



**St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**Department of Sanskrit**

**Syllabus of Semester – I of the following departments under Faculty of Arts  
based on Under Graduate Curriculum Framework - 2023 to be implemented  
from the Academic Year 2023-24.**

Course	Title	Content	Hours/ week	Credit
<b>Minor-1 SN-1101</b>	Essence of Sanskrit literature	U-1: Introduction to the Bhagavad Gita  U-2: Arjuna's Dilemma and the Nature of Duty (Chapters 1-2) U-3: The rich and long tradition of the Sanskrit drama, the place of Kalidasa in the tradition, and appreciation of the 1,2,3 and 4 acts of the play. U-4: The appreciation of the remaining 5, 6 and 7 acts and pointing out the Philosophy of Life by Kalidasa underlying the play.	4 hrs	2

**Minor-I Essence of Sanskrit Literature**

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE**

Course Title & Code	Credit Distribution of The Course (Total - 02 credit)			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite(s) of the Course (if any)
	Lecture	Practical	Total		
Essence of Sanskrit Literature	4	0	4	10 + 2 from a recognized board in any stream	Basic Sanskrit, Reading & Analytical Skills

Concepts of duty (dharma) and selfless action (karma) depicted in **Shrimad Bhagavad Gita**.

Course Category: Minor-1 Course

Course Code: SN-1101

Schedule of Offering: Semester 1

Course Credit Structure: [02]

Course duration: 4 hours per week

Course Title: Exploring the Bhagavad Gita - Chapters 1 to 6

### **Unit 1: Introduction to the Bhagavad Gita**

**Objective:** To provide a foundational understanding of the Bhagavad Gita, its historical context, and its significance in the Indian philosophical tradition.

**Outcomes:**

Understand the historical and cultural context in which the Bhagavad Gita was composed.

Identify the key characters and their roles in the Gita's narrative.

Explain the importance of the Gita as a philosophical and spiritual text.

### **Unit 2: Arjuna's Dilemma and the Nature of Duty (Chapters 1-2)**

**Objective:** To delve into the first two chapters of the Bhagavad Gita, focusing on Arjuna's moral dilemma and the concepts of duty (dharma) and selfless action (karma).

**Outcomes:**

Analyze Arjuna's psychological and ethical conflict presented in the initial chapters.

Explain the significance of duty (dharma) in Hindu philosophy and society.

Understand the concept of karma yoga (the path of selfless action) as presented in the Gita.

By the end of this course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of the Bhagavad Gita, its philosophical teachings, and its relevance to contemporary life. They will be able to critically analyze the text's themes, apply its principles to personal growth, and appreciate its enduring impact on spirituality, ethics, and human psychology.

**Essential Readings:**

1. "Bhagavad Gita: The Beloved Lord's Secret Love Song" translated by Graham M. Schweig - This translation provides a comprehensive and accessible interpretation of the Bhagavad Gita, focusing specifically on chapters 1-6.
2. "The Bhagavad Gita" translated by Eknath Easwaran - Easwaran's translation offers a clear and poetic rendering of the text, along with insightful commentary on the teachings.
3. "The Essence of the Bhagavad Gita" by Swami Kriyananda - This book provides a concise and practical exploration of the key teachings from chapters 1-6, offering valuable insights for daily life.

**Suggested Readings:**

1. "The Bhagavad Gita As It Is" by A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada - This translation and commentary by the founder of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) provides a traditional Vaishnava perspective on the Bhagavad Gita.
2. "The Bhagavad Gita: A Walkthrough for Westerners" by Jack Hawley - This book presents the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita in a contemporary and relatable manner, making it accessible for readers from a Western background.
3. "The Heart of Yoga: Developing a Personal Practice" by T.K.V. Desikachar - Although not specifically focused on the Bhagavad Gita, this book explores the practical aspects of yoga, including meditation, which is relevant to the teachings of chapters 5-6.
4. "The Yoga of the Bhagavad Gita" by Sri Swami Satchidananda - This commentary offers an insightful exploration of the yogic principles and practices discussed in the Bhagavad Gita, including those covered in chapters 5-6.
5. "The Bhagavad Gita: A Biography" by Richard H. Davis - This book provides a historical and cultural context for the Bhagavad Gita, offering a deeper understanding of its significance and impact.

अ भज्ञानशाकुन्तलम्- **Critical Appreciation of the play by Kalidasa**

**Objective:** Many times in the literary field, our India is known by this play Shakuntalam by Kalidasa. To make students aware of the rich tradition of the Sanskrit Drama and the Great art and Indian values woven in the play.

Outcome: Students would be able to appreciate the great art of Kalidasa and values of life depicted by Kalidasa in the play. Students would be able to view the play in perspective |

Unit 3

The rich and long tradition of the Sanskrit drama, the place of Kalidasa in the tradition, and appreciation of the 1,2,3 and 4 acts of the play.

Unit 4

The appreciation of the remaining 5, 6 and 7 acts and pointing out the Philosophy of Life by Kalidasa underlying the play.