



Gyanmanjari
Innovative University

Course Syllabus
Gyanmanjari Institute of Arts
Semester-5

Subject: Sāṅkhyakārikā -BATEN15320

Type of course: Minor

Prerequisite:

Students need basic Sanskrit language skills and ability to read Devanagari script to engage with primary texts. Familiarity with co-re Indian philosophical concepts like puruṣa, prakṛti, and general philosophical terminology is essential.

Rationale:

The study of Sāṅkhyakārikā provides comprehensive understanding of one of India's oldest and most influential philosophical systems, offering insights into the dualistic framework of consciousness (puruṣa) and primordial nature (prakṛti) that has profoundly shaped Indian thought. This course enables students to explore metaphysical foundations of reality, the evolution of the material world, and the path to liberation through critical analysis of Īśvarakṛṣṇa's systematization. The knowledge gained contributes to deeper appreciation of India's philosophical heritage while developing critical thinking skills essential for understanding various Indian spiritual and intellectual traditions and their contemporary relevance.

Teaching and Examination Scheme:

Teaching Scheme			Credits	Examination Marks			Total Marks
CI	T	P	C	SEE	CCE		
					MSE	ALA	
4	0	0	4	100	30	70	200

Legends: CI-Class Room Instructions; T – Tutorial; P - Practical; C – Credit; SEE - Semester End Evaluation; MSE- Mid Semester Examination; V – Viva; CCE-Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation; ALA- Active Learning Activities.

4 Credits * 25 Marks = 100 Marks (each credit carries 25 Marks)

SEE 100 Marks will be converted in to 50 Marks

CCE 100 Marks will be converted in to 50 Marks

It is compulsory to pass in each individual component.



Continuous Assessment:

(For each activity maximum-minimum range is 5 to 10 marks)

Sr. No	Active Learning Activities	Marks
1	Comparative Chart of Purusha and Prakriti Create a comparative chart showing the contrasting characteristics of Purusha and Prakriti in Sankhya philosophy, including their nature, functions, and role in cosmic evolution. Use visual elements like tables or diagrams to demonstrate the dualistic nature. Submit as a JPG or PDF file on the GMIU Web portal.	10
2	Philosophical Debate Script: Sankhya vs. Other Systems Create a 10-minute philosophical debate script comparing Sankhya philosophy with Vedanta, Buddhism, or Nyaya, focusing on their differences in metaphysics, epistemology, or soteriology. The script should include logical arguments with Sanskrit terminology and demonstrate deep understanding of the philosophical positions. Submit the script as a PDF on the GMIU Web portal.	10
3	Guna Analysis Reflection Journal Students maintain a daily journal identifying Sattva (balanced), Rajas (active), and Tamas (dull) states in their activities and thoughts. Write a 100-word reflection on how the three Gunas influence human behavior according to Sankhya philosophy. Submit journal and reflection in PDF format to GMIU Web Portal.	10
4	Ancient Manuscripts Gallery Create a digital gallery of historical Sankhyakarika manuscripts featuring manuscript images, Ishvarakrishna's biography, and commentary traditions (Gaudapada, Vachaspati Mishra, etc.). Each entry should include Sanskrit names, English translations, and historical context, prepared in PowerPoint format for GMIU Web Portal upload.	10
5	PanchaKosha Mind Map Students will work in groups of 3 to create a visual mind map of the five Koshas—Annamaya (Physical), Pranamaya (Energy), Manomaya (Mind), Vijñanamaya (Wisdom), and Anandamaya (Bliss). Each Kosha should be clearly labeled with brief explanations and connected to show how they influence one another. The map should highlight the layered nature of human existence—from the outermost physical body to the innermost state of bliss. Once completed, students must upload the mind map to the GMIU Web Portal.	10
6	Sankhya Philosophy Podcast Series Students (teams of 2-3) create an 8–10-minute podcast episode explaining Sankhya philosophy for beginners, including expert interviews, key concepts with examples, Sanskrit pronunciation guides, and modern applications. Students must upload the mind map to the GMIU Web Portal.	10
7	Student Attendance	10
Total		70



