

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
M.A. IN SANSKRIT (FOR 2-YEAR & 1-YEAR PG
PROGRAMME) SYLLABUS ACCORDING TO NEP-
2020/SEP-2023
2026

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- All questions of Core Courses (CC) and Discipline Centric Elective Courses (DCEC) will be set in Sanskrit Language with Devanagari Script.
- All questions of Other Elective Course (OEC) will be set in English and Sanskrit Language with Devanagari Script.
- All questions of the Core Course (CC) and Discipline-specific Core Elective Course (DCEC) must be answered in Sanskrit using the Devanāgarī script, wherever so specified in the question paper. However, for the portions on Philology and Epigraphy, the questions will be set in English, and the answers may be written either in English or in Sanskrit. For the Other Elective Course (OEC), answers need not necessarily be written in Sanskrit unless specifically instructed; they may be written in English or Bengali as well.
- The Dissertation in the Final Semester is to be written in either Sanskrit with Devanāgarī script or in English.
- No. of classes in 1st and 2nd semesters will be 25 (per week).
- Since, all original Sanskrit texts have been incorporated in the syllabus, no selected bibliography is required.

List of Abbreviations used in the Course structure:

CC = Core Course; D = Dissertation; DCEC = Discipline Centric Elective Course; OEC = Other Elective Course; RMRE = Research Methodology & Research Ethics; RW = Research Work.

**Course Structure for 2 Year & 1 Year PG Programme in
SANSKRIT Under NEP 2020/SEP 2023:**

2 Year PG Programme	1 Year PG Programme	CC	DCEC	RW	OEC	Total Credit/ Marks
1st Semester		5 CC 5×4 (3Th+1 IA)				20/250
2nd Semester		5 CC 5×4 (3Th+1 IA)				20/250
3rd Semester	1st Semester		4 DCEC 4×4 (3Th+1 IA)	1 RMRE 1×4 (3Th+1 IA)		20/250
4th Semester	2nd Semester		2 DCEC 2×4 (3Th+1 IA)	1 D 1×8 (6D +2 Viva-voce)	1 OEC 1×4 (3Th+1 IA)	20/250
Credit		10×4=40	6×4=24	4+8=12	1×4=4	80 (2-yr PG) 40 (1-yr PG)
Marks		500	300	150	50	1000 (2-yr PG) 500 (1-yr PG)

M.A. IN SANSKRIT (Under NEP 2020/SEP 2023)

2026

**(FOR SEMESTER I & II OF PG 2-YEAR
PROGRAMME)**

Semester I

5 Core Courses × 4 Credits = 20 Credits

Paper Code	Paper Title	Theory	Tutorial/Internal	Total
SAN411:	Vedic Texts with Interpretation	40	10	50
SAN412:	Indian Philosophy: Bauddha & Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika	40	10	50
SAN413:	Grammar & Linguistics	40	10	50
SAN414:	Sanskrit Dramaturgy	40	10	50
SAN415:	Indian Knowledge Systems (Āyurveda & Manuscriptology)	40	10	50
Total		200	50	250

Semester-I Core Course- I

Paper Code: SAN411

Paper Title: Vedic Texts with Interpretation

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (15 Marks)

Ṛgveda

- Viśvāmitra-nadī Sūkta- ṚV III.33
- Uṣā Sūkta- ṚV V.80
- Puruṣa Sūkta ṚV X.90
- Purūrava-Urvaśī Sūkta ṚV X.95
- Nāsadīya Sūkta ṚV X.129

Unit II (15 Marks)

Śukla-Yajurveda & Atharvaveda

- Śivasamkalpa Sūkta ŚYV .34
- Prajāpati Sūkta ŚYV .23 (1-5)
- Kāla Sūkta AV IX.19
- Rāṣṭrābhivardhana Sūkta AV I.29

Unit III (10 Marks)

Brāhmaṇa Literature

- Śatapathabrāhmaṇa (Pañcamahāyajña XI. 5.6 1-9)
- Taittirīyabrāhmaṇa (Vidyāpraśamsā 2.7-9)

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Textual Analysis Assignment on Unit I

Course Objective

This course aims to introduce students to selected texts from the Ṛgveda, Śukla-Yajurveda, Atharvaveda, and Brāhmaṇa literature through close textual study. It seeks to develop a critical understanding of the linguistic, literary, ritualistic,

philosophical, and cultural dimensions of Vedic literature, while acquainting students with traditional and modern methods of textual interpretation. The course also aims to strengthen students' analytical skills and foster an appreciation of the enduring significance of the Vedas in the intellectual and cultural heritage of India.

