

SEMESTER: IV
CORE COURSES, PAPER - 1
M. A HINDU STUDIES

Course Code		Credit	Structure			
			L	T	P	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS
Course Title	Vada Parampara		3	1	0	4

Course Description:

This course delves into the classical Indian tradition of *Vād Paramparā*, focusing on **Śāstrārtha**—the dialogic and analytical method of arriving at truth through debate. It emphasizes the progression from *saṃśaya* (doubt) to *niścaya* (certainty) as the fundamental movement of knowledge. The course critically explores various forms of discourse such as *vāda*, *jalpa*, and *vitaṇḍā*, while highlighting the importance of **Anubandha Catuṣṭaya** (the fourfold framework of purpose, subject, relation, and result) in structuring meaningful philosophical inquiry.

Students will gain an understanding of traditional systems of knowledge organization, with a focus on *tatparya* (intentional meaning) and its relevance in **Śravaṇa-vidhi** (the method of listening and internalization). The course also introduces **Tantrayukti**—the science of textual interpretation and structured reasoning—as a research methodology applicable across disciplines in Indian knowledge systems.

Course Objectives:

- To develop an in-depth understanding of the *Vād Paramparā* and its role in shaping Indian philosophical discourse.
- To explore the process of *Śāstrārtha* as a journey from doubt (*saṃśaya*) to knowledge (*niścaya*).
- To examine the structural components of discourse, including *vāda*, *jalpa*, and *vitaṇḍā*, and the role of *Anubandha Catuṣṭaya*.
- To introduce *tatparya* and *śravaṇa-vidhi* as foundational tools for meaning-making in scriptural studies.
- To equip students with *Tantrayukti* as a traditional yet innovative research methodology for textual analysis and interdisciplinary application.

Unit I

- Vada-Parampara: The method of Sastrartha and the concept of adhikanran
- From doubt to determination: Sansaya to Nirnaya

Unit II

- Katha (nature and types of katha): Vada, jalpa, vitanda

Unit III

- Embarking on knowledge discovery: Anubandha-chatustaya (adhikari, visaya, sambandha, Prayojana)
- Organization of knowledge: Sutra, bhasya, vartika, vrtti, tika, tippani and sangraha.
- Analysing "Tatparya" of knowledge through sravarna vidhi: "Upakrama, upasamhara, abhyasa, Apurvata, phala , arthawada, upapatti
- Analysing "tatparya" of knowledge through six-fold process (sadvidha tiitparya nirnayaka linga) sruti, linga, vakya, prakarana, sthana, samakhya

Unit IV

- Tantrayukti: "Research methodology" in context of Natural Sciences, Ayurveda, Jurisprudence, Social Science, etc.
- Naiyyayikaprakriya
- Understanding of Vedas through Vedangas and Patha-paddhati
-

Recommended Readings

- 1 Vada in Theory and Practice, Radhavallabh Tripathi, IAS, Shimla. DK Print World, New Delhi, 2016
2. A Modern Introduction to Indian Logic, SS Barlingay, National Publishing House, 1965
- 3 A Modern Introduction to Indian Logic, SS Barlingay, National Publishing House, 1965
- 3 Tantra Prakashika, Dr. Bishnupriya Mohanty, Chaukhambha Prakashak, 2023

Recommended Readings

1. Barlingay, SS, A Modern Introduction to Indian Logic
2. Tripathi, Datta Kamlesh, The Structure of the Sastra and the Traditional Exegesis: An overview of the Indian Exegesis
3. Vidyabhusana, S.C., A History of Indian Logic, Motilal Banarsi Das, 2006
4. Tripathi, Radhavallabh, Vada in Theory and Practice, D.K-Printworld ltd, New Delhi, 2006.