Course Content:

Sr. No	Course content	Hrs.	% Weightage
1	Introduction to Sāṅkhya Philosophy and Īśvarakṛṣṇa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origin and Development of Sankhya Philosophy • Meaning of 'Sankhya' and Main Principles of this Philosophy • Arguments Proving Plurality of Purusha and Existence of Prakriti in Sankhya • Shankaracharya's Arguments Against Sankhya Principles • Creation Process or Cosmic Evolution According to Sankhya • Causation Theory (Satkaryavada) in Sankhya Philosophy • Valid Sources of Knowledge (Pramanas) Accepted by Sankhya - Discussion • Sankhya Theory of Liberation (Moksha) 	10	17%
2	Fundamental Principles (Kārikās 1-20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The doctrine of Satkāryavāda (theory of causation) • Puruṣa (consciousness) and its characteristics • Prakṛti (primordial nature) and its three guṇas • Proof for the existence of Puruṣa • Proof for the existence of Prakṛti • The multiplicity of Puruṣas 	15	25%
3	Evolution of Prakṛti and the 25 Tattvas (Kārikās 21-40) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of cosmic evolution • Mahat (cosmic intelligence) and Ahaṁkāra (ego-principle) • The five tanmātras (subtle elements) • The five mahābhūtas (gross elements) • The eleven organs (indriyas) • The three-fold classification of creation 	15	25%
4	Psychology, Ethics, and Liberation (Kārikās 41-70) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The functioning of the subtle body • The doctrine of karma and transmigration • The nature of suffering and its three-fold classification • The path to liberation (kaivalya) • The role of knowledge in achieving liberation • Final verses and conclusion 	20	33%



Suggested Specification table with Marks (Theory):100

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Distribution of Theory Marks (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						
Level	Remembrance (R)	Understanding (U)	Application (A)	Analyze (N)	Evaluate (E)	Create (C)
Weightage	20%	35%	25%	20%	--	--

Note: This specification table shall be treated as a general guideline for students and teachers. The actual distribution of marks in the question paper may vary slightly from above table

Course Outcome:

After learning the course, the students should be able to:	
CO1	Explain the fundamental principles of Sankhya philosophy, including the nature of Purusha and Prakriti, and their philosophical significance.
CO2	Analyze the process of cosmic evolution and classify the twenty-five Tattvas according to their origin, nature, and functions.
CO3	Apply Sankhya epistemology and theory of causation to understand philosophical problems and evaluate different viewpoints.
CO4	Demonstrate understanding of the path to liberation in Sankhya and its relevance to personal spiritual development and contemporary life.

Instructional Method:

The course delivery method will depend upon the requirement of content and need of students.

The teacher in addition to conventional teaching method by black board, may also use any of tools such as demonstration, role play, Quiz, brainstorming, MOOCs etc.

From the content 10% topics are suggested for flipped mode instruction.

Students will use supplementary resources such as online videos, NPTEL/SWAYAM videos, e-courses, Virtual Laboratory.

The internal evaluation will be done on the basis of Active Learning Assignment

Practical/Viva examination will be conducted at the end of semester for evaluation of performance of students in laboratory.

Reference Books:

- [1] સાંખ્ય કારિકા (ગૌડપાદ ભાષ્ય સહિત), ચૌખંભા વિદ્યાભવન, 1940
- [2] સાંખ્ય કારિકા (અંગ્રેજી અનુવાદ), H.T. Colebrooke, Oxford University Press, 1837
- [3] A History of Indian Philosophy (Volume I), Surendranath Dasgupta, Cambridge University Press, 1922.
- [4] Indian Philosophy (Volume I), Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Oxford University Press, 1923.
- [5] Classical Samkhya, Gerald James Larson, Motilal Banarsidass, 1969
- [6] The Samkhya Philosophy, Nandalal Sinha, Panini Office, 1915

