

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI



Essentials Elements of the Syllabus

1	Title of the Course	Post graduate Diploma Course in Comparative Mythology
2	Course Code	UDSKTPGCM
3	Preamble / Scope	Enclosed
4	Objective of Course	Enclosed
5	Eligibility	As per university rules
6	Fee Structure	As per university rules
7	No. of Lectures	As per university rules
8	No. of Practical	NA
9	Duration of the Course	One Year
10	Notional hours	Saturday 3 hours
11	No. of Students per Batch	50
12	Selection	Graduate from any faculty
13	Assessment	As per university rules
14	Syllabus Details	Enclosed
15	Title of the Unit	Enclosed
16	Title of the Sub-Unit	Enclosed
17	Semester wise Theory	NA
18	Semester wise List of Practical	NA
19	Question Paper Pattern	Enclosed
20	Pattern of Practical Exam	NA
21	Scheme of Evaluation of Project / Internship	As per university rules
22	List of Suggested Reading	Enclosed
23	List of Websites	NA
24	List of You-Tube Videos	NA
25	List of MOOCs	NA

DEPARTMENT OF SANSKRIT

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

REVISED SYLLABUS FOR POST-GRADUATE COURSE IN COMPARATIVE MYTHOLOGY(w.e.f. 2018-19)

Preamble: Mythology is the thought existing in the collective genius of any culture. It has been observed that there is striking similarity in the collective genius across cultures. A deeper study in this field helps us understand the Vedic saying yatra vishvam bhavati eka needam (where the world is one nest). A comparative study of World mythologies helps us understand the reasons behind beliefs, practices, ideals and symbols of different cultures. This leads to the inculcation of the spirit of tolerance and appreciation and empathy towards diversity and universal brotherhood.

Objectives :

- **To understand and categorise stories across different cultures**
- **To appreciate and analyse similarity and differences**
- **To get a deeper understanding of Indian Mythology (Hindu, Jain, Bauddha)**

Total 250 Marks:

Paper I	100 Marks
Paper II	100 Marks
Dissertation concerning any topic related to Mythology	50 Marks

PAPER I

- A. Introduction to Myth/ Mythology 40 Marks
- Sources of Indian mythology
 - Types of story and its relation to myth
 - Myth-making stage and myth-using stage
 - Theoretical development of mythological studies from ancient to modern times
 - Yaska, Max Muller, Edward Tylor, Andrew Lang, Emile Durkheim, Roland Barthes, James Frazer, Bronislaw Malinowski, Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Otto Rank, Levi Strauss, DD Kosambi, Peter Munz, Joseph Campbell, Mircea Eliade, Zimmer, Sadashiv Dange and Sindhu Dange
- B. General idea of Vedic, Epic and Puranic Mythology 40 Marks
- Myths and rituals connected to the following and their interrelationship:
 - Fire/ Rain/ Stars/ Holy Drink
 - Supernatural birth
 - Mountains & Rivers
 - Holy places & Festivals
 - Understanding renderings and characters in Epics
 - Overview of Indian cultic traditions with stress on Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Shaktism

C. Symbolism:

- Role of Symbols in myths, symbols related to Sacrifice and other Iconography, understanding totems and taboos in tribal myths
20 Marks

PAPER II

- A. Role of Media and Living Mythology 20 Marks
- B. Types of myths
- Myths and rituals connected with them wherever occurring from the mythologies are to be studied – Vedic, Epic, Puranic, Buddhist, Jain, Middle-Eastern, Egyptian, Greek, Biblical, Avestan, Chinese, Japanese, Aztec and Nordic
- i. Creation Myths 16 Marks
- a. Concept, formulation of speculative myths of cosmogony/ creation, basic identifiable points of a creation myth, functions, comparative study
 - b. Some comparable symbols, connected rituals
- ii. Fertility Myths 16 Marks
- a. Concept, salient features, related god/ goddesses
 - b. Characteristics of a dying God and/or Earth mother, myths of Dying god
 - c. Symbols, rituals, customs & practices related to fertility
- iii. Hero Myths 16 Marks
- a. Concept of a Hero
 - b. Salient features of hero myths
 - c. Difference between
 - i. a hero myth and legend
 - ii. cultural hero, oriental hero and occidental hero
- iv. Flood Myth and Myths of Destruction 16 Marks
- a. Salient features, reasons for having or not having flood myths
 - b. Comparative aspects
- v. Eschatological Myths and Star Myths 16 Marks
- a. Concept of death-rituals & rites
 - b. Customs, practices, burial and after-death myths
 - c. Myths and rituals pertaining to stars

