

CARNATIC MUSIC - VOCAL
Subject Code - 031
Class IX (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.
- To not only introduce a vital aspect of Indian culture but also develop skills and qualities that benefit overall growth and personality development.
- 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 an aptitude for singing and grooming the students to become professional singers.
- To motivate students to take up music as a career as well as to open avenues for different careers in related fields.

Learning Outcomes

By learning this course, students;

- Will be able to understand the concepts of Carnatic Music
- Will be able to understand the ragas and talas in Carnatic music
- Will be able to learn raga delineation 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 appreciate 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.	Topics
1.	Brief history of Carnatic Music with special reference to Saint Purandara dasa, Annamacharya, Bhadrachala Ramadasa, Saint Tyagaraja, Muthusamy Dikshitar, Syama Sastry and Swati Tirunal.
2.	Definition of the following terms: Sangeetam, Nada, raga, laya, Tala, Dhatu, Matu, Shruti, Alankara, Arohana, Avarohana, Graha (Sama, Atita, Anagata), Swara – Prakruti & Vikriti Swaras, Poorvanga, Uttaranga, Sthayi,vadi, Samvadi, Anuvadi & VivadiSwara–Amsa, Nyasa and Jeeva.
3.	Brief raga lakshanas of Mohanam, Hamsadhvani, Malahari, Sankarabharanam, Mayamalavagoula, Bilahari, khamas, Kharaharapriya, Abhogi & Hindolam.
4.	Brief knowledge about the musical forms.Geetam, Swarajati, Swara Exercises, Alankaras, Varnam,Kirtana .
5.	Description of following Talas: Adi – Single, Roopakam, Chapu – Mishra & Khanda and Sooladi Sapta Talas.
6.	Notation of Gitams in Roopaka and Triputa Tala

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

S.No.	Topics
1.	Vocal exercises – Swaravalis, Hecchyu and Taggu Sthayi, three degrees of speed. Sapta tala Alankara in only one speed. <i>Other two speeds are deleted.</i>
2.	Simple Geetams – Two Pillari Gitams, two Sadharana Geetams or Sanchari Geetams.
3.	Simple Swarajatiy in Khamas and Bilahari raga.
4.	Four Adi tala Varnams in two degrees of speed.
5.	5 Keertanas in the ragas prescribed.
6.	Swarajnanam test in the prescribed ragas and learnt compositions.
7.	Singing of one Devarnama, one Patriotic song.

*Teachers will refer to the distribution of marks while examine 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.
- Drawing and labelling the various parts of Tanpura.
- Identifying and interviewing neighborhood Artists.

2. Project (05 Marks)**Suggestive Topics* Interrelationship of the following:**

- Music and Physics (Sound- Frequency, vibration, pitch, intensity, timbre)
- Music and Mathematics (Mathematical Calculation of laya.
- Music and History (Development of Music during the medieval period.
- Music and Geography (Development of Music in varied cultural zones e.g. songs, instruments in mountainous or hilly areas)
- Music and languages- Dialects in folk Music.

*Students may choose any one of the above topic for project in consultation with the teacher.

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 Devotional song / Folk song and two Talas.