Learning Outcomes

- After the completion of the course the students will—
- Understand Sastrartha and adhikarriya in Vada-Parampara tradition
- Navigate from Sansaya to Nirriyaya in darsanaic discourse
- Learn types of katha and their roles in knowledge exchange

- Grasp Anubandha-chaturtaya's

Instructions for External Examiner: This question paper shall be divided in two sections. Examiner is requested to set section A as compulsory question containing 14 marks and from the entire syllabus (can be either objective or subjective). Section B will be in choice from two of the questions from each unit. The students will be required to attempt one question from each unit. All questions from each unit will carry equal marks.

SEMESTER: IV
CORE COURSES, PAPER - 2
M. A HINDU STUDIES

Course Code		Credit	Structure			
			L	T	P	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS
Course Title	Applicability of Western Methods for Understanding Indian Texts...		3	1	0	4

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the critical engagement between Western methodologies and Indian textual traditions. It seeks to explore how Western philosophical, philological, literary, and hermeneutical approaches have been applied to the study of Indian texts, and critically examines their relevance, effectiveness, and limitations.

This paper critically evaluates Western perspectives on Bharat, examining constraints imposed by Western intellectual frameworks. It explores issues of representation, historical interpretation, and stereotyping. The study also assesses concepts of neutral inquiry, aiming to uncover and challenge biases in Western academic discourse about Bharat.

Course Objectives:

- To familiarize students with key Western methodological approaches in textual interpretation.
- To acquaint the students with the influence of Hindu Shastras on Western philosophical systems.
- To examine the influence of these approaches on the study of Indian scriptures, epics, and philosophical texts.
- To develop interdisciplinary and comparative skills in the interpretation of texts.
- To build awareness about methodological appropriateness and cultural context.

Unit 1:

- Traditional Western restrictions on limits of free inquiry
- Western descriptions of Bharat and traditional literary theories (Greek thinkers, Historical, Biographical etc.)

- Overview of Indian traditional methods (anvaya-vyatireka, Shastra, Agam-Nigam, etc.)

Unit 2:

1. Marxism and Critical Theory
 - Role of class and economics as analytical devices
 - Critical Theory - A theory with a purpose: A review of its history and the intention of advance Leftist thought in Europe
 - Gramsci and “hegemony”
2. Structuralism
 - Saussure, influence of Sanskrit linguistics, and consequential differences (words have no inherent meanings)
 - Emphasis on objectivity, scientific approach
3. Need for comparative methodological reflection in modern academia

Unit 3:

1. Post-structuralism
 - Derrida and influence of Upanishadic relativism
 - Deconstruction – loss of reference and endless deferral of meaning, reviewer at liberty to craft meanings
 - Derrida, Foucault, and the critique of author/text
2. Postcolonialism and Indian Texts
 - Edward Said, Gayatri Spivak – Postcolonial engagement with Indian knowledge
 - Subaltern studies, the Bhartiya Stree Vimarsh and resistance to Western models
 - Decolonial literature

Unit 4:

- Orientalism-theorizing Bharat in the Western experience
- Descriptions of Bharat through lenses of post-modernism and deconstruction Orientalism
- Can Indian texts be studied from within their own categories (e.g., Dharma, Kama, moksha, artha)?
- Methodological decolonization: limits and possibilities

Suggested Readings

- Adams, Hazard. Critical Theory Since Plato
- Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: A Reader, Williams, Patrick and Laura Chrisman, Columbia Press, NY

