

Syllabus for Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies
(A course applicable to students of the University Department)

From the Academic Year 2020–2021

Approved by the Ad-hoc Board of Studies in Pali Literature and Culture
Savitribai Phule Pune University

Savitribai Phule Pune University

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies

General Instructions about the Course, the Pattern of Examination and the Syllabus

I. General Instructions

I.1 General Structure: Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies is a three-year course of semester pattern. It consists of six semesters and sixteen papers of 50 marks each.

I.2 Eligibility:

- Passed Advanced Certificate Course in Buddhist Studies
- Passed H.S.C. or any other equivalent examination with Sanskrit / Pali / Chinese / Tibetan as one subject.

I.3 Duration: Three academic years

I.4 Fees: The Admission fee, the Tuition Fee, Examination Fee, Record Fee, Statement of Marks for each year of the three-year Higher Diploma course will be as per the rules of the Savitribai Phule Pune University.

I.5 Teaching:

- Medium of instruction - English or Marathi
- Lectures:
 - Semesters I and II - Four lectures per week for fifteen weeks each
 - Semesters III to VI – Six lectures per week for fifteen weeks each

II Pattern of Examination

II.1 Assessment and Evaluation:

- Higher Diploma Course examination will be held once at the end of each semester of the academic year.
- The examination for the Higher Diploma Course will consist of an external examination carrying 40 marks of two hours duration and an internal examination of 10 marks for all the sixteen papers.

II.2 Passing:

- To pass the Higher Diploma Course examination a candidate must obtain either 40% of the total marks in each of the external written examination and internal examination (i.e., separate passing: 16 in external and 4 in internal)
- Or, minimum 50% marks out of 50 (i.e., aggregate passing)

- Those of the successful candidates who obtain minimum 50% of the total marks will be placed in the second class and those obtaining minimum 60% of the total marks will be placed in first class.
- Allowed To Keep Terms (A.T.K.T.) and Exemption: A failing candidate is given exemption in those sections (external or internal) or papers in which she/he has secured minimum 50% marks if a candidate has passed in one section of a paper and failed in the other section of the same paper, she/he has the option to reappear either for the section in which she/he has failed or for the whole paper.
- A candidate who has failed in the first year will be A.T.K.T. for the second year of the Diploma and a candidate who has failed in the second year will be A.T.K.T. for the third year. No one will be, however, given admission to the second and third years simultaneously. The candidate must have passed the examination in all the papers of the first year.

II.3 Question Pattern:

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies First Year

General Papers I and II and Special Papers I and II: Total 50 marks each:

- External written examination (40 marks) – Long answer (24 marks), short answer (10 marks), and short notes (6 marks)
- Internal examination (10 marks) – Oral, essay writing, group discussion, etc.

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Second Year

General Papers I and II and Special Papers I and III: Total 50 marks each:

- External written examination (40 marks) – Long answer (24 marks), short answer (10 marks), and short notes (6 marks)
- Internal examination (10 marks) – Oral, essay writing, group discussion, etc.

Special Papers II and IV: Total 50 marks each:

- External written examination (40 marks) - Translation (10 marks), reference to context (10 marks), long answer (10 marks), and short answer (10 marks)
- Internal examination (10 marks) – Oral, essay writing, group discussion, etc.

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Third Year

General Papers I and II and Special Papers I and III: Total 50 marks each:

- External written examination (40 marks) – Long answer (24 marks), short answer (10 marks), and short notes (6 marks)
- Internal examination (10 marks) – Oral, essay writing, group discussion, etc.

Special Papers II and IV: Total 50 marks each:

- External written examination (40 marks) - Translation (10 marks), reference to context (10 marks), long answer (10 marks), and short answer (10 marks)
- Internal examination (10 marks) – Oral, essay writing, group discussion, etc.