Semester-I Core Course- II

Paper Code: SAN412

Paper Title: Indian Philosophy: Bauddha & Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (10 Marks)

Sarvadarśanasamgraha of Mādhavācārya

Bauddhadarśana

Unit II (15 Marks)

Bhāṣāpariccheda of Viśvanātha:

Pratyakṣakhaṇḍa

Unit III (15 Marks)

Bhāṣāpariccheda of Viśvanātha:

Anumānakhaṇḍa

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

A comparative study on Indian & Western system of Logic & Epistemology

Course Objective

This course aims to introduce students to the fundamental doctrines of Bauddha philosophy and the epistemological and logical traditions of the Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika school through the study of *Sarvadarśanasamgraha* and *Bhāṣāpariccheda*. It

seeks to develop a critical understanding of the concepts of perception (*pratyakṣa*) and inference (*anumāna*), acquaint students with classical Indian methods of philosophical reasoning, and encourage comparative analysis of Indian and Western systems of logic and epistemology, thereby strengthening their analytical and interpretative skills.

Semester-I Core Course- III

Paper Code: SAN413

Paper Title: Grammar & Linguistics

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (15 Marks)

Vedic Grammar

- Declension
- Conjugation: Aorist, Subjunctive
- Prefixes (*upasargas*)
- Infinitives
- Gerundives
- Peculiarities of Vedic Sandhi

Unit II (10 Marks)

Vaiyākaraṇa Siddhāntakaumudī:

Taddhitapratyaya-

- Apatyārtha
- Matvarthīya

Unit III (15 Marks)

Linguistics

- Pre-History & Classification of Languages:
Indo-European & its branches, Indo-Āryan & its development, Difference between Vedic & Āvesta; Vedic & Classical Sanskrit.
- Phonetic Laws & Phonetic Tendencies

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Class Test on Unit I

Course Objective

This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Vedic grammar, selected topics of the Pāṇinian grammatical tradition, and the fundamental principles of historical and comparative linguistics. It seeks to familiarise them with the distinctive features of Vedic Sanskrit, the structure and application of *taddhita* affixes, and the historical development of Indo-European and Indo-Āryan languages. The course also aims to develop students' analytical and philological skills through the study of phonetic laws, linguistic change, and the comparative evolution of Vedic, Avestan, and Classical Sanskrit.

Semester-I Core Course- IV

Paper Code: SAN414

Paper Title: Sanskrit Dramaturgy

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (10 Marks)

- History of Sanskrit Dramaturgy.
- Eastern & Western Dramaturgical Thoughts

Unit II (15 Marks)

Nāṭyaśāstra Chapters I–II & VI

Unit III (15 Marks)

Sāhityadarpaṇa

(Pariccheda 6)

- Selected portions on Dramaturgy: Rūpaka, Abhinaya, Nāndī, Prastāvanā, Pūrvaraṅga, Characteristic features of Nāṭaka, Sandhi, Arthopakṣepaka, Arthaprakṛti, Avasthā, Vṛtti, Uparūpaka and its classification.

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Dramatic Text Review

Course Objective

This course aims to acquaint students with the theoretical foundations and historical development of Sanskrit dramaturgy through the study of the *Nāṭyaśāstra* and *Sāhityadarpaṇa*. It seeks to provide a critical understanding of the principles of dramatic composition, performance, and aesthetic theory, while introducing students to major concepts such as *rūpaka*, *abhinaya*, *sandhi*, *pūrvaraṅga*, and *uparūpaka*. The course also encourages a comparative appreciation of Eastern and Western dramaturgical traditions and develops students' analytical skills in interpreting dramatic texts within their literary, performative, and cultural contexts.

Semester-I Core Course- V

Paper Code: SAN415

**Paper Title: Indian Knowledge Systems (Āyurveda & Manuscriptology)
Theory (40 Marks)**

Unit I (10 Marks)

A Brief Survey of Āyurvedic Literature & Manuscriptology

1. Origin and Development of Āyurveda
2. The Aṣṭāṅga System of Āyurveda
3. General Introduction to Manuscriptology
4. Principal Āyurvedic Texts & their Manuscripts:
 - a. Carakasamhitā
 - b. Suśrutasamhitā
 - c. Aṣṭāṅgahrdaya

Unit II (15 Marks)

Carakasamhitā

Sūtrasthāna, Chapter I

Unit III (15 Marks)

Suśrutasamhitā

Sūtrasthāna, Chapter XXV

A. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Seminar Presentation on Unit I (Manuscriptology)

Course Objective

This course aims to introduce students to the fundamental concepts and textual traditions of Āyurveda and Manuscriptology as integral components of the Indian Knowledge Systems. It seeks to provide an understanding of the origin and development of Āyurveda, the principal medical treatises, and the basic principles of manuscript studies, including the preservation and transmission of Sanskrit texts. Through the study of selected portions of the *Carakasamhitā* and *Suśrutasamhitā*, the course aims to develop students' appreciation of India's scientific heritage and enhance their skills in the critical study of traditional knowledge preserved in manuscripts.