- Compamtive Indian Literature, K. M. George, Kerala Sahitya Akademi, 1984
- Decolonizing the Hindu Mind, Dr. Koenraad Elst, Rupa & Co., 2005
- Devy, G. N. Indian Literary Criticism: Theory and Interpretation
- Devy, G.N. A.lier Amnesia: Tradition and Change in Indian Literary Criticism
- Dictionary a/Literary Terms and literary Theory, Penguin
- Elst, Koenraad. Hindu Dharma and the Culture War
- Essays in Indian History: towards a Marxist Perception, Irfan Habib
- Gender and Politics of History, Joan Scott, Oxford University Press, 1989.
- Indra's Net: Defending Hinduism's Philosophical Unity, Raj iv Malhotra, Harper Collins, 2016
- Invading the Sacred: An Analysis of Hinduism Studies in America, edited by Krishnan Ramaswamy, Antonio de Nicolas, and Aditi Banerjee, Rupa & Co., 2007
- Kapoor, Kap ii. Dimensions of Panini Grammar
- Kapoor, Kapil. language, linguistics and literature: The Indian Perspective
- Kapoor, Kapil. literary Theory: Indian Contextual Framework
- Marxism and the Methodology of History, Gregor McLennan
- Marxist Historiography: A Global Perspective, Editors – Wang and Iggers
- Marxist History Writing for the 21st Century, Edit. Chris Wickham
- Postmodernism or the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism; Fredric Johnson
- Reflections on the Marxist Theory of History, Paul Blackledge
- The Battle.for Sanskrit: Is Sanskrit Political or Sacred? Oppositions, Outsiders versus Insiders, Rajiv Malhotra, Harper Collins, 2016
- The Creation of Patriarchy, Lerner Gerda, Oxford University Press, 1986.
- Western Foundations of the Caste System, Martin Farek, Dunkin Jalki, Sufiya Pathan, and Prakash Shah, Palgrave Macmillan, 2020
- White Mythologies, History and the West, Rubert Young, Routledge, 1990.

Learning Outcomes

- Articulate key Western methodologies and assess their applicability to Indian texts.
- Develop a nuanced understanding of cross-cultural interpretation.
- Evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of applying modern theories to traditional texts.
- Apply multiple frameworks (Indian and Western) to a selected Indian text critically and contextually.
- Contribute to constructive and sensitive scholarship in Indian studies.

Instructions for External Examiner: This question paper shall be divided in two sections. Examiner is requested to set section A as compulsory question containing 14 marks and from the entire syllabus (can be either objective or subjective). Section B will be in choice from two of the questions from each unit. The students will be required to attempt one question from each unit. All questions from each unit will carry equal marks.

SEMESTER: IV

DSE-4

M. A HINDU STUDIES

Course Code		Credit	Structure			
			L	T	P	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS
Course Title	Shodha Vigyan		2	1	0	3

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the basic concepts, principles, methods and techniques of research. It includes research writing methodology, identification of sources, critique of texts, note writing, citation style and methods of selection of research topic, especially in the field of Sanskrit studies. This course coordinates both traditional and modern research approaches.

Course Objectives:

- To give knowledge of the purpose, nature and scope of research.
- To clarify the process and methods of research topic selection.
- To introduce the method of critique, editing and commentary of classical texts.
- To teach the structure of creation of research report (Thesis/Dissertation).
- To introduce modern research tools (such as bibliography, citation method, data collection).

Unit 1: – Nature and objectives of research

- Definition, characteristics and types of research
- Selection of problem in research
- Field and genres of research (literature, grammar, philosophy, history etc.)
- Methods of bibliography, commentary, interpretation

Unit 2: – Modern research techniques

- Reference list (Bibliography), creation of bibliography
- Citation system (MLA, Chicago, IAST, etc.)
- Table of contents, bibliographic index, and language of research
- Online databases, dictionaries, digital manuscripts

Unit 3: – Research writing skills

- Process of writing a thesis/essay
- Introduction, clarity of objectives, chapter division
- Originality and source analysis in research
- Concept and prevention of plagiarism in research

सुझावित ग्रंथ (Suggested Readings):

1. शोध प्रविधि – डॉ. रमेशचन्द्र शुक्ल
2. Research Methodology – Kothari, C.R.
3. An Introduction to Research Methodology – Garg, B.L.
4. Sanskrta Sāhitya Mem Anusandhāna – डॉ. विश्वनाथ त्रिपाठी
5. Textual Criticism and Editorial Techniques – T. Ganapati Sastri
6. Prachya Vidya aur Sanskrit Shodh – डॉ. रामकरण शर्मा

Learning Outcomes:

- After completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Identify and determine a research topic.
- Appropriately use traditional and modern research methods.
- Gain proficiency in the structure and style of research thesis.
- Critically study texts.
- Be able to do independent research in Sanskrit subjects.

