

Course Title: Study of Dharma and Religion

Course Code:

Course Descriptions:

The Dharma and Religion course provides a comprehensive understanding of the concept of Dharma and the study of various world religions. This syllabus outlines the key topics and objectives of the course, focusing on developing religious sensitivity, promoting interfaith dialogue, and exploring the influence of Dharma and religion on society and culture. Students will examine the historical development of Dharma and religion, their ethical principles, and their relationship with other disciplines. The course aims to foster empathy, tolerance, and interdisciplinary knowledge among students.

Course Objectives:

1. To make the learner understand the concept of Dharma and Religion.
2. To arrive at an informed understanding of the diversity and complexity of World Religions.
3. To develop religious sensitivity necessary to understand the contemporary world.
4. To lay the foundations for inter-faith dialogue, necessary for peace and harmony in the society.
5. To Examine the influence of Dharma and religion on society and culture, including their impact on art, literature, music, architecture, social structures, and political systems.
6. To trace the historical development of Dharma and religion, examining key events, figures, and movements that have shaped their evolution over time.

Learning Outcomes:

LO1: Knowledge of religious traditions: By studying Dharma and religion, individuals can gain a comprehensive understanding of different religious traditions, including their beliefs, practices, rituals, scriptures, and historical contexts. This knowledge promotes religious literacy and cultural awareness.

LO2: Understanding of ethical principles: Dharma and religion often provide moral and ethical frameworks that guide human behavior. Studying these principles can help individuals develop a deeper understanding of moral values, such as compassion, justice, honesty, and respect for others. This understanding can contribute to personal growth and ethical decision-making.

LO3: Appreciation of diversity: Dharma and religion encompass a wide range of beliefs and practices across different cultures and societies. By studying them, individuals

The image shows four handwritten signatures in blue ink. From left to right: the first signature is 'Ashwini', the second is a stylized signature, the third is 'Anurag Gupta', and the fourth is 'Ajay Kumar Singh'. There is also a small signature 'S. Singh' further to the right.

develop an appreciation for diversity and learn to respect and understand different perspectives. This fosters cultural sensitivity and promotes interfaith dialogue.

LO4: Spiritual exploration and personal development: Dharma and religion often delve into questions of meaning, purpose, and the nature of existence. Engaging with these concepts can lead to personal reflection, spiritual exploration, and the development of one's own beliefs and values. It can provide individuals with a sense of purpose, inner peace, and a framework for understanding the world.

LO5: Interdisciplinary knowledge: The study of Dharma and religion intersects with various academic disciplines, including philosophy, anthropology, sociology, history, and psychology. Engaging with these interdisciplinary perspectives expands one's knowledge base and promotes a holistic understanding of human culture and society.

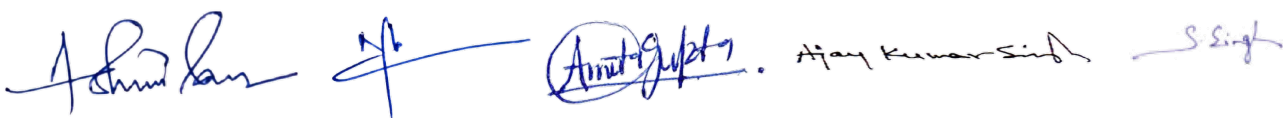
LO6: Empathy and tolerance: Dharma and religion often emphasize empathy, compassion, and tolerance towards others. Studying these principles can enhance one's ability to empathize with different individuals and communities, fostering a sense of global citizenship and promoting Interfaith Dialogue.

- 1. Dharma and Religion**
 - 1.1 Meanings and Definitions across the traditions
 - 1.2 Nature and Scope
 - 1.3 Theories of origin
- 2. Study of Dharma and Religion**
 - 2.1 Aims and objective
 - 2.2 Historical development
 - 2.3 Introduction to major world Religions
- 3. Dimensions of Religions**
 - 3.1 Social
 - 3.2 Moral code of conduct
 - 3.3 Devotional praxis
- 4. Religion's Relationship with other Disciplines**
 - 4.1 Dharmashastra, Theology and Ethics
 - 4.2 Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology
 - 4.3 Culture and Art
- 5. Approaches to the study of Religions**
 - 5.1 Indian Approach
 - 5.2 Western Approach
 - 5.3 Inter faith Dialogue



Suggested Readings:

1. Introduction to Hindu Dharma: Illustrated by Swami Tejomayananda, 2016.
2. An Introduction to Indian Philosophy" by Roy W. Perrett, 2016
3. Religions of India: Hinduism, Yoga, Buddhism, Jainism" by Sushil Mittal and Gene Thursby, 2006.
4. Dharma: The Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh Traditions of India" by Veena R. Howard, 2014.
5. Dharma: Hindu Approach to a Purposeful Life by Aloka Devaraja, 2009.
6. The World's Religions" by Huston Smith 1991
7. Alban G. Widgery. What is religion?
8. Stem T. Katz (ed.). Mysticism and Philosophical Analysis
9. Anthony C. Thisalton. The Two Horizons
10. Roy J. Howard. Three Faces of Hermeneutics
11. Paul Ricoeur. Interpretation Theory
12. Rudolf Bultmann. Essays: Philosophical and Theological
13. W.H. Zuurdeeg. An Analytical Philosophy of Religion
14. Frederick J. Steng. Emptiness A Study in Religious Meaning
15. Ninian Smart. The Religious Experience of Mankind
16. Swami Satprakashananda. Methods of knowledge
17. K.S. Murty. Reason and Revelation in Advaita
18. A.J. Arberry. Revelation and Reason in Islam
19. G. Van Den Leeuv. Religion in Essence and Manifestation
20. John B. Carman. The Meaning of Religion
21. M. Eliade. Patterns in Comparative Religion
22. M. Eliade. Sacred and Profane
23. Douglas Allen. Structure and Creativity in Religion
24. William James. The Varieties of Religious Experience
25. Alistair M. Macleod. Paul Tillich-An Essay on the Role of ontology in his philosophical Theology
26. Paul Tillich. Systematic Theology (Introduction), Vol. I
27. Paul Tillich. Dynamics of Faith
28. Rudolf Otto. The Idea of the Holy
29. Joachim Wach. Comparative Religion
30. Joachim Wach. Types of Religious Experience
31. Eric J. Sharpe. Comparative Religion- A History
32. Y. Masih. Comparative Religion
33. Sanatana Dharma (An Elementary Textbook of Hindu Religion and Ethics) – The Managing Committee, Central Hindu College, Benares, 1916.
34. The Principles of Hindu Ethics – By Maganlal Amritlal Buch, Bharatiya Kala Prakashan, New Delhi, 2003.



- Manusmriti of Manu (English) – By Narhar Kurundkar (Author) and Dr. Madhur Deshpande (Translator), Deshmukh And Company Publishers Pvt. Ltd, 2018.

   .  