

VEL710- Traditional Knowledge and Values

Course Credits : 3

Category : OE

Structure : 2-1-0

Course Coordinator : V M Chariar

Course Coordinator Website : <https://web.iitd.ac.in/~chariarv>

Course Coordinator Email : chariarv@rdat.iitd.ac.in

Course Objective : The primary objective of the course is to introduce students to the social and cultural values inherent in Traditional Knowledge Systems (TKS) that are practised by communities. The course also endeavours to understand the contemporary significance of these values and knowledge systems for moving towards a harmonious and sustainable global world order.

MODULE 1 : COURSE INTRO

What constitutes Knowledge ?

Knowledge Quest & Framework of Traditional Knowledge

Why is TK relevant ?

Educational Documentary Film 1

Assignment 1 (4 Marks)

MODULE 2 : TK THROUGH THE AGES

Antiquity & Unique Aspects of TK

Society and Polity in Pre-Industrial Times

Introduction to Aanchalikta

Educational Documentary Film 2

Assignment 2 (4 Marks)

MODULE 3 : VALUES IN TRADITION & MODERNITY

Values Embodied in TK

Values in Modern Techno-Economic Paradigm

Reductionism & Holism, Individual & Collective

Educational Documentary Film 3

Assignment 3 (4 Marks)

MODULE 4 : CUSTODIANS OF TK

Knowledge of Land & Water : Kisan Vidya

Knowledge of Metals & Materials : Karigar Vidya

Knowledge of Forest Ecology : Adivasi Vidya

Knowledge of Health & Well-Being : Swasthya Vidya

MODULE 5 : VALUES IN COMMUNITIES

Relating to Locality, Flora & Fauna

Natural Abundance Frameworks in TK

Aesthetics & Beauty in TK

Educational Documentary Film 4

Assignment 4 (4 Marks)

MODULE 6 : TK IN FOOD & HEALTH

Knowledge of the Seasons : Rutcharya
Knowledge of the Human Constitution : Tridosha Theory
Ayurveda, Unani & Local Health Traditions
Educational Documentary Film 5

Assignment 5 (4 Marks)

MODULE 7 : TK & GANDHIAN METHOD

Practising Empathy, Kindness and Compassion
Deep Ecological Approaches
Scientific Enquiry into Universal Values
Educational Documentary Film 6

Assignment 6 (4 Marks)

MODULE 8 : CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE OF TK

Promoting Cultural Diversity
Creating Ethical Livelihoods
Healing the Planet
Consciousness Elevation for Well-being

MODULE 9 : SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

Contemporary Challenges
Creative & Innovative Possibilities
Individual Capacities & Collective Responsibilities
New Questions & Way Forward

Major (40 Marks)

EVALUATION / COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Minor 20 Marks

Assignments 20 Marks

Term Paper 20 Marks (7500 Words & 20 Min Insights Sharing)

Major 40 Marks

Audit Pass : 40%

Minimum Performance for D Grade : 30%

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Minimum Attendance of 75% of the classes to be held this semester is expected. Merely being logged on MS Teams will not be treated as participation. In each class, there would be 30 Minutes of discussion in which each learner who is present is encouraged to participate by asking questions, sharing perspective, etc.

REFERENCES & READING MATERIAL

- 1.** Dharampal, Indian Science and Technology in the 18th century, Other India Press, Goa, (2000)
- 2.** Shiva Vandana, Monocultures of the Mind, Third World Network, Penang, (1995)
- 3.** D M Bose, S N Sen and B V Subbarayappa, A Concise History of Science in India, INSA, New Delhi, (1971)
- 4.** S Sahasrabudhe : The Gandhian Challenge to Modern Science, Other India Press, Goa, (2002)
- 5.** V K Datar, Charaka Samhita, Motilal Banarasidass, New Delhi, (1922)
- 6.** P Ray, H N Gupta, M Roy, Susruta Samhita : A Scientific Synopsis, INSA, New Delhi, (1980)
- 7.** B Dagens, Mayamatam - Treatise of Housing, Architecture and Iconography, IGNCA, New Delhi, (2000)
- 8.** A K Saran, Traditional Thought - Towards an axiomatic approach, CIHTS, Sarnath, (1996)
- 9.** W Pereira, Tending the Earth - Sustainable non-chemical agriculture in India, Earthcare Books, Mumbai, (1993)
- 10.** Dharampal, The Beautiful Tree - Indigenous Indian Education in the 18th Century, Other India Press, Goa (2000)
- 11.** Dharampal, Panchayat Raj and India's Polity, Other India Press, Goa (2000)
- 12.** K Boven and J Morohashi, Best Practices using Indigenous Knowledge, NUFFIC-UNESCO, (2002)
- 13.** Proceedings of Congress on Traditional Sciences and Technologies of India, PPST Foundation
- 14.** Various issues of PPST Bulletin, PPST Foundation, Chennai
- 15.** Anupam Mishra, Aaj Bhi Khare Hain Talaab, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi
- 16.** Anupam Mishra, Rajasthan ki Rajat Boondein, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi