

M.A (Religious Studies)

A Mission, Objective and Relevance of the programme:

The main objective of teaching Religious Studies in Department is to understand Religion in global context. Equipping the students to understand Primary & Secondary Indian religious scriptures along with world religious traditions promoting enlightened understanding of inherited phenomenon called religion. Helping the students to understand the importance of interfaith dialogue, communal harmony, social welfare etc. This study help to resolve inner self leading to more just and cohesive society to develop secular view of the world.

In M.A Religious Studies students are given detailed descriptions on characteristic features of Primitive religions as well as various, Scriptures, Ethics, Literature, History, Philosophy and Institutions of these religions along with general introduction of prevalent world religions around. Religious Studies Education through distance learning is highly in demand. The persons who are working as missionaries, teachers in schools, colleges, universities, holy places, tourism companies, publishing houses, holy organizations get maximum advantage from these courses. These courses not only help them to attain knowledge of their own religion but also about the culture and civilizations of nations based on multi faiths world wide

B. Nature of prospective target group of learners

- Those who belong to the rural and semi-urban areas.
- Those who can not afford regular education in terms of time or money.
- Those who are employed at remote places, especially the army and para-military personnel.
- For promotion at work place.
- Female students who are desirous of obtaining higher education but cannot do so due to personal or family reasons.
- Those who have long gap in their studies and are self-motivated to pursue higher studies.
- Those who wants to understand academically interconnected core teachings of world religious traditions.

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C. Appropriateness of programme to be conducted in Open and Distance Learning mode to acquire specific skills and competence:

- Students are provided the opportunity to understand moral and Ethical values of each Religion, find the commonalities among them and learn to respect the differences wherever they exist.
- The purpose is to impart sound and healthy understanding of religions under direct supervision to avoid misguided orthodoxy and to promote peace, development and welfare of humanity.
- After qualifying UGC/ NET examination in this subject, students can take up teaching as profession in colleges and universities.
- To provide ground for respectful exchange of ideas, values and traditions with aim to promote a peaceful co-existence among societies.

D. Instructional Design:

- M.A. Religious Studies are two years (four semester) course.
- Personal Contract Programmes (PCPs) are held for 10-12 days in each semester.
- Consultation is provided to the learners during the PCPs (in addition to the formal lectures).
- 75% attendance is compulsory.
- Print/Online lessons are provided to the learners.
- Learning material is also made available in the vernacular (Punjabi).
- Faculty is available in accordance to the prescribed UGC norms. There are number of research fellows in the department who extend support in teaching in case of a need. Services of teachers from other departments, especially the Department of Religious studies is sought and provided whenever required.
- Video lessons on several topics of the syllabi have been prepared.
- Students are informed about fees, admissions, classes schedule, two assignments for each paper etc. through departmental website. Students are informed through SMS and registered letters also regarding class dates, duration and venue etc. in advance.
- Faculty includes two permanent teachers and one guest faculty.
- Internal marks 30 and External marks are 70 for each paper.

E. Procedure for admissions, curriculum transaction and evaluation:

- Eligibility for admission is bachelor degree in any discipline (eg. Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, Engineering, Medical Sciences etc.) from any statutory university with pass marks.

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- There is no age bar for admissions. Our curriculum is at par with the one offered through the regular mode of education.
- Students have flexibility of passing the course within a period of four years from the year of admission.
- Overseas students are also eligible for admission. Candidates living abroad will pay tuition fee, other annual charges and examination fees in foreign currency at the time of admission, as per the schedule in the form of demand draft only, but not in cash. The foreign students shall have to bear any other expenditure related to the conduct of examination demanded by the concerned Embassy
- Prospectus are available on online as well as offline . Single window system has been provided at the University Entrance for facilitating their admission.
- Fee is charged as per the University rules and is fixed under the guidance of the Centralised Admission Cell of the University.

Curriculum transactions:

Printed material is provided to the students and personal contact programme's are also organized each semester. Phone-in-counselling programme's are conducted to interact with students to resolve their queries. Lectures are delivered through power point presentations and interactive discussions lecturers from renowned scholars of the field are also arranged for the better understanding of the topics during personal contact programme. Internal assessment is also a key feature of the courses which is assigned through response sheets, viva voce and written test.

F. Requirement of the laboratory support and Library Resources:

- The course doesn't require any laboratory setup.
- Department of Open and Distance Learning has its well stocked Library with 250 books in Punjabi as well as English medium covering various papers and topics of the syllabus. The library is fully air-conditioned with a reading hall, caters to ten newspapers and Journals in English, Hindi and Punjabi language.

G. Quality assurance mechanism and expected programme outcomes

- Regular updating of the syllabi that have been prepared time to time following the UGC guidelines for curriculum.
- The course has been designed to facilitate students to compete for NET and other competitive examinations.

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- Feedback is gathered through interactive sessions so that suggestions received are taken in to consideration to improve the framework of course to increase scope and application of the course.

M.A. (RELIGIOUS STUDIES): PART - I
(SEMESTER SYSTEM)
(SESSION 2023-24 & 2024-25)

This Page Concerned Only for Campus Students

Scheme of Studies

Note: Complete M.A. (Religious Studies) Course carries 80 credits and each paper carries 5 Credits (4 Lectures+ 1 Tutorial).

		Semester - I
Core Papers		Credits
PAPER-I:	Study of Religion-I	5(4L+1T)
PAPER-III:	(i) Hinduism-I	5(4L+1T)
	(ii) Study of Indian Religions	
PAPER-IV:	(i) Judaism	5(4L+1T)
	(ii) Study of Sikh Scripture-I	
Elective Paper		
PAPER-II:	Study of Sikh Religion-I	5(4L+1T)

SEMESTER - II

Core Papers		Credits
PAPER V:	Study of Religion-II	5(4L+1T)
PAPER VII:	(i) Hinduism-II	5(4L+1T)
	(ii) Study of Sikh Scripture	
PAPER VIII:	(i) Christianity	5(4L+1T)
	(ii) Study of West-Asian Religions	

ELECTIVE PAPER:

PAPER VI:	Study of Sikh Religion-II	5(4L+1T)
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OPEN ELECTIVE SUBJECT

PAPER - World Religions and Interfaith Dialogue

IMPORTANT: Availability of numbers of seats in an elective course is subject to the space and faculty constraints of the host department.
(Qualifying paper for other students in IInd Semester)

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