251/HS/SM401

Seminar Course

The Seminar course is basically an interdisciplinary course designed for students to enrich their presentation and writing skills. Critical engagement with faculty, peers will help them to chart out topics for their research, and dissertation. One of the aims of this course is to aware them about the methodology of their select topics. It will help them in participating International, National Seminars, Conferences and Debates.

SEMESTER: IV
DSE-4
M. A HINDU STUDIES

Course Code	Course Title	Course ID	L	T	P	L	T	P	Credits	MARKS				
			(Hrs)			Credits				TI	TE	PI	PE	Total
DSE	Spiritual Theory & Practices of Yoga and Bhakti Tradition		2	1	-	2	1	-	3	25	50	-	-	75

Course Description

This course offers an integrated study of two foundational streams of Indian spiritual heritage—**Yoga** and **Bhakti**. It introduces students to the philosophical bases, textual references, and practical dimensions of spiritual discipline. The course draws from **Pātañjala Yogasūtras**, **Haṭhayoga texts**, **Bhakti-sūtras**, **Purāṇas**, and compositions of major Bhakti saints. Students will explore the psychological, ethical, and experiential aspects of Yoga and Bhakti, and gain hands-on exposure to core yogic practices such as **āsana**, **prāṇāyāma**, **mudrā**, **bandha**, and **basic meditation and devotional practices**.

The course aims to cultivate inner discipline, emotional refinement, mindfulness, and devotional awareness, integrating both traditions for holistic spiritual development.

Course Objectives

- To introduce the spiritual philosophy and practices of Yoga and Bhakti.
- To understand the yogic training of body, breath, and mind as given in classical texts.
- To study the growth and contribution of the Indian Bhakti tradition and its saint-poets.
- To develop the ability to perform foundational yogic practices and devotional techniques.
- To appreciate the transformative impact of Yoga–Bhakti on personal and social life.

Course Outcomes

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the foundational concepts of Yoga, Kriyā-yoga, Aṣṭāṅga-yoga, and Bhakti philosophy.
- Describe major practices of Haṭhayoga and their purpose (āsana, prāṇāyāma, mudrā, bandha).

- Demonstrate basic practices including Sūryanamaskāra, selected āsanas, and breathing techniques.
- Understand the teachings and contributions of major Bhakti saints and texts.
- Integrate yogic and devotional practices for emotional well-being and spiritual growth.

Module 1: Yogic Practices in the Yoga Sūtras

- Concept of Yoga and Citta-vṛtti-nirodha
- Kriyāyoga (Tapas, Svādhyāya, Īśvara-praṇidhāna)
- Aṣṭāṅga-yoga: Yama, Niyama, Āsana, Prāṇāyāma, Pratyāhāra, Dhāraṇā, Dhyāna, Samādhi
- Pratipakṣa-bhāvana and Citta-prasādana
- Saṃyama and its applications on various objects

Module 2: Practical Techniques from Haṭhayoga Texts

- Introduction to *Haṭhayogapradīpikā* and related classical texts
- Āsanas: meditative and cultural
- Prāṇāyāma: nāḍī-śuddhi, sūrya-bhedana, ujjāyī, bhrāmarī (basics)
- Mudrā and Bandha: mūlabandha, uḍḍiyāna-bandha, jālandhara-bandha
- Śuddhi-kriyās: neti, dhauti (introductory level)

Module 3: Foundations of Bhakti Tradition

- Definition, types, and philosophy of Bhakti
- Teachings of *Nārada bhaktisūtra*
- Bhakti-yoga in the *Bhagavadgītā*
- Role of emotion, surrender, and grace
- Major saints and their contributions (Nārada, Śaṅkara, Chaitanya tradition, Tamil Ālvārs)

