

Independent Study Course

M.A(Sanskrit-Applied Indian Knowledge Systems)

Course Category: Core

Schedule of Offering: Even Semester

Course Credit Structure: 3 Credits

- **Lecture: 2**
- **Tutorial: None**
- **Practical: None**

Contact Hours per week: 2 Hours per week

Course Instructor: None

1. Introduction

This is a readings course which is ideal for any student looking to pursue research in Indian Knowledge Systems. Here, the student can choose a particular topic and study the literature related to that topic under a suitable faculty. The students themselves are expected to come up with the topic and initial list of literature to be studied. There will be minimal teaching in this course but the student can take the guidance of the faculty they have chosen or who has been assigned to them.

2. Course Objectives

- To familiarize oneself with the discursive style of one's interested discipline.
- To get first hand experience of research.
- To produce a presentable paper as a learning outcome.

3. Pre-requisites

None.

4. Readings

To be decided by student and faculty supervisor. If the student is taking up a text, then it is recommended that they choose one small enough to be covered in a single semester, or choose one specific part of the text which constitutes a logical component of that text. If the student is taking up research articles, then it is recommended that they choose only as many articles, of good quality, as can be studied in a single semester.

5. Module-wise topics

Not applicable.

6. Pedagogy

Since this a readings course, there will be minimal to no teaching. Below are details of the topic selection and supervisor roles:

6.1. Choice of topic

The student can choose any topic of his/her interest provided that it is part of/related to Indian Knowledge Systems. The program coordinator must ratify this. Some of the guidelines to keep in mind while choosing the topic are:

- There is easily accessible material on this topic.
- There is sufficient contemporary research on this topic.
- There are sufficient faculty who can possibly guide the student in this topic.

6.2. Choice of supervisor

Next, the student has to propose names of at least two faculty members whom she/he would prefer to have as supervisor. The names must be in decreasing order of preference. While giving the choice, the student should keep in mind the area of research and competence of the faculty available. Since the contact hours are only 2 hours per week, the faculty are requested to be considerate in accepting students under their supervision. However, no faculty will have more than 2 students under the readings course.

6.3. Choice of viva panel

Once the topic and supervisor are finalized, the student and the supervisor, together, will propose 2 more names to act as external evaluators. The viva panel will consist of the supervisor and the external evaluators. This panel will examine the final presentation of the student.

The student must complete these steps at the end of the odd semester.

7. Evaluation Pattern

Following is the evaluation pattern.

- Weekly write-ups: 35%
 - This is to check the weekly progress of the student. Every week, the student must meet the supervisor and together they must agree upon the week's reading. The student then expect to give a brief write-up containing the learnings from those readings. This should be no less than 750 words and should not exceed 1200 words. This should be submitted to the supervisor. Each weekly write up is worth 10 marks. If the student does not meet his/her supervisor for the week, they will be awarded 0 for that week. If the student meets his/her supervisor but not submit any write-up, they will be awarded 0 for that week. In all other cases, the

supervisor will award as many marks as she/he sees fit. Following are the guidelines:

- A good summary of the reading with critical comments: 8.5 -10 Marks
- A good summary of the readings which reflects that the student has understood the concept well: 7- 8.5 Marks
- A incomplete but sound summary of the readings: 6 - 7 Marks
- An incomplete and incorrect summary of the readings: 4-6 Marks
- The supervisor will maintain weekly attendance just like for any other course
- Final Presentation: 40%
 - This will act as the final exam for the course. The student is expected to present their findings before the viva panel. The date of the final viva will be decided by the supervisor at the beginning of the course. Following are the guidelines to evaluate the student (out of 10 for example):
 - The student has not covered the material agreed upon and has incorrect understanding of the topic: 3 - 5 Marks
 - The student has not covered the material agreed upon but has good understanding of the content which she/he has covered: 5 - 7 Marks
 - The student has covered the material agreed upon and has understood the content well: 7 - 8.5 Marks
 - The student has not only understood the content well but has made new findings: 8.5 - 10 Marks
 - The final marks will be provided by the supervisor. She/he must take into account the evaluation of external evaluators. Ideally, taking an average of all the 3 marks.
- Mid-term paper: 20%
 - This is a paper which would be an essay on a specific question which the student has encountered during their study. This should be no less than 2500 words. This should be submitted to the supervisor. The last date of the submission will be decided by the supervisor at beginning of the course. It is recommended that the submission date be fixed somewhere in the middle of the semester. (In a 15 week semester, which is the norm in CVV, this will be the 7th or 8th week). Following is the suggested grading scale for this paper:
 - The paper is not well written and present no sign of the student having understood the reading material: 4 - 5 Marks

- The paper is not well written but the student seems to have a good understanding of the reading material: 5 - 6.5 Marks
- The paper is well written and presents a good summary of the topic: 6.5 - 8.5 Marks
- The paper is a good summary of the reading material and also contains more critical observations and original ideas: 8.5 - 10 Marks