

AC –20/05/2025
Item No. – 5.48 (N) 1(d)

As Per NEP 2020

University of Mumbai



Syllabus for Value-added Certificate Course in World Mythology - I	
Ad Hoc Board of Studies in Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrits	
Value-added Certificate Course	
Semester	I
Title of Paper	Certificate Course in World Mythology - I
Credits	4
From the Academic Year	2025-2026

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	Description of the course:	The Value-added Certificate in World Mythology - I conducted by the Department of Sanskrit, University of Mumbai is a sequel to a one-of-it-kind, pioneering programme that was first offered to students in 1989 and was called PG Diploma in Comparative Mythology. Over the last three and a half decades, the course had evolved continuously to reflect developments in the discipline and its allied fields and the needs of learners in a rapidly changing world. One of the remarkable achievements of the programme was that it has been successful in attracting a diverse cohort of learners from across the globe – from young people to senior citizens, from doctors and engineers to lawyers and businesspeople and from researchers and teachers to entrepreneurs and homemakers. The new programme will be conducted online and not only encompass a study of <i>purakathas</i> from the Indic subcontinent and mythologies from across the world but also draw upon allied disciplines like archaeology, arts and architecture, philosophy, religious studies, gender studies and culture studies to help learners in developing a holistic understanding of the stories that our ancestors told and their contemporary relevance and manifestations. Eligibility: H.S.C (12th Standard) Pass
2	Vertical:	Skill Enhancement Course
3	Type:	Theory
4	Credit:	4 credits (1 credit = 15 Hours for Theory or 30 Hours of Practical work in a semester)
5	Hours Allotted:	60 hours
6	Marks Allotted:	100 Marks

7	Course Objectives: 1. To enable learners to conduct an academic enquiry into the world of myths or purakatha. 2. To help students in appreciating not only the diversity of ancient myths but also their underlying unity on various planes or as the 'collective unconscious' of the human race. यत्र विश्वं भवति एकनीडम् – The world is one nest. 3. To empower learners to develop a broader understanding of the Indian context through an exploration of the kaleidoscopic and pluralistic world of Indic narratives.
8	Course Outcomes: 1. To foster a feeling of 'वसुधैव कुटुंबकम्' – one of the foundational principles of Indic culture. 2. To get acquainted with foundational texts and theories of mythology and allied disciplines. 3. To understand and appreciate myths from across the world and develop a critical approach by identifying common threads and investigating differences and their underlying causes. 4. To comprehend, appreciate and analyse the multifarious manifestations of myths in 5. innumerable facets of the world around us. 6. To reflect on and appreciate the intrinsic plurality and the paradoxical diversity and unity of human thought. 7. To appreciate and analyse the inherent dynamism of purakathas across time.

9	Modules
	Module 1: Mythological Studies: Foundations (1 Credit)
	1. Introduction to Myths and Related Terms and Concepts 2. Theories of Myth from Ancient to Modern Times
	Module 2: Comparative World Mythology (1 Credit)
	1. Creation Myths 2. Fertility Myths 3. Destruction Myths 4. Introduction to one Mythological Tradition of Non-Indian Origin
	Module 3: Bhartiya Purakatha (2 Credits)
	1. Introduction to Indian Purakatha and Its Sources 2. Introduction to Vedic Devatas and Vedic Narratives from Samhitas to Upanishads 3. Ramayana and Ramakatha 4. Mahabharata
10	Textbooks: N.A. <i>Note:</i> Primary Readings to be provided/suggested in class.

1. Campbell, Joseph, and Moyers, Bill. *The Power of Myth*. United States, Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2011.
2. Seagal, A Robert. *Myth: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2004.
3. Middleton, John (ed). *Readings in Mythology and Symbolism*. University of Texas Press, 1980.
4. Bell, Katherine, *Ritual Theory, Ritual Practice*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1992.
5. Chakrabarti, Kunal, *Religious Process: The Purāṇas and the Making of a Regional Tradition*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2001.
6. Dange, S.A., *Towards Understanding Hindu Myth*, Aryan Books International, New Delhi, 1996.
7. Frazer, James George. *The Golden Bough*. Germany, BookRix, 2019.
8. Eliade, Mircea. *The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion*. United Kingdom, Harcourt, Brace, 1959.
9. Singh, Upinder. *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century (PB)*. India, Pearson India, 2009.
10. Chandrasekharendra Saraswati. *The Vedas*. India, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2009.
11. Lal, Braj Basi. *The Sarasvatī flows on: The continuity of Indian culture*. India, Aryan Books International, 2002.
12. Upadhyaya, Baldeva. *वैदिक साहित्य और संस्कृति*. India, शारदा मन्दिर, 1967.
13. Macdonell, Arthur Anthony. *A History of Sanskrit Literature*. India, Motilal Banarsidass, 1997.
14. Blackburn, Stuart H., et al. *The Collected Essays of A. K. Ramanujan*. India, OUP India, 2004.
15. Kosambi, D.D., *Myth and Reality*, Popular Prakashana, Mumbai, 1962.
16. Radhakrishnan, Sarvepalli. *Indian Philosophy*. India, Oxford University Press, 2008.
17. Leeming, David. *Creation Myths of the World: An Encyclopedia*. ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2010.
18. Dalley, Stephanie. *Myths from Mesopotamia: Creation, The Flood, Gilgamesh, and Others*. United Kingdom, OUP Oxford, 2008.
19. Hamilton, Edith. *Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes*. United States, Grand Central Publishing, 2011.
20. Macdonell, A. A. *Vedic Mythology*. Germany, De Gruyter, 2020.
21. Tripathi, Gaya Charan. *वैदिक देवता: उद्भव और विकास : वैदिक देवों की ऋग्वेद एवं तत्पूर्ववर्ती काल से प्रारंभ होकर पुराणों तक हुई क्रमिक विकास-यात्रा पर एक दृष्टि*. India, Rāshṭriya Saṃskṛta Saṃsthāna, 2011.
22. Rajagopalachari, Chakravarti. *Mahabharata*. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2023.
23. Bulcke, Camille. *Rāmākathā: utpatti aur vikāsa*. India, Hindī Parishad Prakāśana, Prayāga Viśvavidyālaya, 1971.
24. Bhattacharya, Pradip (Tr). Bulcke, Camille. *The Rama Story: Origins and Growth*. India: Sahitya Akademi, 2022.
25. Yardi, M.R., *The Rāmāyaṇa: Its Origin and Growth (A Statistical Study)*, BORI, Poona, 1994.
26. Paniker, K. Ayyappa, *Indian Narratology*, Indira Gandhi National Centre For the Arts and Sterling Publishers Pvt Ltd., First Edition, New Delhi, 2003.
27. Shastri, V. S. Srinivas, *Lectures on Ramayana*, Madras Sanskrit Academy, 1986.
28. Richman, Paula. *Many Ramayanas: The Diversity of a Narrative Tradition in South Asia*. United Kingdom, University of California Press, 1991.