Module 4: Synthesis of Yoga & Bhakti Practices

- Comparative perspectives: Jñāna–Bhakti–Yoga
- Harmony of body–mind–emotion in spiritual development
- Meditation combined with devotion (japa, dhyāna, mantra, kīrtan)
- Practical sessions integrating yogic and bhakti elements
- Contemporary relevance and scientific perspectives on holistic well-being

Primary Texts & Translations (India)

1. पातञ्जलयोगदर्शन – चौखम्बा संस्कृत सीरीज़, वाराणसी
2. हठयोगप्रदीपिका (स्वात्मारामकृत) -कैवल्यधाम योगमंदिर समिति, लोनावला
3. और चौखम्बा प्रकाशन, वाराणसी
4. घेरण्डसंहिता – चौखम्बा संस्कृत सीरीज़, वाराणसी, और योग प्रकाशन ट्रस्ट, मुंगेर
5. शिवसंहिता – चौखम्बा, वाराणसी
6. स्वामी सत्यानंद सरस्वती – *Asana–Pranayama–Mudra–Bandha* (Yoga Publications Trust, Munger)

7. स्वामी निरंजनानंद सरस्वती – *Gheranda Samhita (Commentary)* (Yoga Publications Trust, Munger)
8. स्वामी मुक्तिबोधानंद – *Hatha Yoga Pradipika (Commentary)* (Yoga Publications Trust)
9. स्वामी कुष्णानंद एवं स्वामी कुवलयानंद – *Asana / Pranayama* (Kaivalyadhama, Lonavla)
10. स्वामी दिगंबर जी – *Hathapradipika* (Kaivalyadhama Sanskrit Series)
11. दिरेन्द्र ब्रह्मचारी – *Yogic Sukshma Vyayam* (Dhirendra Yoga Publications, Delhi)

B. Bhakti Tradition (Indian Texts & Studies)

12. भागवत पुराण – गीता प्रेस, गोरखपुर
13. नारद भक्ति सूत्र – चिन्मय प्रकाशन, मुंबई
14. शाण्डिल्य भक्ति सूत्र – हिंदी अनुवाद, स्वतंत्र प्रकाशन
15. रामचरितमानस – गीता प्रेस
16. प्रेमपाठ – सूरदास, तुलसीदास, मीरा, रसखान – साहित्य अकादेमी / गीता प्रेस
17. डॉ. राजमल बोरा – भारतीय भक्ति साहित्य (वाणी प्रकाशन)
18. शर्मा कृष्ण – *Bhakti and the Bhakti Movement* (Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, India)
19. प्राभाकर माचवे – कबीर (साहित्य अकादमी, नई दिल्ली)
20. मोहन सिंह – *Kabir and the Bhakti Movement* (Atmaram & Sons, India)
21. भाट देवराज सिंह – रसखान रचनावली (अशोक प्रकाशन, दिल्ली)
22. देवकुळे वि. ज. – *Hathapradipika & Gheranda Samhita* (Marathi translations, Pune)
23. सदाशिव नंबाळकर – योग अभ्यास और स्वास्थ्य (योगविज्ञान केतन, मुंबई)
24. राजीव जैन – संपूर्ण योग विज्ञान (मंजुल प्रकाशन, भोपाल)

C. Indian Philosophy & Spirituality (Supporting Readings)

25. बलदेव उपाध्याय – भारतीय दर्शन (चौखम्बा, वाराणसी)
26. श्रीनिवास दत्त – भारतीय तत्त्वज्ञान (फडके बुक हाउस, कोल्हापुर)
27. बी.के. दलाई – *Yoga Traditions: Indian Perspective* (प्रतिभा प्रकाशन, दिल्ली)
28. एम.आर. यार्डी – *Yoga of Patanjali* (BORI, Pune – Indian publication)
29. अयंगर, बी.के.एस. – योग दीपिका (Light on Yoga, Hindi) – रोहन प्रकाशन, पुणे