Semester II

5 Core Courses × 4 Credits = 20 Credits

Paper Code	Paper Title	Theory	Tutorial/Internal	Total
SAN421:	Upaniṣad, Nirukta & Vedic Exegesis	40	10	50
SAN422:	Value Education & Women's Studies	40	10	50
SAN423:	Modern Sanskrit Literature	40	10	50
SAN424:	Indian Philosophy through Authoritative Treatises	40	10	50
SAN425:	Sanskrit Poetics	40	10	50
Total		200	50	250

Semester- II Core Course- I

Paper Code: SAN421

Paper Title: Upaniṣad, Nirukta & Vedic Exegesis

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (10 Marks)

Īsopaniṣad with Śaṅkarabhāṣya

Unit II (20 Marks)

- Nirukta Chapter I
- Nirukta Chapter VII

Unit III (10 Marks)

Eastern and Western Vedic & Upanishadic Interpretations

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Class Test on Critical Appreciation of the above topics of Unit III

Course Objective

This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the philosophical teachings of the *Īśopaniṣad*, the principles of Vedic etymology as expounded in the *Nirukta*, and the major approaches to Vedic and Upaniṣadic interpretation. It seeks to develop students' ability to analyse Vedic texts through traditional exegetical methods as well as modern critical perspectives, fostering a comparative understanding of Eastern and Western interpretations. The course also aims to strengthen students' skills in textual analysis, hermeneutics, and critical appreciation of Vedic and Upaniṣadic literature.

Semester- II Core Course- II

Paper Code: SAN422

Paper Title: Value Education & Women's Studies

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (15 Marks)

Viduranīti

(Mahābhārata, Prājāgaraparvan: Sanat-sujātīya)

Selected Topics:

1. Duties of a King
2. Moral Leadership
3. Self-control
4. Good Governance

5. Ethics and Statecraft

Unit II (15 Marks)

Nītiśataka of Bhartṛhari

Unit III (10 Marks)

Women's Studies

a) Ṛṣikās of the Ṛgveda

1. Lopāmudrā
2. Ghoṣā
3. Apālā
4. Viśvavārā

b) Poetesses of Sanskrit Literature

1. Śīlābhaṭṭārikā
2. Karṇātarājapriyā
3. Vījjakā
4. Mithileshkumari Mishra
5. Devaki Menon
6. Nalini Shukla
7. Rama Chaudhuri
8. Gauri Dharmapal
9. Jayashri Nag
10. Jayashri Chattopadhyay

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Class Test on Unit III

Course Objective

This course aims to acquaint students with the ethical, social, and cultural values embodied in classical Sanskrit literature through the study of *Viduranīti* and

Nītiśataka. It seeks to cultivate a critical understanding of principles of moral leadership, good governance, self-discipline, and righteous conduct as reflected in the Indian intellectual tradition. The course also aims to introduce students to the contributions of Vedic women seers and Sanskrit poetesses from ancient to modern times, fostering an appreciation of women's literary, philosophical, and cultural achievements while encouraging gender-sensitive and value-based perspectives in the study of Sanskrit literature.

Semester- II Core Course- III

Paper Code: SAN423

Paper Title: Modern Sanskrit Literature

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (10 Marks)

General Survey of Modern Sanskrit Literature

Special Study of a few authors of Modern Sanskrit Literature:

P. K. Narayana Pillai, S.B. Varnekar, Paramananda Sastri, Rewa Prasad Dwivedi, Janaki Vallabh Sastri, Ramkaran Sarma, Jagannath Pathak, S. Sundararajan, Shankar Dev Avatare, Haridas Siddhanta Vagisha, Mulasankar, M. Yajnika, Mahalinga Shastri, Yatindra Vimal Chowdhury, Virendra Kumar Bhattacharya, Kshama Rao, Leela Rao, Bela Devi.

