

Amrita Academy for Arts & Spirituality
APPENDIX: Curriculum design for levels 1-6

Module: Sanskrit Linguistics					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Introduction to oral language	Beginner level reading and writing	Beginner level grammar	Intermediate level grammar	Expert level grammar	Language proficiency
Content description: 1. Alphabets, phonetics, and exercises. 2. Communication through language 3. Shloka and mantra recitals. 4. Activity-based learning and assessment.	Content description: 2. Bhagavad-Gita chanting. 3. Assessments.	Content description: 1. Prose: Introducing stories from Ramayana and Mahabharata. 2. Comprehensive reading and writing. 3. Assessments.	Content description: 1. Prose and poetry: Vedic scriptures. 2. Comprehensive reading and writing. 3. Assessments.	Content description: 1. Understanding ancient scriptures and compositions: Upanishads. 2. Comprehensive reading and writing. 3. Skill-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Advanced reading. 2. Composition writing. 3. Scriptural discussions and debates. 4. Skill-based assessments.
Achievement standards: Familiarization with spoken Sanskrit and fundamental conversational skills.	Achievement standards: Understanding proper usage and context of the language.	Achievement standards: Understanding significance, content, and structure of the language.	Achievement standards: Proficient oral skills, intermediate reading and writing skills.	Achievement standards: Proficiency through exploration of language.	Achievement standards: Proficient spoken and written skills.
Module: Scriptural Studies					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Introduction to Hinduism and Hindu Dharma	Introduction to traditions and symbolism in Hinduism	Bhagavad-Gita and its significance in Hinduism	Epics of Hinduism: Ramayana and Mahabharata	The Puranas	The Vedas, Upavedas, and Upanishads (Vedanta)
Content description: 1. Deities and worship. 2. Festivals and significance. 3. Stories and activity-based learning and assessment.	Content description: 1. Temples, images, and worship. 2. Ancient traditions of living and coexistence. 3. Concepts of Sathya (truth), Dharma (virtue), Shanti (peace), Prema	Content description: 1. The origin of Gita, its essence and significance. 2. The concept of Karma – ‘action’. 3. Stories from Srimad-Bhagavatham (Bhagavatha	Content description: 1. The 10 Incarnations of Lord Vishnu: Dhashavatharm. 2. The four Yugas: Satya, Treta, Dvapara and Kali. 3. Story of Ramayana in Treta. 4. Story of Mahabharata in Dvapara.	Content description: 1. Vyasa Maharshi and other Rishis of ancient India. 2. The Mahapuranas: Shiva, Vishnu, Markandeya, Skanda and Garuda puranas.	Content description: 1. The four Vedas: Rig, Yajur, Sama and Atharva; origin and substance. 2. The concepts of Brahman, Atman, Dvaitam and Advaitam.

