tripura tribal myths and legends*. Tribal Research Institute, Government of Tripura.
17. Vansina, J. (1985). *Oral tradition as history*. University of Wisconsin Press.
18. Verma, J. P. (Ed.). (1996). *Myths and legends of Arunachal Pradesh*. Mittal Publications.

Supplementary Readings:

1. Bhattacharjee, J. B. (1991). *A History of Northeast India*. South Asia Books.
2. Dundes, A. (1989). *Folklore Matters*. University of Tennessee Press.
3. Gurdon, P. R. T. (1914). *The Khasis*. Macmillan and Co.
4. Jacobs, J. (1990). *The Nagas: Hill Peoples of Northeast India*. Thames & Hudson.
5. Smith, L. T. (1999). *Decolonizing methodologies: Research and indigenous peoples*. Zed Books.
6. Thompson, S. (1977). *The Folktale*. University of California Press.
7. Wilson, S. (2008). *Research Is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods*. Fernwood Publishing.

COs and Bloom's Taxonomy Mapping – 26HS608

Course Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to	BTL
CO1	Recall and explain the meaning, nature, and scope of folklore, oral tradition, and history, and identify major forms of folklore and storytelling traditions	K1, K2
CO2	Apply and analyze selected folktales of Assam, Sikkim, and Tripura in relation to their historical background, cultural values, and moral themes.	K3
CO3	Analyze and examine the folktales and origin traditions of Nagaland and Manipur as expressions of indigenous identity and historical consciousness.	K4
CO4	Evaluate and interpret the folktales of Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh in the context of regional culture, belief systems, and social memory.	K5
CO5	Design and describe the role of folklore in contemporary society and apply basic oral history methods for preservation and documentation.	K6

BTL (Bloom's Taxonomy Level) - K1 – Remembering, K2 – Understanding, K3- Applying, K4 – Analyse, K5- Evaluate and K6 - Create

Relationship Matrix – 26HS608

Course Outcomes	Programme Outcomes (POs)						Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs)						Mean Score of Cos
	PO1	PO2	PO3	PO4	PO5	PO6	PSO1	PSO2	PSO3	PSO4	PSO5	PSO6	
CO1	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	1	2	1.75
CO2	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	1.91
CO3	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	1.91
CO4	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	2
CO5	3	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total													1.91

Mean Score: 3- High, 2- Medium/Moderate, 1-Low