III Syllabus

III.1 Outline:

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies First Year

Semester I

General Paper I: Pre-Buddhist Indian Religious Thought: Vedic and Upaniṣadic

Special Paper I: History of Pali Literature

Semester II

General Paper II: Religious Traditions Contemporary to the Buddha

Special Paper II: History of Buddhist Sanskrit Literature

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Second Year

Semester III

General Paper I: Theravāda Buddhist Philosophy I

Special Paper I: Buddhist Art

Special Paper II: Milindapañha I

Semester IV

General Paper II: Theravāda Buddhist Philosophy II

Special Paper III: Buddhist Architecture

Special Paper IV: Milindapañha II

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Third Year

Semester V

General Paper I: Mahāyāna Buddhist Philosophy I

Special Paper I: Buddhism in Srilanka, Myanmar, and Thailand

Special Paper II: Abhidharmakośa I

Semester VI

General Paper II: Mahāyāna Buddhist Philosophy II

Special Paper III: Buddhism in China, Tibet, and Japan

Special Paper IV: Abhidharmakośa II

III.2 Detailed Syllabus:

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies First Year

Semester I

General Paper I: Pre-Buddhist Indian Religious Thought: Vedic and Upaniṣadic

Religious aspects of pre-Vedic civilization: Vedic Cosmology (Monotheism, Polytheism, Henotheism, nature worship, ancestral worship); Vedic thoughts on the Creation: Puruṣasūkta and Nāsadīyasūkta; Ritualism: Performance of sacrifices (Domestic and Solemn Sacrifices); Buddha's response to Vedic religious ideas; Vedic goal of religious life: Materialist aspirations; religious life and social order: Varṇadharma and Āśramadharma; Upaniṣadic reaction to Vedic ritualism and its emphasis on ascetic life; Buddha's notion of goal of religious life and his response to the Varṇāśramadharma; Upaniṣadic goal of life: Mokṣa; conceptions of metaphysical reality: Ātman, Brahman and Pañcakośa; Upaniṣadic thoughts on the Creation; Buddha's response to the Upaniṣadic ideas

Text books:

1. Dixit, S. N. 1973. *Bhāratīya Tattvajñāna*. Kolhapur: Sau. Minakshi Dixit.
2. Hiriyanna, M. 1994(1993). *Outlines of Indian Philosophy*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Private Limited.

Special Paper I: History of Pali Literature

Origin and homeland, compilation of Pali Literature (Saṅgīti), Piṭaka literature (Sutta, Vinaya, Abhidhamma)

Text books:

1. Dharmarakshita, Bhikshu. 1971. *Pāli Sāhitya kā Itihāsa*. Varanasi: Gyanamandala Limited.
2. Tagare, Ganesh Vasudev. 1982. *Pāli Sahiyāchā Itihāsa*. Poona: Continental Prakashan.
3. Upadhyaya, B. S. 1994. *Pāli Sāhitya kā Itihāsa*. Prayaga: Hindi Sahitya Sammelana.
4. Law, B. C. 2000. *A History of Pāli Literature*. Indica Books. Varanasi: India.

Semester II

General Paper II: Religious Traditions Contemporary to the Buddha

Pārśvanātha's Cāturyāmādharmā, Mahāvīra's Pañca-mahāvratas and Anuvratas; Jain concepts of Ahimsā, Sarvajñatā and Anekāntavāda; Buddha's response to the Jain ideas; Jain concepts of Jīva, Karmabandha and Mokṣa; Niyativāda (Fatalism) of Ājīvakas (Makkhali Gosāla); Akriyāvāda (doctrine of moral inefficacy) of Pūraṇakassapa; Śāśvatavāda (Eternalism) of Pakudhakaccāyana; Vikṣepavāda (Skepticism) of Sañjaya Belatṭhaputta; Lokāyata criticism of religious way of life; Uchedavāda (Annihilationism) of Ajitakesakambali and Pāyāsi; Buddha's response to his contemporary ideas

Text books:

1. Bhaskar, Bhagachandra. 1977. *Jaina Darśana Aura Saṃskṛti kā Itihāsa*. Nagpur: University of Nagpur.
2. Dixit, S. N. 1973. *Bhāratīya Tattvajñāna*. Kolhapur: Sau. Minakshi Dixit.
3. Goyal, S. R. 1987. *A History of Indian Buddhism*. Meerut: Kusumanjali Prakashan.
4. Hiriyanna, M. 1994(1993). *Outlines of Indian Philosophy*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Private Limited.

Special Paper II: History of Buddhist Sanskrit Literature

Mahāvastu, Lalitavistara, Saddharmapuṇḍarīka; Aṣṭasāhasrikāprajñāpāramitā, Laṅkāvatāra, Suvarṇaprabhāsa, Gaṇḍavyūha, Tathāgataguhyaka, Samādhirāja, Daśabhūmīśvara
 Works of Aśvaghōṣa: Buddhacarita & Saundarananda, Jātakamālās of Āryaśūra, Haribhaṭṭa and Gopadatta; Avadāna Literature: Divyāvadāna, Avadānaśataka, Bodhisattvāvadānakalpalatā

Text books:

1. Nariman, J. K. 1992(1923). *Literary History of Sanskrit Buddhism [From Winternitz, Sylvain Levi, Huber]*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Pvt. Ltd.
2. Winternitz M., *A History of Indian Literature*. Vol. II. Translated by S. Ketkar & H. Kohn. Calcutta: University of Calcutta.