	29. Altekar, G. S., <i>Studies on Vālmīki's Rāmāyaṇa</i>, BORI, Research Unit Series No. 9, Pune, 1987 30. Rajagopalachari, Chakravarti. <i>Ramayana</i>. India, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1957. 31. Sukthankar, V. S., <i>On the Meaning of the Mahābhārata</i> (Lectures), The Asiatic Society of Bombay, Bombay, 1957. 32. Karvê, Irawati. <i>Yuganta: The End of an Epoch</i>. India, Orient Longman, 2006. 33. Yardi, M.R., <i>The Mahābhārata: Its Genesis and Growth (A Statistical Study)</i>, BORI, Poona, 1986. 34. <i>Reading the Fifth Veda: Studies on the Mahābhārata - Essays by Alf Hiltebeitel</i>. Netherlands, Brill, 2011. 35. Rajagopalachari, Chakravarti. <i>Mahabharata</i>. India, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2005. 36. Bhattacharya, Pradip. <i>Pancha-kanya: The Five Virgins of Indian Epics: a Quest in Search of Meaning</i>. India, Writers Workshop, 2005.	
12	Internal Continuous Assessment: 40%	External, Semester End Examination Individual Passing in Internal and External Examination : 60%
13	Continuous Evaluation At least 2 of the following – Class Performance and Attendance, Written Assignment including Summary or Journal, Presentation or Audio-visual Production or Graphical Production, Quiz, Seminar Papers, Group Discussion	Semester End Examination Written Exam
14	Format of Question Paper: (for the semester end examination) ○ Q1. Short Notes Critical Notes (Any three of 6) - 30 Marks ○ Q2. Discuss Analyse Evaluate Reflect (Any one of two) – 15 Marks ○ Q3. Discuss Analyse Evaluate Reflect (Any one of two) – 15 Marks	

Justification for Value-added Certificate Course in World Mythology - I

1.	Necessity for starting the course:	The Sanskrit Department of the University of Mumbai in its plan for expansion intends to start a Value-added Certificate Course in World Mythology - I as per NEP guidelines. The course in its previous avatar commenced in 1989 by the vision of Prof. Dr. Sindhu Dange and Late Prof. Dr. Sadashiv Dange. It provides an in-depth study of myths across different cultures, vis-à-vis the narratives across Indian Culture. It will also give a student a wider perspective to look at and understand diversity and syncretism. The student will inculcate a holistic approach while looking at different and diverse cultures.
2.	Whether the UGC has recommended the course:	Yes. The New Education Policy opines that Sanskrit Departments to start courses which will be helpful to create an atmosphere of peace and harmony in society, promote cultural heritage and interdisciplinary learning.
3.	Whether all the courses have commenced from the academic year 2025-26	Yes, the Value-added Certificate Course in World Mythology - I will commence from the academic year 2025-2026
4.	The courses started by the University are self-financed, whether adequate number of eligible permanent faculties are available?	The fees are as per University rules. The existing faculty members, comprising full-time teaching faculty and qualified visiting faculty, will conduct the course.
5.	To give details regarding the duration of the Course and is it possible to compress the course?	The Value-added Certificate Course in World Mythology - I is a one-semester course conducted as per NEP guidelines. It cannot be compressed.
6.	The intake capacity of each course and no. of admissions given in the current academic year:	The intake capacity is 60 students.
7.	Opportunities of Employability / Employment available after undertaking these courses:	Students can work as teachers, researchers, motivational speakers, creative artists and writers.

Sd/-

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Dr. Madhavi Narsalay
Board of Studies in
Sanskrit, Pali & Prakrit

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