

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE 8) – Aesthetics: Indian and Western Perspectives**

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE**

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Aesthetics: Indian and Western Perspectives DSE 8	4	3	1	Nil	12th Passed	None

**Learning Objective**

- Experiencing art is common, but coming to understand it is not. This course aims at bringing students the critical ability to understand art
- This course will bring both western and Indian perspectives on art to the fore, with more emphasis on the Indian perspective.
- This course will make students appreciate art in different artistic forms

**Learning Outcomes**

- Upon completing this course, students will learn to appreciate artistic forms better
- The students will come to express in language what they only felt before as an experience
- The students will be able to critically analyze art forms
- The student will be equipped to pursue a career in art criticism and aesthetics

**Unit 1 Nature and Meaning of Aesthetics**

**(9 Hours, 3 Weeks)**

1. Introduction to Aesthetics
2. Philosophy of Art and Beauty.

**Essential/Recommended Readings:**

Saxena, S K, *Art and Philosophy: Seven Aestheticians* (Pragati Publications,1995). Chapter on 'Langer'

Shyamala Gupta, *Art, Beauty and Creativity*, (DK Print world: New Delhi,1999). Chapters 1,4,7,8,9.

## **Unit 2 Identity of a Work of Art**

**(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)**

1. The Idea of Art
2. Form of Feeling

### **Essential/Recommended Readings:**

Paul Valery, 'The Idea of Art' in *Aesthetics* by Harold Osborne (London: Oxford University Press,1972).

Form of Feeling: *The Aesthetic Theory of Susanne K Langer* by Sam Reese in *Music*

*Educators Journal*, Vol. 63, No. 8 (Apr., 1977), pp. 44-49 Online Source:  
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/3395285>

## **Unit 3 Aesthetic Delight, Rasa and Disinterestedness**

**(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)**

1. Concept of Rasa and Aesthetic Delight with reference to Indian context.
2. Kant on the Beautiful: The Interest in Disinterestedness

### **Essential/Recommended Readings:**

Hiriyanna, M. *Art Experience*, (Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts,Manohar: Delhi, 1997). Chapter-1&5

Daniels, Paul, Kant on the Beautiful: The Interest is Disinterestedness, (*Colloquy*, 16, 2008, p. 198-209) URL:[https://www.monash.edu/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/1762206/daniels.pdf](https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/1762206/daniels.pdf)

## **Unit 4 Art, Religion, and Spirituality: Indian View**

**(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)**

1. Ananda Coomaraswamy
2. Sri Aurobindo
3. Rabindranath Tagore.

### **Essential/Recommended Readings:**

Coomaraswamy, A. K. *The Transformation of Nature in Art*, (Sterling Publishers,1995) Chapter-1(p.1-39)

Online material available for Aurobindo and Tagore on [shodhganga/inflib.net](http://shodhganga.inflib.net) and [jstor](http://jstor).

Tagore,R. "Sadhana" in *Tagore Omnibus*, Volume IV. Rupa Publications Pvt Ltd.