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Second Year

Semester III

General Paper I: Theravāda Buddhist Philosophy I

Distinction between Vedic and Śramaṇa tradition; the nature of the Buddha's problem and his inquiry (Ariyapariyesanāsutta); Buddha's first sermon: The Middle Path and four Noble Truths (Dhammacakkapavattanasutta); Three characteristics of Existence: Anicca, Dukkha and Anatta; the nature of Dukkha and its kinds: Dukkhadukkhatā, Vipariṇāmadukkhatā and Saṅkhāradukkhatā; the doctrine of Anattā and five aggregates; the question of compatibility between Anattā and rebirth (Milindapañho: Lakkhaṇapañha – section 31: Ko Paṭisandahatīti); causal analysis of Dukkha: Paṭiccasamuppāda and Dvādasanidāna; causes of Dukkha: Avijjā and Taṇhā

Text books:

1. Bhagwat, N. K. 2006. *Buddhist Philosophy of the Theravāda*. Delhi: Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
2. Deokar, Mahesh, Pradeep Gokhale, and Lata Deokar, eds. 2016. *Bauddha Vicāradhārā*. Pune: Department of Pali, Savitribai Phule Pune University.

3. Upadhyaya, Baladev. 2014. *Bauddha-darśana-mīmāṃsā*. Varanasi: Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan.

Special Paper I: Buddhist Art

Buddhist art - Introduction to Buddhist art; Buddhist symbols: Concept, important Buddhist symbols: Dhammacakra, Bodhiṅkṣa, Buddhapāda, Triratna, Padma; Buddhist narrative art: Incidents from the life of Buddha; Jātaka stories: Concept, significance, Buddhist narratives and literature, visual representation

Buddhist sculptural art - Introduction to Buddhist sculptural art; Buddha images: Concept, features and different types; brief introduction to different schools of Buddhist art: Gāndhāra, Mathurā and Sāranātha; brief introduction to Buddhist bronze art

Text books:

1. Agrawal, V. S. 1977. *Indian Art*. Varanasi: Prithvi Prakashan.
2. Fisher, Robert E. 1993. *Buddhist Art and Architecture*. London: Thames & Hudson.
3. Gupte, R. S. 1972. *Iconography of the Hindus, Buddhist and Jains*. Mumbai: D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co. Pvt. Ltd.
4. Huntington, Susan L. 1985. *The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu and Jain*. New York: Weather hill.
5. Mate, M. S. 1998. *Prāchīn Kalā Bharatī*. Pune: Continental Prakashan.
6. Mitra, Debla. 1971. *Buddhist Monuments*. Calcutta: Sahitya Samsad.

Special Paper II: Milindapañha I

Introduction to Milindapañha and survey of modern research; Mahāvaggo (pp. 22–38), Addhānavaggo (pp. 39–49)

Text books:

1. Pagare, Ramji Devachanda and Sthavir, Sadananda, trans. 1998. *Milindaprasna*. Nagpur: Sugata Prakashan.
2. Shāstrī, Swāmī Dwārikādāsa, trans. 1998. *Milindapañhapāli with Hindi Translation*. Varanasi: Bauddha Bhāratī.
3. Vadekar, R. D., ed. 1972. *Milindapañho*. Bombay: University of Bombay.

Semester IV

General Paper II: Theravāda Buddhist Philosophy II

The nature of Nibbāna; Arhathood as the ultimate goal; four stages to Arhathood: Sotāpanna, Sakadāgāmi, Anāgāmi, Arhat; way to Nibbāna: Aṭṭhaṅgikamagga; Sīla, Samādhi, Paññā
Credit 4: Pragmatic approach: Silence over ‘Unanswerable Questions’ (abyākatapañha) unrelated to the problem of suffering; rational approach: Emphasis on one’s own experience

and critical examination; criticism of ritualism; egalitarian approach: Criticism of hierarchical system of four Varṇas based on birth and divine origin

Text books:

1. Bhagwat, N. K. 2006. *Buddhist Philosophy of the Theravāda*. Delhi: Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
2. Deokar, Mahesh, Pradeep Gokhale, and Lata Deokar, eds. 2016. *Bauddha Vicāradhārā*. Pune: Department of Pali, Savitribai Phule Pune University.
3. Upadhyaya, Baladev. 2014. *Bauddha-darśana-mīmāṃsā*. Varanasi: Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan.

