



Department of Sanskrit

University of Delhi

Undergraduate Course for Sanskrit

Multidisciplinary Courses of Study B. A. (Prog.) with Sanskrit

Under UGCF-2022 based on NEP-2020

DSE 16: Public Administration in Sanskrit Tradition

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the Course			Eligibility criteria	Prerequisite of the course	Department offering the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice			
Public Administration in Sanskrit Tradition	04	3	1	0	Class XII Pass	Nil	Sanskrit

Learning Objectives:

This course explores the principles of public administration as embedded in Sanskrit literature, including Vedic texts, Arthashastra and Niti Shastras. The paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of governance, policy-making, statecraft, law, and ethics from an ancient Indian perspective.

Learning Outcomes

1. To introduce students to the administrative concepts found in Sanskrit literature.
2. To analyze the role of governance, public welfare, and justice in ancient Indian polity.
3. To examine the ethical and philosophical dimensions of public administration in Sanskrit texts.
4. To compare traditional administrative theories with modern public administration thought.

Detailed Syllabus

Unit 1: Foundations of Public Administration in Sanskrit Tradition

1 Credit

- Governance and Administration in Vedic and Upanishadic Texts
- Duties of the King (Rajadharma) and State Policy
- Concept of Public Welfare and Justice (Nyaya)
- Role of Dharma in Administration (Yajnavalkya Smriti)
- Ethics and Accountability in Ancient Indian Administration

Unit 2: Statecraft and Governance

1 Credit

- Kautilya's Arthashastra: Principles of Governance and Public Administration
- Role of a King as an Administrator and Leader
- Revenue Management and Taxation Policies
- Diplomacy, Espionage, and Internal Security in Ancient India

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- Decentralized Administration and Local Governance (Village and Guilds)

Unit 3: Law, Justice, and Bureaucracy

1 Credit

- Judicial System in Ancient India (Dandaniti)
- Crime and Punishment: Arthashastra
- Civil and Criminal Laws in Sanskrit Texts
- Role of Bureaucracy and Ministers in Governance
- Administrative Institutions and Governance Models in Ancient India

Unit 4: Comparative Analysis and Contemporary Relevance

1 Credit

- Comparison of Sanskrit Administrative Thought with Western Public Administration
- Modern Applications of Sanskrit-Based Governance Principles
- Role of Sanskrit Administrative Ideas in Good Governance
- Indigenous Models of Administration (Panchayati Raj and Swadeshi Governance)
- Revival and Application of Sanskrit Public Administration in Contemporary Policy-making

Recommended Readings

- कौटिल्यार्थशास्त्रम्, व्या., वाचस्पति गैरोला, चौखम्बा विद्या भवन, वाराणसी
- Yājñavalkyasmṛiti with Mitākṣarā commentary - Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series Office, Varanasi, 1967
- K.P. Jayaswal, 'Hindu Polity' The Bangalore Printing and Publishing Company, Bangalore City, 1943
- Ramsharan Sharma, 'Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India' Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi, 1959
- A.S. Altekar, State and Government in Ancient India, Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi, 2001
- D.R. Bhandarkar, Some Aspect of Ancient Indian Hindu Polity, Banarsidass, Hindu University.
- S.R. Maheshwari, Local Government in India, Orient Longman, New Delhi
- Beni Prasad, Theory of Government in Ancient India, Allahabad, 1968.
- R.S. Sharma, Aspect of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient Indian, Delhi, 1996
- रामनारायण यादवेन्द्र (अनु.) जे. डब्लू गार्नर, राज्यविज्ञान और शासन, आगरा, 1972
- सत्यकेतु विद्यालंकार, प्राचीन भारतीय शासन व्यवस्था एवं राजशास्त्र, सरस्वती सदन, मसूरी, 1986
- विनोद सिन्हा एवं रेखा सिन्हा, प्राचीन भारतीय इतिहास एवं राजनैतिक चिन्तन, राधा पब्लिकेशन, दिल्ली, 1989

Recommended Readings:

1. Kautilya's Arthashastra (translated by R.P. Kangle)
2. L.N. Rangarajan, Kautilya: The Arthashastra
3. P.V. Kane, History of Dharmashastra

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4. R.C. Majumdar, Corporate Life in Ancient India
5. Upinder Singh, Political and Administrative Thought in Ancient India
6. Bibek Debroy, Economic Sutra: Ancient Indian Antecedents to Governance

**Examination scheme and mode: Subject to directions from the Examination
Branch/University of Delhi from time to time**

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