

Understanding Indian Classical Dance

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The central task of liberal education is to activate each student's mind to develop the task of being able to independently make choices and actions, alternative perspectives etc. rather than blindfolded acceptance of conventional assumptions. The purpose of this course programme is to teach the students about a wide variety of subjects and its relations to contemporary issues, to think clearly and COMMUNICATE effectively. This course will also help develop both analytical and writing skills, evaluation abilities, logical thinking and reasoning correctly. All these aspects will help students learn to explore and attain an understanding of those aspects of human expressions which is a crucial part of Liberal art.

The general course outline is spread over 3 months duration of 2 hours twice a week.

- 1) Why dance came into existence along with other art forms like drawing, pottery, jewellery making, etc. (2 hours)
- 2) Dance as related to Mythology in India and comparative study in other countries. (4 hours)
- 3) History of the development of dance in India and a group study / presentation with field work related to it. (4 hours)
- 4) Philosophical reasoning dealt with through dance in liberal art form. (2 hrs)
- 5) Types of dances developed due to geographical and historical conditions (2 hrs)
- 6) The Literature and corresponding impacts and development of dance. Project submissions on compositions by famous dancers and related musicians (4 hrs).
- 7) Sociological aspects affecting bifurcations in dance forms classical/folk/tribal and its impacts. (4 hrs)
- 8) Studying in depth the Classical dance forms with practicals and appreciation of this art form. (6 hours).
- 9) Infrastructure development for presentation of this art form laid down by shastras and today's requirements bringing about a change. (2 hrs).
- 10) Studying the Expressions and its wide use in Indian dances at varying levels and a comparative study with Theatre, TV and Films mediums. (2 hrs).

11) Solo and group performances and a detailed study of dance drama/ballet in India ,its development, sociological issues and religious aspects to this form With 4 sessions on setting up a short ballet.(6 hrs)

12) An in-depth study in Indian dance, its psychological aspects and Therapeutic uses with case studies With special importance to Bharatnatyam as Dance Therapy.(4 hrs)