

**B.A. (VS) Modern Office Management**  
**Semester V**  
**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE – 5.4 (DSE- 5.4)**

**Knowledge Traditions of India**  
**Course Code: UH05**  
**Offered by Department of History, College of Vocational Studies**

**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		
<b>Knowledge Traditions of India UH06</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Pass in class XII</b>	<b>NIL</b>

**Learning Objective:**

This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the Indian Knowledge Systems, covering its intellectual heritage, philosophical traditions, scientific advancements, and cultural contributions. Students will gain knowledge of key figures, texts, and ideas that have shaped Indian knowledge systems.

**Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of this course:

1. Students will explore various aspects of Indian knowledge, including philosophy, literature, art, science, and spirituality.
2. The course will foster critical thinking skills by encouraging students to engage with diverse perspectives, evaluate strengths and limitations, and analyse texts, artworks, and philosophical arguments.
3. Students will explore how Indian philosophy, spirituality, and scientific ideas can contribute in the promotion sustainable living, and fostering holistic well-being.
4. The students will be able to understand and apply Indian knowledge to real-world situations.

**Practical component**

- Interactive sessions in the form of group discussion or group presentations.
- Using of audio-visual aids and power point presentation as a part of post field visit exercise.

**Syllabus**

**Unit I: Foundations of Indian Knowledge System**

**(4 weeks approx.)**

Introduction to Indian Knowledge System: Understanding the scope and significance, Historical overview and evolution of Indian thought, Vedas and Upanishads, Indian Philosophical Schools. Bhagavad Gita and Its Relevance.

**Unit II: Indian Literary and Artistic Traditions**

**(4 weeks approx.)**

Sanskrit Literature: exploration of classical texts, epics, plays, and poetry, social contexts, Sangam Literature,

Bhakti movement: Literary texts, Indian Performing Arts, Study of treatise *Natyashastra*, *Shilpashashtra*, *Vashutushashtra* etc.

**Unit III: Indian Scientific and Mathematical Contributions (4 weeks approx.)**

Ancient Indian Mathematics, Survey of Indian mathematical concepts and achievements, Ayurveda and Traditional Medicine, Introduction to Ayurveda and its holistic approach to healthcare, Indian Astronomy and Astrology-Understanding its role in Indian culture and society, Indian Contributions to Science and Technology,

**Unit IV: Spirituality and Indian Wisdom Traditions (4 weeks approx.)**

Yoga and Meditation, Exploration of the various paths of yoga (e.g., Raja, Karma, Bhakti, Jnana), Jainism and Buddhism: An overview. Sikhism and Sufism-Understanding the principles and teachings, Modern Indian Thinkers and Philosophers- Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore, Aurbindo Ghosh, Jiddu Krishnamurti, Periyar.

**Assessment method: I.A. 25 Marks (test, assignment and attendance), Theory 75**

**Essential Readings**

- Nikhilananda Swami, The Principal Upanishads
- Hamilton Sue, Indian Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction
- Easwaran Eknath, The Bhagavad Gita
- Das Sisir Kumar, A History of Indian Literature: 500-1399
- Huntington Susan L, The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu
- Joseph George Gheverghese, The Crest of the Peacock: Non-European Roots of Mathematics
- Lad Vasant, Ayurveda: The Science of Self-Healing,
- Iyengar R.N., Indian Astronomy: An Introduction
- Satchidananda Swami, The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali
- Chatterjee Satishchandra and Dhirendramohan Datta, An Introduction to Indian Philosophy
- Macauliffe Max Arthur, The Sikh Religion: Its Gurus, Sacred Writings, and Authors
- Baladev Upadhyaya, Samskrta Śāstrom ka Itihās, Chowkhambha, Varanasi, 2010.
- D. M. Bose, S. N. Sen and B. V. Subbarayappa, Eds., A Concise History of Science in India, 2nd Ed., Universities Press, Hyderabad, 2010.
- Dharampal, Some Aspects of Earlier Indian Society and Polity and Their Relevance Today, New Quest Publications, Pune, 1987.
- Dharampal, Indian Science and Technology in the Eighteenth Century: Some Contemporary European Accounts, Dharampal Classics Series, Rashtrorothana Sahitya, Bengaluru, 2021.
- Dharampal, The Beautiful Tree: Indian Indigenous Education in the Eighteenth Century, Dharampal Classics Series, Rashtrorothana Sahitya, Bengaluru, 2021.
- Bajaj J. K. and M. D. Srinivas, Timeless India Resurgent India, Centre for Policy Studies, Chennai, 2001.
- M. D. Srinivas, The methodology of Indian sciences as expounded in the disciplines of Nyāya, Vyākaraṇa, Ganita and Jyotisa,

**Suggestive Readings**

- Ansari, Saraf F.D., Sufi Saints and State Power, Cambridge University Press, 1992 Banerjea, J.N., Pauranic and Tantric Religion: Early Phase, University of Calcutta, Calcutta, 1966.
- Bhandarkar, R.G., Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism and Minor Religious Systems, Indological Book House, Varanasi, 1965.
- Bhattacharya, N.N., Ancient Indian Rituals and Their Social Contexts, Manohar, Delhi, 1996 (1975)
- Brockington, J.L., Righteous Rama: the Evolution of an Epic, OUP, Delhi, 1984.
- Chakrabarti, Kunal, Religious Process: The Purāṇas and the Making of a Regional Tradition, OUP, Delhi, 2001
- Chakravarti, Uma, The Social Dimensions of Early Buddhism, OUP, Delhi, 1987.
- Champakalakshmi, R., From Devotion and Dissent to Dominance: The Bhakti of Tamil Alvars and Nayanars
- R.Champakalakshmi, eds, Tradition, Dissent and Ideology, OUP, Delhi, 1996, pp. 135-63.
- Olivelle, Patrick, The Early Upanishads: Annotated Text and Translation, OUP, Oxford, 1998.

- Chatterjee, Asim Kumar, A Comprehensive History of Jainism, 2 volumes, Firma KLM, Calcutta, 1984.
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D., Historical Context of the Early Medieval Temples of North India', in Studying Early India, Permanent Black, Delhi, pp. 153-171.
- Coomaraswamy, A.K., 'The Dance of Shiva' in The Dance of Shiva, Munshiram
- Currie, P.M., The Shrine and Cult of Muin-al -Din Chishti of Ajmer, New Delhi, 1989.
- Durkheim, Emile, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life, The Free Press, New York, 1995.
- Grewal, J.S, Contesting Interpretations of the Sikh Tradition, New Delhi, 1998
- Jaini, Padmanabh S. Gender and Salvation: Jaina Debates on the Spiritual Liberation of Women, Delhi, 1991. \*
- Wagle, N., Society at the Time of the Buddha, Bombay, 1966.
- Weber, Max, Religions of India, Delhi, 1968.