



Second Semester 2019-2020

Course Handout Part II

Date: 06-01-2020

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No : HSS F334
Course Title : Srimad Bhagavad Gita
Instructor-in-charge : Aruna Lolla

Scope and Objective of the Course

This course is designed to study and understand the concepts of Srimad Bhagavad Gita. It introduces the fundamentals of the science of Soul, how it gets entangled in the world and the three pathways for Liberation: 1. Karma yoga (liberation through work) , 2. Jnana yoga (divinization through Knowledge) and 3. Bhakti yoga (union through devotion). Some of the main components of this course are: Confidential Knowledge, three modes of material nature, Nature, and the Consciousness, Divine and Demonic qualities, and The Perfection of soul.

The course aims to provide a critical introduction to some of the theories and issues that are central to the scripture. The course aims to inculcate in students the ability to determine the nature and mechanism of any yoga discussed above, and in the process, introduces them to the rigors and requirements of philosophical thinking of the Gita.

Textbook

The Bhagavad Gita. Trans. S. Radhakrishnan. Harper Collins Publishers, 2014. ISBN : 978-81-7223-898-8

Reference Materials

1. Srimad Bhagavad Gita (with Sadhana Vyakhya). Trans. S. Subba Rao Hyderabad: Sri Gita Grandhalaya, 1969.
2. Sri Aurobindo. *Essays on the Gita*. New York: The Sri Aurobindo Library, 1950

Course Plan

Lecture No.	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book

1	Gain an overview of the subject.	Course Overview: Background and origin of Bhagavad Gita,	
2	Familiarize themselves with the text of Bhagavad Gita and gain an overview of the war scene of Mahabharata	Preparations for war and Arjuna's doubts. His surrender to the Lord as a pupil.	1.1 to 1.47
3	Discuss the basics of Karma Yoga	Science of the soul and Reincarnation. Transcendental Knowledge	2.1-2.30
4		Karma Yoga: Gains from doing our duty, Work without reactions and the marks of a person with steady intellect.	2.31-2.72
5		Action in Krishna Consciousness: Working without attachment or Nishkama karma	3.1-3.16
6		Acting dutifully to set a correct example along with methods of conquering the lust and anger.	3.17-3.43
7		Transcendental knowledge Way to transcend entanglement and learning the art of performing duty for the Divine without attachment.	4.1-4.15
7		Karma Three types of activities, the way to be equipoise, understanding sacrifices and their results, the eternal goal.	4.16-4.33; 4.34-4.42
8		Superiority of devotional work over renunciation, working with detachment, way to peaceful life and reasons for entanglement.	5.1-5.12
9		Platform of knowledge-knowing the three doers: the soul, material nature, and the Supreme Soul , Liberation by fixing our consciousness on Supreme Soul, a sinless person, working for public welfare <i>Lokasangraha Karma</i>	5.13-5.29
10		Comparison of yoga and renunciation, advancing in yoga through detached work, the symptoms of a person who has conquered mind. Basics of yoga, sitting places, meditation, results of meditation, perfection of yoga	6.1-6.9 6.10-6.32
11		Necessity to control mind in yoga practice.	6.33-6.47
12	Assess and appreciate the path	Bhakti Yoga – The process to go back home, back to Godhead. Knowing the Godhead as the source of both material	7.1-7.12

	of Bhakti Yoga	and spiritual aspects.	
13		The controller of the three modes of material nature, surrendering to that Controller-, different natures of the impious, the pious, and the fate of a jnani.	7.13-7.19
14		Demigod worship and freedom through knowledge of the Absolute.	7.20-7.30
16		Going back to Godhead by meditating	8.9-8.16
17		Comparison between spiritual and material worlds, Supremacy of devotion in attaining the supreme.	8.17-8.28
18		Qualifications and disqualifications to hear about the Divine.	9.1-9.10
19		The difference between a mahatma and an atheist, and the Godhead as sacrifice, syllable OM, the most dear friend, etc..	9.11-9.25
20		Glories of a devotee, simple methods of worshipping the Divine.	9.26-9.34
21		Godhead- the originator of everything.	10.1-10.11
22		The Supreme Personality of Godhead.	10.12-10.42
25		The different stages in devotion, the highest being mind and intelligence fixed upon Him.	12.1-12.12
26		Various qualities like non-enviousness, freedom from false ego which makes one dear to the Divine.	12.13-12.20
27	Analyse the basics of Jnana Yoga	The enjoyer, the field of activities, etc., are explained	13.1-13.7;
28		Dhyana Yoga; Knowledge of the Absolute; Attaining the Supreme The concept of the soul and the Supreme Soul are deliberated.	13.8-13.19
29		The concepts of <i>Prakriti</i> , <i>Purusa</i> and their union, and the vision of Knowledge.	13.20-13.34
30		The living entity gets entangled by a blend of The mode of Goodness, The mode of Passion and The mode of Ignorance.	14.1-14.13
31		Different destinations according to predomination of a particular mode at the time of death, the symptoms and activities of one who has transcended the modes.	14.14-14.27
32		Attachment with the spiritual world, and	15.1-

		transmigration of the souls.	15.11
33		The summary of the Vedas and the kinds of living entities.	15.12-15.20
34		The difference between transcendental and demoniac qualities, elevation to the original state.	16.1-16.24
35		Faith, worships, foods and sacrifices in the different modes.	17.1-17.13
36		Austerity and charity in different modes, the purposes of sacrifices, charity, and the eating of foods is the Absolute Truth.	17.14-17.28
37		Acting with detachment is true Renunciation and brings freedom from reactions; conclusion of Sankya and Vedanta.	18.1-18.18
38-39		Knowledge, actions, performers of actions, understandings, determinations, happiness- all these are controlled by the three modes.	18.19-18.40
40-41		The process of Transmigration; the most confidential knowledge; Worshipping the Divine through one's occupational work is true renunciation and brings freedom from reactions, The Brahmi stage, knowing the Godhead by pure devotional service.	18.41-18.55; 18.56-18.66
42	Develop a perspective on Bhagavad Gita.	Those who study Bhagavad Gita worship the Divine wholeheartedly and who explain this to the non-envious achieve higher devotion.	18.67-18.78

Evaluation Scheme:

Evaluation Component	Weightage (%)	Duration	Weightage	Nature of component
Mid-Semester Test	25	90 Minutes	4/3 9.00 - 10.30AM	Closed Book
Assignment 1 & 2	30(15+15)	TBA		Take home/ Quiz/ Presentation
Comprehensive Exam	45	3 Hours	06/05 AN	OB

Chamber Consultation Hour: To be announced.

Notices: Will be put on the CMS and displayed on the Notice boards.

Make-up Policy: Make-up will be granted only in genuine cases.

Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy: Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Aruna Lolla
Instructor-in-Charge