



COURSE SYLLABUS

Culture in Practice - Music and Dance (Kathak) The City, the River, the Sacred

US Semester Credits: 3 credits

Contact Hours: 45 hours

Course length: Semester

IFSA course code: CLTR280

Course Delivery Method: Face to Face

Course Description

Varanasi has a strong legacy of classical Indian music and is home to celebrated lineages (*gharanas*) in the fields of dance (Kathak) and instrumental (*tabla*) and vocal (*thumri*) music. Globally renowned artists have emerged from the performing arts community of Varanasi, among whom *sitar* maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar and *sehnai* maestro Ustad Bismillah Khan deserve particular mention.

Students may choose one discipline from among dance (Kathak), vocal (Khyal classical singing) and instrumental (either tabla or sitar) music options and will learn in one-on-one (or small group) practical classes under the supervision of expert instructors. In-class lectures will provide the students a theoretical basis for their practice.

Three initial sessions, common for both music and dance students, will introduce the heritage of North Indian classical music and dance, exploring their shared basics and features. At mid semester both music and dance students will assist to a concert (covering 2 theory class sessions) including the different music disciplines chosen by the students, accompanied by introduction and explanations by their respective teachers. The remaining 5 sessions will focus on the specific discipline chosen by the students, giving a more in-depth knowledge of their field of practice.

Learning Objectives

In this course, students will be expected to :

- Acquire familiarity with the technical terms of Indian classical music and dance
 - Deepen understanding of the theoretical and aesthetic principles of music and dance
 - Build awareness of the relationship between tradition and performance
 - Develop performing skills in one of the disciplines of Indian *sangeeta*, the threefold art-form in which vocal music, instrumental music, and dance are inextricably interrelated.
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Course Schedule

Class meets three times a week, for a one hour - session of music practice and once a week, for a one-hour session (if not differently specified) of music theory. Additional contact hours are achieved through field visits and accompanying guided discussions.

Session 01-10 Fall semester/18 Introduction to Indian music and dance (1 and half hour)

Readings:

Vatsyayan, Kapila (1977). *Classical Indian Dance in Literature and the Arts*. New Delhi: Sangeet Natak Akademi, pp. 5-22;
Ruckert, G. E. (2004) *Music in North India*. Oxford – New York NY: Oxford University Press, pp. 33-38.

Session 02-10 Fall semester/18 The Melodic Form in Indian Classical Music: Exploring the Concept of Raaga and related Notions (swara, shruti, saptak, avaroh etc.)

Readings:

Jauhari, Shruti. (2011), *Elements of Hindustani Classical Music*. New Delhi, India: D.K. Printworld. (pp. 20-30, 34-43, 50-52).

Session 03/04-10 Fall semester/18 Rhythm in Indian Classical Music: Exploring the Concept of Tala and Related Notions (matra, sama, tali, khali, vibhag, avartan, tekha, laya) and its relevance to Kathak

Readings:

Jauhari, Shruti. (2011), *Elements of Hindustani Classical Music*. New Delhi, India: D.K. Printworld. (pp., 53-59).
Dadheech, Puru. (1997). *Kathak Dance Syllabi (Part One)*. Indore, India: Bindu Prakashan., (pp. 63-64).

Session 05-10 Fall semester/18 Notation (1 and half hour)

Session 06-10 Fall semester/18 Kathak Performance: Its Structure, Sections and Definition of Different Compositions

Readings:

Pant, Manjula and Mathur, Meera (2003). *Kathak – A Comprehensive Study. Volume – 1*. Lucknow: Rajeshwari Publication, pp. 97-99, 106-110;
Kothari Sunil (1982), *Kathak: Indian Classical Dance Art*, New Delhi: Marg Publications, pp. 83-106.