	(love) and Ahimsa (non-violence). 4. Stories and activity-based learning and assessment.	purana), to connect to the Gita. 4. Activity-based learning 5. Skill-based assessment.	5. Skill-based assessment.	3. Devi-Bhagavata Purana 4. Upapurana (Ganesha, Narasimha, etc.)	3. Advaita Vedanta: Sri Adi Shankara and the Rishi Parampara. 4. Ayurvedha and Yoga Sutras – an introduction. 5. Narada Bhakthi sutra – an introduction. 6. Skill-based assessment.
Achievement standards: Familiarization with fundamental views and beliefs of Hindu culture.	Achievement standards: Understanding the culture and traditions of Hinduism.	Achievement standards: Appreciation and interest for learning and understanding the Gita.	Achievement standards: Familiarization with personalities (and their qualities of dharma and adharm) from the 2 greatest epics of Hinduism. Relate stories to concepts (dharma, karma, etc.) learnt in previous levels.	Achievement standards: Proficient knowledge and understanding in various puranas of Hinduism.	Achievement standards: Proficient knowledge and understanding in varied scriptural texts of Hinduism.
Module: Vedic chanting					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Shlokas and mantras	Mantras and Bhagavad-Gita chanting	Understanding the Gita	Sukthams and Bhagavad-Gita chanting	Expert level chanting	Advanced level chanting
Content description: 1. Vocal exercises. 2. Pronunciation training. 3. Chanting practice – Gayathri mantra, peace prayers, Deity worship. 4. Activity-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Vocal exercises 2. Bhakthi Yoga (Chapter 12- Gita). 3. Ashtakams. 4. Activity-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Sankhya Yoga (Chapter 2- Gita). 2. Karma Yoga (Chapter 3- Gita) 3. Discussions on Gita: Understanding the essence, practicing in daily life. 4. Activity and skill-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Durga, Sri and Purusha Suktham. 2. Purushottama-Prapti Yoga (Chapter 15- Gita). 3. Skill-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Mantra pushpam, Sanyasa suktham. 2. Jnana Yoga (Chapter 4- Gita). 3. Skill-based assessments.	Content description: 1. Sri Rudram, Stotrams, Sahasranamams and their meaning. 2. Moksha-Sanyasa Yoga (Chapter 18- Gita). 3. Skill-based assessments.
Achievement standards: Familiarization with common Sanskrit prayers.	Achievement standards: Familiarization with Bhagavad-Gita chanting, understanding deities,	Achievement standards: Understanding the essence of Gita, proficient Gita chanting.	Achievement standards: Familiarization with the rules	Achievement standards: Proficient chanting skills, understanding structural differences in compositions.	Achievement standards: Proficient chanting skills, expert knowledge of Sanskrit

	occasions, and dedicated mantras.		and structure of Vedic chanting.		chanting and appreciation for the ancient art.
Module: Devotional Music (Vocal & Instruments)					
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Introduction to Simple Bhajans and Kaimani	Simple Bhajans and Kaimani	Simple to Intermediate Bhajans and Kaimani	Intermediate Bhajans and Kaimani	Intermediate to Advanced Bhajans and Kaimani	Advanced Bhajans and Kaimani
<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vocal exercises Simple Namavalis Basic Kaimani – 2 and 3 beat rhythms Observational-assessments 	<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vocal exercises Namavalis Kaimani – 2 and 3 beat rhythms in first and second speed Observation assessments 	<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to simple ragas Learning of simple to intermediate bhajans in relation to ragas Kaimani – development of speed in 2 and 3 beat rhythms, introduction to 5 and 7 beat rhythms Observational assessments 	<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Raga exercises Intermediate bhajans Kaimani – on-beat and off-beat rhythms, developing speed in various rhythmic patterns. Observational assessment 	<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Raga exercises Intermediate to advanced bhajans Kaimani – understanding the mood of different bhajans and choosing appropriate rhythms, developing speed. Observational assessment 	<p>Content description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Raga exercises Advanced bhajans Kaimani – understanding the mood of different bhajans, playing as part of a group, choosing appropriate beats and speeds. Observational assessment
<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing simple namavalis with some awareness of pitch and rhythm. They can hold the Kaimani and play 2 and 3 beat rhythms with clarity.</p>	<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing simple namavalis with a growing awareness of pitch and rhythm. They can play 2 and 3 beat rhythms with the Kaimani in first and second speed.</p>	<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing a few simple ragas and bhajans in those ragas. They can recognise different rhythm cycles in simple to intermediate bhajans and play an appropriate beat.</p>	<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing intermediate bhajans and raga exercises with some awareness of pitch and rhythm. They understand the difference between on-beat and off-beat rhythms and when to play them. The students can recognise different rhythmic cycles, choose appropriate rhythms, and play at different speeds.</p>	<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing intermediate to advanced bhajans and ragas with an awareness of pitch and rhythm. They understand that the mood of a bhajan is important when playing Kaimani and are developing their proficiency in playing fast rhythms.</p>	<p>Achievement standards:</p> <p>Students can sing a wide variety of bhajans and ragas with a sound sense of pitch and rhythm. They choose appropriate beats and rhythms according to the mood of the bhajan and play the Kaimani with confidence. The students understand the role that the Kaimani plays in a bhajan group and play with musical awareness.</p>