Paper pattern

Paper 1 : Marks 100

Time: 3 hours

Unit A:

Q. 1 A. Write short notes on any two of the following (2/3) Marks 20

Q. 1. B. Essay type question (1/2) Marks 20

Unit B:

Q. 2 A. Write short notes on any two of the following (2/3) Marks 20

Q. 2. B. Essay type question (1/2) Marks 20

Unit C:

Q. 3. Short notes (2/3) or Essay type question (1/2) Marks 20

Paper 1: Marks 100

Time 3 hours

Unit A

Q. 1. Short notes (2/3) or Essay type question (1/2) Marks 20

Unit B:

Section i)

Q. 2. Short notes 2/3 or Essay type question (1/2) Marks 16

Section ii)

Q. 3. Short notes 2/3 or Essay type question (1/2) Marks 16

Section iii)

Q. 4. Short notes 2/3 or Essay type question 1/2 Marks 16

Section iv)

Q. 5. Short notes 2/3 or Essay type question 1/2 Marks 16

Section v)

Q. 6. Short notes 2/3 or Essay type question 1/2 Marks 16

Books recommended for General Reading for Papers I and II of the Post Graduate Diploma Course in Comparative Mythology

Paper I

1. L. Sarup- The Nighantu and the Nirukta, Introduction
2. Max Muller- Chips from a German Workshop (V)
3. E. B. Tylor- Primitive Culture (Vols I & II)
4. Andrew Lang- Custom and Myth
5. Andrew Lang- Myth, Ritual and Religion
6. J. C. Frazer-Golden Bough (Vol I & VII)
7. B. Malinowski-Myth in Primitive psychology
8. A. A. Brill (ed.)- The Basic Writings of Sigmund Freud (The Interpretation of Dreams)
9. C. G. Jung-The psychology of the Unconscious
10. Claude Levi Strauss- Structural Anthropology (tr. From French into English by Clive Jacobson on Brooke Groundfest School) Chapter on "Structural Study of Myths"

11. D. D. Kosambi-Myth and Reality
12. Peter Munz- When the Golden Bough Breaks
13. Joseph Campbell-The Hero with a Thousand Faces
14. Joseph Campbell- The Volumes under the General Title- The Masks of God
15. Mircea Eliade- Patterns in Comparative Religion (tr. By Rosemary Sheed)
16. Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty- Hindu Myths
17. Sadashiv A. Dange- Towards Understanding Hindu Myths
18. Sadashiv A. Dange- Myths from the Mahabharata (Vols I-III)
19. Sadashiv A. Dange- 'Field' and the Divine Fructification
20. G. S. Kirk- Myths, its Meaning and Function in Ancient and other Culture
21. A. A. Macdonell- Vedic Mythology
22. E. W. Hopkins- Epic Mythology

Paper II

1. S. S. Dange (ed)- Myths of Creation
2. S. K. Hodiwala-Indo-Iranian Religion
3. Darmesteter-Zend Avesta (tr. in English) in Sacred Books of the East Series Vol.4
4. D. Mackenzie- Myths of Babylonia and Assyria
5. D. Mackenzie- Myths of China and Japan
6. Edith Hamilton- Mythology
7. R. Graves- Greek Myths (2 Vols)
8. R. T. Rundle Clark- Myth and Symbol in Ancient Religion and Thought in Ancient Egypt
9. Francis Berdan- The Aztecs
10. Joseph L. Henderson and Maud Oakes- Myths of Death, Rebirth and Resurrection (Wisdom of the Serpent)