



Indic Knowledge Systems: Pride of India

Program in which it is offered: All UG

Course Category: Skill Enhancement	Schedule of Offering: Odd semester
Course Credit Structure: 4	Course Code: IKS2151
Total Number of Hours: 60	Contact hours per week: 4
Lecture: 3 credits, 45 hours	Tutorial: 1 credit, 15 hours
Practical: 0	Medium of Instruction: English
Date of Revision:	Skill Focus: Soft Skills and Life skills

Course Description

Pride of India is a skill enhancement course offered to students pursuing undergraduate programmes at Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth. CVV aims in making our students conscious of the treasure of knowledge that exists in the world of Indic Knowledge Traditions (IKT). CVV is committed to research, propagate, and integrate IKT with the modern schools of knowledge.

Course Introduction

Pride of India course will serve as an introduction to Indic Knowledge Traditions to learners pursuing different programmes at Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth. Themes include introduction to ancient Indian contributions to science, technology, architecture, health, wellness, psychology, public administration, and governance, along with the wisdom from the larger Vedic corpus. The course will help students to build awareness of IKT, develop pride, inspiration and motivation to study further and explore their application to solve problems of the modern world.

Course Objective

The following are the objectives of the course:

- To introduce the rich knowledge treasure of Indian knowledge traditions
- Encourage students to compare and contrast them to modern sciences
- Encourage them to come up with ideas to solve world problems in economics, law, architecture, Education

Course Outcome

At the end of this course the student will be able to:

- Identify different marvels of Indian civilisation, both concrete and abstract
- Relate them to the specific knowledge traditions to which they belong
- List different streams of Indic Knowledge Traditions (IKT) and their constituents
- Summarise key ideas and principles of each of the streams with examples from daily lives
- Explain the importance of learning Itihāsa and Purāṇa, and the larger Vedic corpus
- Identify one or more stream of IKT that they would like to take up for a detailed study in the upcoming semesters to explore application to solve problems of the contemporary world
- Discover the multi-dimensional nature of IKT

Prerequisites

- No pre-requisites necessary

Teaching Pedagogy

Various pedagogical methods, involving interactive classroom audio-visual lectures as well as modern methods like collaborative learning, project-based self-learning, and based on the module and topic. It includes hands-on activities, interactive sessions, discussion forums, learner presentations, quizzing, case studies, assignments and projects.

Module Sessions

Module 1: IKT in Everyday Life

(12 Hours)

Topics:

- Introduction to Indic Knowledge Traditions (IKT)? — Why IKT? — IKT in everyday life

[Range: A good sample selection of Indic practices like Yoga, Indian cuisine that are well appreciated across the globe]

- Few Examples of Sciences from Ancient India

[Range: The ancient ingenuity of environmental conservation techniques like water harvesting in Indian desert — Architectural marvels like Brihadeeshwara Temple at Tanjavur and Konark Sun Temple, Iron pillars at Kodachadri and Qutub Minar — Precise astronomical mentions and references in ancient Indian texts, Jantar Mantar — Mentions of electric cells from Rasa Samuchchaya — Mathematical references from

Āryabhaṭīyam — References for surgery from Suśruta Samhita; Physiology in Sangśtaratnākara — Science of plant life (Vṛkṣāyurveda) — Veterinary Science (Mṛgāyurveda)]

- Introduction to Indic Knowledge Systems (IKS)

[Range: Meaning, difference from IKT]

- Sanskritic and Non-Sanskritic Knowledge Traditions

[Range: Meaning, and a few examples]

Readings:

1. Awakening Indians to India, AICHYK Publication
2. Indian Knowledge Systems - Volume 1, Prof. Kapil Kapoor
3. Pride of India and other selected readings

Module 2: Science, Technology and Architecture (12 Hours)

Topics:

- Astronomy

[Range: Siddhantic era and major contributions: Āryabhaṭa, Bhāskara I, Brahmagupta, Bhāskara II — the Kerala School]

- Chemistry

[Range: Early chemical techniques; Atomism in Vaiśeṣika — The Classical Age; Laboratory and Apparatus]

- Mathematics

[Range: The Classical Period — Features of Indian Mathematics]

- Metallurgy

[Range: Iron metallurgy including iron pillars and beams — Zinc — Wootz steel]

- Architecture

[Range: Temple architecture — Rock cut structures — Monolithic structures; Forts]

- Other Technologies

[Range: Water management systems — Text technology — Writing technology — Pyrotechnics]

Reading:

1. Ray, Priyadarajan and S. N. Sen. 2018 (reprint). *The Cultural Heritage of India, Vol. VI, Science and Technology*. Kolkata: The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture.

