

Semester: Any

Value Added course (VAC)

Credits: 3

Marks: 50

Course Title: Traditional Textiles of Nagaland

Course Code: SOC/VAC/TTN

Course Objectives:

1. To explore the traditional textile heritage of Nagaland
2. To gain theoretical knowledge about the motifs, symbolism and aesthetics of textile in Nagaland
3. To identify the challenges and opportunities in the preservation and modernization of Naga weaving traditions

Syllabus Outline:

Unit 1: Introduction to Naga textiles

- a. Overview of Nagaland and its ethnic diversity
- b. Role of textiles in tribal identity, rituals, and status
- c. Historical context: Textiles in Nagaland

Unit 2: Weaving Traditions and Techniques

- a. Traditional looms: Back-strap (loin) loom
- b. Materials used: cotton, wool, natural dyes
- c. Weaving process and tools

Unit 3: Motifs, Symbolism, and Aesthetics

- a. Symbolic meaning of colours, patterns and motifs
- b. Representation of headhunting, fertility, warfare, and nature
- c. Textile as a marker of tribal and individual identity

Unit 4: Contemporary Issues and Preservation

- a. Impact of marketization
- b. Revival and adaptation in modern fashion and design
- c. Integration with sustainable and slow fashion movements

Recommended Readings & Resources:

1. Ao, A. Lanu. (1999). Naga Cultural Attires and Musical Instruments. New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company.
2. Ao, T. S. (2002). The art of Naga weaving. Dimapur: Heritage Publishing House.
3. Das, S. M. (2013). The weaving culture of Northeast India. Kolkata: Anthropological Survey of India.
4. Jacobs, Julians. (1990). The Nagas: Hill People's of Northeast India. London: Thames and Hudson Ltd.
5. Jadav, Kishore. (1998). Folklore and its Motifs in tribal literature. New Delhi: Manas Publications.
6. Jamir, T. L. (2010). Textiles and costumes of Nagaland. Guwahati: Spectrum Publications.
7. Singh, K. S. (Ed.). (1994). People of India: Nagaland. Kolkata: Anthropological Survey of India.
8. Venuh, N. (2004). Socio-cultural traditions of North East India. New Delhi: Akansha Publishing House.
9. Wettstein, Marion. (2014). Naga Textiles: Design, Technique, Meaning and Effect of a Local Craft Tradition in Northeast India. Vienna, Arnoldsche Art Publishers, Stuttgart.