

UNDERSTANDING INDIA

VALUE ADDED COURSE

COURSE CODE: ACS/206/VAC-2

COURSE TITLE: UNDERSTANDING INDIA: INDIAN PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS AND VALUE SYSTEMS (Marks: 50) (60 Hours)

CREDIT: 4

MODE OF EVALUATION: Continuous evaluation will comprise an internal assessment of 10 (ten) marks and an end semester examination of 40 (forty) marks.

PATTERN OF EVALUATION IN END SEMESTER EXAMINATION: Out of eight questions, students are required to attempt five short questions each of two marks, out of six questions, students are required to attempt four descriptive type questions each of five marks and out of three questions, students will have to answer one essay type question of ten marks. In all it comes to forty marks.

(5x2=10, 4x5=20 and 1x10=10; Grand total: 40 marks)

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The course “Understanding India” aims to provide participants with comprehensive knowledge and insights into various aspects of Indian culture, history, society, economy, and politics. The course objectives may include:

- ❖ Historical Understanding,
- ❖ Cultural Awareness
- ❖ Social Dynamics
- ❖ Economic Landscape
- ❖ Political System
- ❖ Global Engagement
- ❖ Contemporary Issues
- ❖ Cross-Cultural Competence

By the end of the course, participants should have a comprehensive understanding of India's history, culture, society, economy, and politics, allowing them to appreciate the complexities and diversity of the country and make informed decisions when engaging with India professionally or personally.

COURSE OUTCOME:

The course "Understanding India" is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the history, culture, society, politics, economy, and geography of India. By the end of the course, students should be able to achieve the following learning outcomes:

- ❖ Knowledge of Indian history
- ❖ Familiarity with Indian culture and diversity
- ❖ Understanding of Indian society and social issues
- ❖ Knowledge of Indian politics and governance
- ❖ Understanding of the Indian economy
- ❖ Awareness of India's geopolitical position
- ❖ Critical thinking and analytical skills

Overall, the course aims to equip students with a holistic understanding of India, enabling them to engage with India-related topics, work in multicultural environments, and contribute meaningfully to academic, professional, and personal endeavors related to India.

Suggested Topics:

1. Notion of Value and Culture (5 Hours)
2. **Basic Concepts:** *Śreya, Preya, Pañcaśīla, Brahmavihāra, Puruṣārtha, Karmavāda and Janmāntaravāda, Yogā (Aṣṭāṅgayoga), Sthitaprajña* (20 Hours)
3. **Contemporary Philosophical Thoughts:**
 - a) **M.K. Gandhi:** Notion of Truth and Non-Violence, Trusteeship, Sarvodaya (17 Hours)
 - b) **B.R. Ambedkar:** Annihilation of caste (8 Hours)
 - c) **Swami Vivekananda:** Concept of Universal Religion (10 Hours)

Reference:

- B. K. Matilal: Ethics and Epics: Philosophy, Culture and Religion, OUP, 2002.
- S. K. Mitra: Ethics of the Hindus, Asian Publication Services, New Delhi, 1978.
- Shantikumar Mitra (Ed.): Gandhi Rachanasambhar, Gandhi Satabarshiki Samiti, 1970.
- Bauddha Morals. Motilal Banarsidass Publishers; 2nd edition (1 January 2017).

- Aranya, H.: (1983) *Yoga Philosophy of Patanjali*, rev. ed. Trans. by P. N. Mukherji, Albany, New York: Suny Press,
- D.M. Dutta and S.C.Chatterjee, *An Introduction to Indian Philosophy*, Calcutta, 1939.
- Srimad Hariharananda Aranya, *Pātañjala Yogdarśan*, University of Calcutta, 1967.
- Mohandas K. Gandhi: *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule*, The International Printing House, Phenix, Natal 1909.
- Bhikhu Parekh: *Gandhi's Political Philosophy: A Critical Examination*, Palgrave Macmillan, 1989.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: *Annihilation of Caste*, 1936
- Maya Das: *Shada Darshane Purushartha Bichara*, Raj Laxmi Press, Bolpur
- R.K. Dasgupta, *Swami Vivekananda on Indian Philosophy and Literature*, 2011
- *The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda*, 2009
- D.M. Dutta, *The Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi*, Calcutta University Publishers, 1961