Module 3: Health, Wellness and Psychology

(12 Hours)

Topics:

- Āyurveda

[Range: Definition — The principles of Āyurvedic healing — The tradition of surgery — Medical genetics in Āyurveda — Inoculation for smallpox — Microbiology and parasitology — Animal and Plant Sciences in Ancient India (Vṛkṣāyurveda and Mṛgāyurveda) — Biodiversity and folk traditions]

- Yoga

[Range: Definitions — Principles — Aṣṭhaṅga Yoga (8 limbs of Yoga) — Prāṇāyāma and a few breathing techniques]

- Vedantic approach to mind

[Range: BMI Chart of Swami Chinmayananda — Definition of Mind — Techniques of Mind Control — Pañca Koshas]

Reading:

- R. Vidyanath (2013). "Illustrated Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya of Vāgbhaṭa - Sūtrasthāna" Chaukhambha Surabharati Prakashan, Varanasi. ISBN: 978-93-82443-86-5.
- Wujastyk Dominik (2001). "The Roots of Ayurveda", Penguin classics, Haryana, India. ISBN: 9780140436808.
- Valiathan M.S. (2015). "The Legacy of Vagbhata", University Press (India) Private Limited, Hyderabad.
- Vidyanath R. (2013). "Illustrated Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya of Vāgbhaṭa - Sūtrasthāna" Chaukhambha Surabharati Prakashan, Varanasi. ISBN: 978-93-82443-86-5.
- Other Selections from Caraka Saṃhita, Śuśruta Saṃhita and Aṣṭāṅgahrdaya

Module 4: Public Administration and Governance

(10 Hours)

Topics:

Society, State and Polity

[Range: Plurality of Indian society — Decay and Growth of a Civilisation — Ruler's Dharma — Goal of a State — Dharma as the Supreme Authority — The Science of Polity — Seven Limbs of the State — Varṇa-āśrama-dharma — Family — Marriage]

Reading:

- A.S. Altekar (2016): "State and Government in ancient India", Motilal Banarasi Dass Pvt. Ltd. Delhi.

Module 5: Wisdom through ages (Itihasa, Purana, Subhashitas, Niti etc (10 Hours)

Topics:

- Literature

[Rāmāyaṇa, Mahābhārata, Purāṇa-s, Kāvya-s, Subhāṣita-s]

- Ethics - Individual and Social (Dharma)

[The Cosmic Order — Ethics in Buddhist, Jain, Sikh traditions]

- Philosophy

[Gautama Buddha — Ādi Śaṅkarācārya — Madhvācārya — Rāmānujācārya — Sāṅkhya — Yoga — Nyāya — Vaiśeṣika — Pūrva Mīmāṃsa — Uttara Mīmāṃsa]

Reading:

- Pūjyaśrī Candraśekharendra Sarasvati Svāmī (2018): “Hindu Dharma – The universal way of life”, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mumbai.

Module 6: The Vedic Corpus

(4 Hours)

- IKT and IKS — definition, nature, scope, organisation, constituents, relevance in modern societies
- Caturdaśavidyāsthāna and Aṣṭhādaśavidyāsthāna - their constituents
- IKS is defined as Caturdaśavidyāsthāna

Readings:

- Indian Knowledge Systems - Volume 1, Prof. Kapil Kapoor
- Pūjyaśrī Candraśekharendra Sarasvati Svāmī (2018): “Hindu Dharma – The universal way of life”, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mumbai.

Evaluation Pattern

- Continues Internal Assessment - 30%
- End Term Examination - 70%