Assignments:

- Take home assignment – 4-5 page paper. Due on class 9.
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Session 07-10 Fall semester/18**Abhinaya - The Art of Expression (with special reference to Kathak Dance)**Readings:

Kothari Sunil (1982), *Kathak: Indian Classical Dance Art*, New Delhi: Marg Publications, pp 107-136; ;

Pant, Manjula and Mathur, Meera (2003). *Kathak – A Comprehensive Study. Volume – 1*. Lucknow: Rajeshwari Publication, pp. 179-180.

Session 08-10 Fall semester/18**Concert**

Session 09-10 Fall semester/18**Kathak: Its Origin and Development**Readings:

Kothari Sunil (1982), *Kathak: Indian Classical Dance Art*, New Delhi: Marg Publications, pp. 1-18.

Assignments:

- Take home assignment due.

Session 10-10 Fall semester/18**In-class test**

Evaluation

Active class participation	40%
Take home assignment	20%
In-class test	20%
Final Examination	20%

Assessment Criteria**Class participation**

Students will be assessed on attendance record, punctuality, concentration, attitude/effort, progress, and skills acquisition in practical classes. To optimize the outcomes of the course, each student is expected to do a minimum of 3 times per week of self- practice outside the regular class schedule.

Take home assignment

Students will write a short essay paper (4-5 pages, 1000-1250 words) addressing a set of questions set by the teacher. Students will be assessed on their ability to connect the theoretical framework got in the classes with their practical experience. Students are expected to support their arguments referring to information from bibliographic resources. Students are requested to use at least two outside sources, in addition to the course materials provided.

In-class test

Will cover material from all 9 theory class sessions. Students will be graded on their answers to short answer and short-essay questions. Students should demonstrate familiarity with material covered in class meetings and assigned readings. Knowledge of original technical terms in Hindi is required.

Final Examination

Students will stage a short performance to the accompaniment of music and will be assessed on their performing skills as well as their ability to perform on a set rhythmic pattern/metre (taal). Students are also requested to give a brief presentation to their performance shortly introducing the music discipline they are going to perform, the composition repertoire and the rhythmic pattern.

Grading

Institute of Study Abroad programs utilize the follow standard grading policy well accepted by most US institutions.

Excellent	A	93-100%	Good	B+	87-89%	Acceptable	C+	77-79%
	A-	90-92%		B	83-86%		C	73-76%
				B-	80-82%		C-	70-72%
						Unsatisfactory	D+	67-69%
							D	63-66%
							D-	60-62%
						Failing	F	<60%

Course Policies

Exams and Assignments

Students are required to take all regularly scheduled exams in courses for which they are registered, and to submit all assignments on time. Any compelling academic, personal, or medical reason that might justify a rescheduled exam or assignment must be brought up to the Resident Director, not program faculty. Failure to take scheduled exams or submit the requisite assignments for a course will adversely affect your grade as per the stated grading criteria for each course.

Classroom Conduct

Student punctuality is extremely important in China and India. Please do not be late for classes or other activities, as it is considered impolite to do so. It is improper to eat in class, to engage in other activities such as texting, or to slump or nap. Students are expected to be alert and engaged as a sign of respect for their professors.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. It is essential that the students participate fully in the coursework and all required academic activities. Authorized absences may only be approved by the Resident Director, and students are expected to make up any missed work. Unauthorized absences will adversely affect a student's grades.

Timely Submissions

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the course instructor and generally only in the event of a documented illness or emergency.

Academic Integrity

Any academic endeavor must be based upon a foundation of honesty and integrity. Students are expected to abide by principles of academic integrity and must be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work while studying abroad. Any academic work (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill an academic requirement must represent a student's original work. Any act of academic misconduct, such as cheating, fabrication, forgery, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, will subject a student to disciplinary action.

IFSA-Butler takes academic integrity very seriously. Students must not accept outside assistance without permission from the instructor. Additionally, students must document all sources according to the instructions of the professor. Should your instructor suspect you of plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty, you may receive a failing grade for the course and disciplinary action may result. The incident will be reported to the IFSA-Butler resident director as well as your home institution.