

GE-16: Contributions of the Indian Knowledge System

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the Course			Eligibility criteria	Prerequisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/Practice		
Contributions of the Indian Knowledge System	04	3	1	0	Twelfth Passed	Working Knowledge of Sanskrit

Learning Objectives

This Course aims to Gain an understanding of the historical development of the Indian knowledge system, including its foundation in the Vedic period, evolution during the Upanishadic era, synthesis in the classical age.

It will explore the key dimensions of the Indian knowledge system, including philosophy and spirituality, mathematics and astronomy, medicine and Ayurveda, linguistics and grammar, arts and literature, and social sciences and governance.

It will recognize the relevance of the Indian knowledge system in the modern world, including its spiritual and philosophical significance, scientific and technological applications, integration with modern education, and the potential for global exchange and cross-cultural learning.

Learning outcomes

After completion of this course, students will be able to-

- Develop a deeper awareness and appreciation for the rich and diverse knowledge system that has evolved in India over thousands of years. They will gain insights into the historical development, key dimensions, and contributions of the Indian knowledge system, leading to a greater understanding of its cultural and intellectual significance.
- Promote cross-cultural dialogue by showcasing the Indian knowledge system to a wider audience. It highlights the potential for exchanging ideas, perspectives, and insights between different cultures and knowledge systems. This can foster mutual understanding and collaboration, promoting global learning and innovation.
- Recognize the value of integrating traditional wisdom with contemporary knowledge and practices. This can inspire the development of new interdisciplinary approaches and solutions to complex problems.
- Become more aware of the importance of safeguarding traditional knowledge. This may lead to initiatives aimed at preserving and reviving traditional practices and teachings, ensuring their continuity for future generations.
- Gain insights into the need for responsible adaptation, taking into account cultural sensitivity, intellectual property rights, and the preservation of indigenous knowledge systems.

The comprehensive overview of the Indian knowledge system provided in the paper can serve as a foundation for further research and study. It can inspire scholars, researchers, and students to delve deeper into specific areas of interest within the Indian knowledge system and contribute to the ongoing exploration and understanding of this vast body of wisdom.

Detailed Syllabus

Unit: I	15Hrs.
Contributions of the Indian Knowledge System	
1.1 Metaphysical and Philosophical Insights	
1.2 Advancements in Mathematics and Astronomy	
1.3 Holistic Approach to Medicine and Well-being	
1.4 Linguistic Analysis and Grammar Structures	
1.5 Artistic Expressions and Literary Masterpieces	
Unit: II	15Hrs.
Relevance of the Indian Knowledge System Today	
2.1 Spiritual and Philosophical Relevance	
2.2 Scientific and Technological Applications	
2.3 Integrating Traditional Wisdom	
2.4 Global Exchange and Cross-Cultural Learning	
Unit: III	15Hrs.
Challenges and Future Directions	
3.1 Preservation and Documentation	
3.2 Reviving Traditional Knowledge in Contemporary Contexts	
3.3 Ethical Considerations and Responsible Adaptation	
3.4 Embracing the Past to Shape a Harmonious Future	

Essential/recommended readings

10. "The Vedas"
11. "The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali"
12. "The Arthashastra" by Chanakya
13. "The Bhagavad Gita"
14. "The Ramayana" by Valmiki
15. "The Mahabharata"
16. "The Science of Yoga" by I.K. Taimni
17. "Indian Architecture: Buddhist and Hindu Periods" by Percy Brown
18. "Indian Music: A Brief Introduction" by Guy L. Beck

These reference books and essential readings will serve as valuable resources for unveiling the richness of the Indian knowledge system, covering various aspects of philosophy, literature, spirituality, arts, and sciences. They offer insights into the profound wisdom and multidimensional heritage of India.

Reference readings

1. "India: A Sacred Geography" by Diana L. Eck -
2. "The Lost River: On the Trail of the Sarasvati" by Michel Danino
3. "Indian Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction" by Sue Hamilton.
4. "The Upanishads" translated by Swami Prabhavananda and Frederick Manchester
5. "The Cultural Heritage of India" edited by Kapila Vatsyayan

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