Special Paper III: Buddhist Architecture

Structural Buddhist architecture - Introduction to structural Buddhist architecture; stūpa: Meaning, concept, textual evidence, archaeological evidence; different parts of stūpa and their symbolism: Various types of stūpas, regional variations of stūpas in India; caitya: Meaning, concept, textual evidence, archaeological evidence, architectural features of caityas in India; vihāra: Meaning, concept, textual evidence, archaeological evidence, architectural features of vihāras in India

Rock-cut Buddhist architecture - Introduction to rock-cut Buddhist architecture; antiquity and spread of Buddhist caves in India; different types of Buddhist caves and their functional importance; salient features of early and late Buddhist caves; significance of inscriptions from Buddhist caves

Text books:

1. Brown, Percy. 1976. *Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu Periods)*. Bombay: D. B. Taraporewala.
2. Gupte, R. S. 1972. *Iconography of the Hindus, Buddhist and Jains*. Mumbai: D. B. Taraporewala Sons & Co. Pvt. Ltd.
3. Fisher, Robert E. 1993. *Buddhist Art and Architecture*. London: Thames & Hudson.
4. Huntington, Susan L. 1985. *The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu and Jain*. New York: Weather hill.
5. Mate, M. S. 1998. *Prāchīn Kalā Bharatī*. Pune: Continental Prakashan.
6. Mitra, Debla. 1971. *Buddhist Monuments*. Calcutta: Sahitya Samsad.

Special Paper IV: Milindapañha II

Vicāravaggo (pp. 50–65), Nibbāvaggo (pp. 66–73)

Text books:

1. Pagare, Ramji Devachanda and Sthavir Sadananda, trans. 1998. *Milindaprasna*. Nagpur: Sugata Prakashan.
2. Shāstrī, Swāmī Dwārikādāsa, trans. 1998. *Milindapañhapāli with Hindi Translation*. Varanasi: Bauddha Bhāratī.
3. Vadekar, R. D., ed. 1972. *Milindapañho*. Bombay: University of Bombay.

Higher Diploma Course in Buddhist Studies Third Year

Semester V

General Paper I: Mahāyāna Buddhist Philosophy I

Introduction to Mahāyāna Philosophy - Concept of three Yānas: Śrāvakayāna, Pratyekabuddhayāna and Bodhisattvayāna (Pāramitāyāna and Mantrayāna); notion of Ekayāna (Saddharmapuṇḍarīka); four philosophical schools of Buddhism: Vaibhāṣika, Sautrāntika, Yogācāra, and Mādhyamika, and basis of this classification; Trividha-Dharmacakrapravartana as a justification of the division of Yānas and philosophical schools

Important tenets of Mahāyāna - Concept of Trikāya, Bodhisattva and his way of life; the path to Buddhahood: Daśabhūmi and Pāramitā

Text books:

1. Deokar, Mahesh, Pradeep Gokhale, and Lata Deokar, eds. 2016. *Bauddha Vicāradhārā*. Pune: Department of Pali, Savitribai Phule Pune University.
2. Dutt, Nalinaksha. 2003. *Mahāyāna Buddhism*. Delhi: Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
3. Upadhyaya, Baladev. 2014. *Bauddha-darśana-mīmāṃsā*. Varanasi: Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan.
4. Williams, Paul. 2007(1989). *Mahāyāna Buddhism: The doctrinal foundations*. London & New York: Routledge.

Special Paper I: Buddhism in Srilanka, Myanmar, and Thailand

Arrival of Buddhism, existing traditions before the arrival of Buddhism, early Buddhist traditions after the introduction of Buddhism, socio-cultural change caused by Buddhism, Buddhist literature and art, various Buddhist sects, their teachings and distinctions, journey of Buddhism through centuries, and reforms in Buddhism, the present status of Buddhism and some popular Buddhist masters

Text books:

1. Bapat, P. V., ed. 1956. *2500 Years of Buddhism*. Delhi: The Publication Divisions, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

