

Generic Elective (GE) Sanskrit

FUNDAMENTALS OF BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY

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		
Fundamentals of Buddhist Philosophy	04	3	1	0	Semester II Passed	Working Knowledge of Sanskrit

Learning Objectives

This course provides an introduction to the basic teachings, practices, and history of Buddhism. Students will learn about the key concepts and philosophical ideas in Buddhism, including the Four Noble Truths, the Noble Eightfold Path, and the concept of karma. The course will also cover the history and development of Buddhism in different regions of the world, including South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the West.

Learning outcomes

- To introduce students to the fundamental teachings and practices of Buddhism
- To provide an overview of the historical development of Buddhism in different regions of the world
- To develop critical thinking skills by analyzing the philosophical and ethical ideas in Buddhism
- To enhance students' ability to articulate their own views on Buddhism

Detailed Syllabus

Unit: I

Introduction to Buddhism

- Basic concepts of Buddhism
- The development of Theravada Buddhism
- Historical context and cultural background
- The role of Buddhism in ancient India

Unit: II

Life of Buddha

- Buddha and his teachings
- The Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eight fold Path Buddhism- General Introduction with emphasis on Four Noble Truths Pratityasamutpadvad.

Unit: III**Buddhist Philosophy**

The nature of reality- Shunyavada, Kshanabhangvaad,
Theory of Existence
The concept of karma and rebirth

Unit: IV**Buddhist Ethics**

Five Precepts
Practice of meditation
Role of compassion and wisdom in Buddhist ethics
Role of Buddhism in social justice movements and Environmentalism

Recommended Books/Readings:

1. Bhartiya, Mahesh - Bhāratīya Darśana Kī Pramukha Samasyāem, Ghaziabad, 1999.
2. Bhartiya, Mahesh - Causation in Indian Philosophy, Ghaziabad, 1975.
3. Chatterjee, S. C. & D. M. Datta - Introduction to Indian Philosophy, Calcutta University, Calcutta, 1968 (Hindi Translation also).
4. Hiriyanna, M. - Outline of Indian Philosophy, London, 1956 (also Hindi Translation).
5. O'Flaherty, Wendy Doniger – Karma and Rebirth in Classical Indian Tradition, MLBD, Delhi, 1983.
6. Pandey, Ram Chandra - Panorama of Indian Philosophy (also Hindi version), M.L.B.D., Delhi, 1966.
7. Radhakrishnan, S. - Indian Philosophy, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1990.
8. Raja, Kuhnian - Some Fundamental Problems in Indian Philosophy, MLBD, Delhi, 1974.
9. Rishi, Uma Shankar (Ed.), Sarva-Darshana_Samgraha, Chowkhamba Vidyabhawan, Varanasi, 1984.
10. Shastri, Kuppaswami, A Primer of Indian Logic, 1951 (only introduction).

Suggested Reading :

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