

CARNATIC MUSIC - MELODIC INSTRUMENTS

Subject Code - 032

Class XI (2025-26)

Introduction

The course in Carnatic Melodic Instruments at Secondary and Senior Secondary level, is being offered for the students, who develop an aptitude and creative ability in the art of playing melodic instruments and carry forward their capabilities in music through education. The syllabus offered in this course envisages the holistic development of the students by introducing to them, the intangible values and rich cultural heritage of our country, which have been in coexistence with music and art forms practiced through ages. The ethos and philosophical concepts that are mirrored in the ancient system of Indian music, can be appreciated by the students who learn this course. Along with the intricacies of music, this course induces a historical consciousness among the students who wish to pursue higher studies in Music. To some extent this course may even be considered as a stepping stone to vocational studies.

Objectives

- To introduce to students, an understanding of certain principles related to the origin and development of Indian music through ages and to familiarize students with the rich history and diversity of Carnatic music and Melodic instruments.
- To inculcate curiosity about the formation of grama, moorchana, jaati, and further development to the raga system and intricate tala system etc.
- Music is very closely associated with many Science and Arts disciplines. One of the objectives is to make the students focus on the interdisciplinary approaches in various musical concepts.
- To develop the ability, techniques and skills of playing the instrument opted for, thus grooming the students to become professional musicians.
- To motivate students to take up melodic instrumental music as a career as well as to open avenues for different careers in related fields.
- To make students aware and efficient in other subjects through integrated learning.
- Students not only learn a vital aspect of Indian culture but also develop skills and qualities that benefit their overall growth and personality development.

Learning Outcome

By learning this course, students:

- Will be able to understand the concepts of Melodic Instruments in Carnatic music
- Will be able to understand the ragas and talas in Carnatic music
- Will be able to understand the art of playing techniques of melodic instrumental music and other creative aspects of Carnatic music
- Will be able to assimilate musical concepts with other disciplines
- Will be able to develop a scientific approach in all aspects through the systematic training opportunities offered during teaching – learning Process.
- Will be able to think music as a career-oriented subject.

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Assessment Design

S.No	Component	Marks
A	Theory	30
B	Practical	50
C	Internal Assessment	20

Curriculum & Examination Structure

(A) Theory

Time: 2 Hours

Max. Marks: 30

S.No	History and Theory of Indian Music
1. (i)	An outline knowledge of the following Lakshana Grandhas Natyasastra and Chaturdandi Prakasika.
(ii)	Short life sketch and contributions of the following: - Veena Dhanammal, Rajamanikkam Pillai, Tirukkodi Kaval Krishna Iyer (violin), Thyagaraja, Syamasastry, Muthuswamy Deekshitar,
(iii)	Brief study of the musical forms: Geetam and its varieties; Varnam – Swarajati, Kriti/ Kirtana
2.	Definition and explanation of the following terms: Nada, Sruti, Swara, Vadi, Vivadi:, Samvadi, Anuvadi, Amsa , Nyasa, Jaati, Raga, Tala, Jati, Yati, Suladisapta talas, Nadai, Arohana, Avarohana.
3.	Candidates should be able to write in notation of Adi tala varnam in the prescribed ragas
4.	Lakshanas of the ragas prescribed. <i>In addition to Kambhoji & Dhanyasi, Ananda bhairavi is deleted</i>
5.	Talas Prescribed: Adi, Roopaka, Misra Chapu and Khanda Chapu. A brief study of Suladi Saptatalas.
6.	A brief introduction to Manodhama Sangitam

(B) Practical**Max. Marks: 50**

S.No	Practical Activities	Marks
1.	Ragas Prescribed: Mayamalavagowla, Sankarabharana, Kharaharapriya, Kalyani, Madhyamavati, Arabhi, Pantuvarali Kedaragaula, Vasanta, Kanada,.	10
2.	Varnams (at least two) in Aditala in two degree of speed.	8
3.	Kriti/ Kirtana in each of the prescribed ragas, covering the main Talas Adi, Rupakam and Chapu.	8
4.	Brief alapana of the ragas prescribed	10
5.	Technique of playing –Kalpana Swaras in Adi, an Rupaka talas in two degrees of speed	6
6.	The candidate should be able to produce all the gamakas pertaining to the Chosen instrument. Only important Gamakas pertaining to opted Instruments are recommended. Other gamakas are deleted.	8
	Total	50

*Teachers will refer to the distribution of marks while examining the candidate for practical examination.

(C) Internal Assessment**Max. Marks: 20****1. Project- File****(05 Marks)**

- Writing in notation the musical compositions of all Ragas prescribed in the syllabus.
- Identifying the Tala of Musical compositions.
- Draw and label any one instrument (Melodic).
- Identifying and interviewing neighborhood Artists.
- Knowledge about any one of the melodic instrument artist.

2. Project Work**(05 Marks)**

Analyse the style of any two contemporary musicians in classical music concert.

3. Periodic practical Test, restricted to three in an academic year.**(10 Marks)**

Average of best two tests to be taken for final marks submission. Each test will examine a candidate for one Raga from the syllabus, one Varnam and a Kriti.