

Artha & Kāma – Readings from Kautilya and Vātsyāyana

MA Sanskrit (EG612)

Course Category: [Core]

Schedule of Offering: [Semester III]

Course Credit Structure: [4]

- **Lecture:** 3 Hours per week
- **Tutorial:** 1 Hour per week
- **Practical:** None

Contact Hours per week: 4 Hours per week

Introduction:

Indic Knowledge Traditions contain enormous knowledge about both Vedic and Loukik (wordly) realms of life. Today, even though the streams of modern science have taken precedence in almost all matters of worldly life, the loukika śāstras from ancient Indian knowledge database give truly worthwhile insights to human lives. Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya and Kāmasūtra of Vātsyāyana are two of the major treatises of loukika śāstras, presently available to us. This course is designed to give a proper reading and understanding of these texts, enabling student-access to the above mentioned knowledge content.

Course Objectives:

The course design seeks to address the following issues:

- Introducing various aspects of Arthaśāstra & Kāmaśāstra
- Enabling students to read the text by their own
- Understanding Kautilaya for understanding the present political situation
- Understanding the picture of social life and societal values.
- Looking over Kāma theories as śāstra

Pre-requisites:

This course has no pre-requisites. Some rudimentary understanding of Sanskrit and familiarity with Devanagiri script will be useful.

Learning Outcomes:

The main learning outcomes of this course are as follows:

- Application of text in current scenario
- Enable the students in finding solutions for various societal problems
- Will get a true vision of Kāmaśāstra
- Develop the idea on writing the article

Module-wise topics

Module 1 Introduction to Arthaśāstra

(5 hours)

- Brief discussion on history of the text
- Definition and contents
- Introduction to commentaries

➤ Essential Readings

- Ramachandrudu P. (2010), "Glimpse into Kautilya's Arthashastra", Sanskrit Academy, Hyderabad. (pp: 1-37)
- N.P.Unni (2012), "Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya – General Introduction" Edited by T Ganapati Sastri", New Bharatiya Book Corporation, Delhi. (pp: 1- 67)

Module 2 Textual Study of Vinayādhikaraṇa (Selected Chapters)

(10 hours)

- प्रकरणाधिकरणसमुद्देशः
- विद्यासमुद्देशः
- इन्द्रियजयः
- अमात्योत्पत्तिः
- मन्त्रिपुरोहितोत्पत्तिः
- अमात्यानां शौचाशौचज्ञानम्
- गूढपुरुषोत्पत्तिः
- गूढपुरुषप्रणिधिः

Module 3 Textual Study of Kośa (Selected Chapters) (15 hours)

- समाहर्तृसमुदयप्रस्थापनम्
- आकरकर्मान्तप्रवर्तनम्
- गाणनिक्वाधिकारः
- कोष्ठागाराध्यक्षः
- सूत्राध्यक्षः
- सुराध्यक्षः

➤ Essential Readings

- N.P.Unni (2012), "Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya " Edited by T Ganapati Sastri", New Bharatiya Book Cororation, Delhi. (pp: १-७०)
- N.P.Unni (2012), "Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya" Edited by T Ganapati Sastri, New Bharatiya Book Cororation, Delhi. (pp: ७१-१०८)

Module 3 Selected topics (based on the relevance) from Arthaśāstra (15 hours)

- Trade and Marketing (3.15-16)
- Property Rights and Inheritance etc. (3.5-7)
- Agriculture, Mineralogy, Mining and Metals, Animal husbandry, Medicine, Forest and wildlife
- Tantrayuktyadhikaraṇa

➤ Essential Readings

- N.P.Unni (2012), "Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya" Edited by T Ganapati Sastri, New Bharatiya Book Cororation, Delhi. (pp: ७१-१०८)
- L.N.Rangarajan (2000), "The Arthashastra by Kautilya", Penguin India.

Module 4 Kāmaśāstra (15 hours)

- Introduction

- Selected topics such as – शास्त्रसङ्ग्रहः, त्रिवर्गप्रतिपत्तिः, विद्यासमुद्देशः, नागरकवृत्तम्, नायकसहायदूतिकाविमर्शः, प्रमाणकालभावेभ्यो रतावस्थापनम्, प्रीतिविशेषाः इत्यादयः विषयाः ।

➤ Essential Readings

- M.M. Pt. Durga Prasad (2007), “Kāmasūtram” with Jayamangala commentary of Shri Yashodhara. (pp 1-104)

Additional Readings

- Colebroke, H.T. (1874), Digest of Hindu law on contract and succession(Vol-I), Hiiiningbotham and Co., Madras
- Sachin More (2014), “Arthasastra: Lessons for the contemporary Security Environment with South Asia as a case study”, IDSA, New Delhi.
- P.K. Gautam (2013), “One hundred years of Kautilya’s Arthasastra” IDSA, New Delhi.
- P.K.Gautam (2016), “Understanding Dharma and Artha in statecraft through Kautilya’s Arthasastra.

Pedagogy:

The teaching methods used in this course will be a combination of primarily discussion-oriented lectures. In class discussions, talks by experts and student presentations based on some related work will supplement the learning process. This course will encourage master’s students to develop the skill of writing papers on Arthasastra/ Kamasashtra connecting to the interdisciplinary subjects.

Evaluation Pattern

Assignments (2)	–	20%
Weekly Quizzes	–	30%
Term Paper	-	20%
End semester Exam	–	30%