Unit II (15 Marks)

Kathā Literature:

Śaivalī

Paṭṭakāṣṭhikā

Critical Study:

1. Theme
2. Narrative Structure
3. Language and Style
4. Social Background

Unit III (15 Marks)

Nāṭya:

Atha Kim/ Caṇḍatāṇḍavam

1. Plot
2. Characterization
3. Dramatic Technique
4. Contemporary Relevance

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Class Test on Unit I

Course Objective

This course aims to familiarise students with the growth and development of Modern Sanskrit literature through the study of its major authors, literary movements, and representative works. It seeks to develop a critical understanding of modern Sanskrit prose and drama by analysing their themes, narrative techniques, language, style, and socio-cultural context. The course also aims to highlight the continuity of the Sanskrit literary tradition in the modern period, foster an appreciation of its contemporary relevance, and enhance students' analytical and interpretative skills through the critical study of selected texts.

Semester- II Core Course- IV

Paper Code: SAN424

Paper Title: Indian Philosophy through Authoritative Treatises

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (15 Marks)

Brahmasūtra (1.1.1-4)

with Śaṅkarabhāṣya

1. *athāto brahmajijñāsā*
2. *janmādyasya yataḥ*
3. *śāstrayonitvāt*
4. *tat tu samanvayāt*

Unit II (15 Marks)

Sarvadarśanasamgraha

1. Cārvāka Darśana
2. Arhat (Jaina) Darśana

Topics:

1. Epistemology
2. Metaphysics
3. Ethics
4. Liberation

Unit III (10 Marks)

Bhāṣāpariccheda

Śabdakhaṇḍa

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Class Test on Unit III

Course Objective

This course aims to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of Indian philosophy through the critical study of authoritative Sanskrit treatises. It seeks to develop a systematic understanding of the philosophical foundations of Advaita Vedānta, Cārvāka and Jaina thought, and the Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika theory of verbal testimony through selected portions of the *Brahmasūtra* with Śaṅkarabhāṣya, *Sarvadarśanasamgraha*, and *Bhāṣāpariccheda*. The course also aims to cultivate analytical and comparative skills in examining diverse philosophical systems, their epistemological, metaphysical, and ethical

perspectives, thereby fostering a deeper appreciation of the richness and plurality of the Indian philosophical tradition.

Semester- II Core Course- V

Paper Code: SAN425

Paper Title: Sanskrit Poetics

A. Theory (40 Marks)

Unit I (15 Marks)

Kāvyaṣṛakāṣa

Ullāsa I–II

Unit II (10 Marks)

Sāhityadarpaṇa

Pariccheda III

Unit III (15 Marks)

Dhvanyāloka

Uddyota I–II

B. Tutorial/Internal Assessment (10 Marks)

Review of Indian & Western Aesthetics & Poetology

Course Objective

This course aims to acquaint students with the fundamental principles of Sanskrit poetics through the study of three seminal treatises—*Kāvyaṣṛakāṣa*, *Sāhityadarpaṇa*, and *Dhvanyāloka*. It seeks to develop a critical understanding of the concepts of *kāvya*, *rasa*, and *dhvani*, along with the major theories of Indian literary aesthetics. The course also aims to enhance students' ability to analyse and interpret literary texts using classical Indian aesthetic principles and to foster a comparative appreciation of Indian and Western theories of poetics and aesthetics.

M.A. IN SANSKRIT (Under NEP 2020/SEP 2023)

SYLLABUS STRUCTURE*

**(FOR SEMESTER III & IV OF PG 2-YEAR
PROGRAMME)**

AND

**(FOR SEMESTER I & II OF PG 1-YEAR
PROGRAMME)**

SEMESTER III

(For 2-Year PG Programme)

OR

SEMESTER I

(For 1-Year PG Programme)

Total Credits: 20

Course-1: DCEC-1 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-2: DCEC-2 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-3: DCEC-3 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-4: DCEC-4 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-5: Research Methodology & Research Ethics of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

The Department may offer the following DCEC papers:

Group A: Vedic Studies

Group B: Vyākaraṇa

Group C: Darśana

Group D: Sāhitya

Group E: Applied Sanskrit Studies

- Manuscriptology
- Epigraphy and Paleography

- Indian Knowledge Systems

Group F: ŚrīCaitanya & Vaiṣṇava Studies

**SEMESTER IV
(For 2-Year PG Programme)**

OR

**SEMESTER II
(For 1-Year PG Programme)**

Total Credits: 20

Course-1: DCEC-5 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-2: DCEC-6 of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-3: OEC of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Suggested OEC

This may be offered to students of other PG departments:

OEC (Sanskrit) of 4 credits (3 Th.+1 Tu/IA) (50 marks)

Course-4 & 5: Dissertation (of Approx. 12,000–15,000 words) of 6 credits & Dissertation Defence and Comprehensive Viva-voce of 2 credits (75 marks Thesis + Viva-voce 25 marks)

***The detailed syllabus of Sem-III & IV (for 2-year PG) / Sem-I & II (for 1-year PG) will be published in due course.**