2. Bode, M. H. 1909. *The Pali Literature of Burma*. London: Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
3. Harvey, G. E. 2000. *History of Burma*. New Delhi: Asian Educational Services.
4. Kusalasaya, K. 1983 (1965). *Buddhism In Thailand – Its Past and its Present*. Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society.
5. Malalasekera, G. P. 1928. *Pali Literature of Ceylon*. London: Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
6. Rahula, Walpola. 1956. *History of Buddhism In Ceylon*. Kandy: The Buddhist Cultural Centre.
7. Saunders, Kenneth. 1921. *Epochs in Buddhist History*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Special Paper II: Abhidharmakośa I

Introduction to Sarvāstivāda Abhidharma literature with special reference to Abhidharmakośabhāṣya of Vasubandhu and survey of modern research; Dhātunirdeśaḥ (verses 1–24)

Text books:

1. Chaudhuri, Sukomal. 1983. *Analytical Study of the Abhidharmakośa*. Calcutta: Firma KLM Private Limited.
2. Dev, Narendra, trans. 1958. *Abhidharmakośa*. Ilahabad: Hindustani Academy.
3. Pradhan, P., ed. 1975. *Abhidharmakośabhāṣyam of Vasubandhu*. Second. Patna: K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute.
4. Śāstri, Swamī Dwārikādās, ed. 1998. *The Abhidharmakośa and Bhāṣya of Ācārya Vasubandhu with Sphuṭārthā Commentary of Ācārya Yaśomitra*. Varanasi: Bauddhabharati.

Semester VI

General Paper II: Mahāyāna Buddhist Philosophy II

Yogācāra - Concept of Vijñaptimatratā (Consciousness Only); Trisvabhāva (threefold nature of things): Parikalpita, Paratantra and Pariniṣpanna; Ālayavijñāna (Store Consciousness) and Pravṛttivijñāna (Operational Consciousness)

Mādhyamika - The middle way between Śāśvatavāda (Eternalism) and Uchedavāda (Annihilationism); Praṭīyasamutpāda, Niḥsvabhāvatā and Śūnyatā; theory of two truths: Saṃvṛttisatya and Paramārthasatya; Catuṣkoṭi and Prasaṅgapaddhati (Fourfold Dialectical Method)

Text books:

1. Deokar, Mahesh, Pradeep Gokhale, and Lata Deokar, eds. 2016. *Bauddha Vicāradhārā*. Pune: Department of Pali, Savitribai Phule Pune University.
2. Dutt, Nalinaksha. 2003. *Mahāyāna Buddhism*. Delhi: Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
3. Upadhyaya, Baladev. 2014. *Bauddha-darśana-mīmāṃsā*. Varanasi: Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan.
4. Williams, Paul. 2007(1989). *Mahāyāna Buddhism: The doctrinal foundations*. London & New York: Routledge.

Special Paper III: Buddhism in China, Tibet, and Japan

Arrival of Buddhism, existing traditions before the arrival of Buddhism, early Buddhist traditions after the introduction of Buddhism, socio-cultural change caused by Buddhism, Buddhist literature and art, various Buddhist sects, their teachings and distinctions, journey of Buddhism through centuries, and reforms in Buddhism, the present status of Buddhism and some popular Buddhist masters

Text books:

1. Bapat, P. V., ed. 1956. *2500 Years of Buddhism*. Delhi: The Publication Divisions, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
2. Rev. Kōdō Matsunami, 2004. *A Guide to Japanese Buddhism*. Tokyo: Japan Buddhist Federation.
3. Saunders E. 1964. *Buddhism in Japan: With an Outline of its Origin in India*. Pennsylvania: University of Pennsylvania Press.
4. Saunders, Kenneth. 1921. *Epochs in Buddhist History*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
5. Yeshe Lama Thubten. 2001. *The Essence of Tibetan Buddhism*. Boston: Lama Yeshe Wisdom Archive.
6. Zurcher, E. 2007. *The Buddhist Conquest of China*. Leiden: BRILL.

Special Paper IV: Abhidharmakośa II

Dhātunirdeśaḥ (verses 25–48)

Text books:

1. Dev, Narendra, trans. 1958. *Abhidharmakośa*. Allahabad: Hindustani Academy.
2. Pradhan, P., ed. 1975. *Abhidharmakośabhāṣyam of Vasubandhu*. Second. Patna: K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute.
3. Śāstri, Swamī Dwārikādās, ed. 1998. *The Abhidharmakośa and Bhāṣya of Ācārya Vasubandhu with Sphuṭārthā Commentary of Ācārya Yaśomitra*. Varanasi: Bauddhabharati.