

University of Madras

Department of Saiva Siddhanta

M.A., Comparative Religion and Philosophy with Specialization in Saiva Siddhanta

Syllabus

I SEMESTER

PRT – C401	HISTORY OF SAIVA SIDDHANTA	C	4
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This course sketches the History of Saivism from the Literary and Archeological sources.

Tamil Classics – Thirumurais – Meikanda Sastras and Developments - Avvaiyar, Siva Vakkiar, Arunagiri Nathar, Kumaraguruparar, Thayumanavar, Ramalinga Adigalar, Pamban Kumaragurudasar.

PRT –C402	SAIVA SCHOOLS	C	4
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Kashmir Saivism, Sivadvaida and Vira Saivism – Aha Chamayam as dealt by Sivagnana Munivar and Sankarpha Nirakaranam

PRT –C403	THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE / EPISTEMOLOGY	C	4
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Pramanas – Atma Cit Sakthi – Saiva Siddhanta concept of Error

PRT –E401	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION IN TAMIL CLASSICS	E	3
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Concept of God – Concept of Karma – Concept of Birth and Re-Birth – Social Values and Virtues as nourished by Tholkaapiyam – Sangam Literatures.

PRT –E402	FOUNDATIONS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTA	E	3
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Basic concepts – nourished by Language identity – Cultural Values – Heritage – Anthropological Values – Aham / Puram - Ethics

UOM –S001	SOFT SKILL	S	2
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II SEMESTER

PRT – C404	ESSENTIALS OF METAPHYSICS	C	4
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The tradition of Savia Siddhanta – Basic features of Metaphysics, Epistemology and Ethics- concept of God/Pathi – Soul/Pasu – World/Maya – Birth/Karma – Impurity/Anava – Purity - Freedom from Birth cycle.

PRT – C405	INTRODUCTION TO SAIVA SIDDHANTA SASTRAS	C	4
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Gnanamirdham, Meikanda Sastras, Pandara Sastras, Tattvaparakasam by Tattvaparakasar, Sivaneriprakasam by Veezhi Sivagra Yogigal, Sivaprakasa Vikasam by Thuraimangalam Sivaprakasar - Siddhanta Undiyar by Somasundara Nayagar, Ulloor SivaSubramaniyar Cadhakam and Pari Poorana Anandha Bodham by Pamban Swamigal.

PRT – C406	SAIVA SIDDHANTA SASTRA'S CRITIQUE OF OTHER SCHOOLS	C	4
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Introduction to critique of other Schools in Sivagnana Siddhiyar, Sankarpa Niraakaranam, Sivagnana Mapadiyam, Tattvaparakasam.

Critique of Advaita Vedanta/Monism

PRT – E403	ESSENTIALS OF KEVALADVAITA / SANKARA VEDANTA	E	3
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Conception of Brahman – Nature of Jiva – Maya – Bondage and Liberation with special reference to Somasundara Nayagar

PRT – E404	PHILOSOPHY OF KARAIKKAL AMMAIYAR AND THIRUMOOLAR	E	3
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Concept of God, Nataraja, Nandhi, Love, The Love, Mystical experience

UOM –S002	SOFT SKILL	S	2
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III SEMESTER

PRT – C407	SIVAGNANA BODHAM AND ITS COMMENTARIES - I	C	3
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Twelve Sutras of Sivagnanabodham - Cittrurai, Perurai – Readings from Mapadiyam- Podhu/Cirappu as expounded in the Cirappu Paayiram, Mangala Vazhththu and Avai Adakkam of Mapadiyam are dealt with.

PRT – C416	INTRODUCTION TO SAIVA AGAMAS	C	3
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Brief description, the background, Chronology and the content of the Agamas – Distinction between Atmartha and Parartha Pooja - Temple worship and Festivals – The structure of the texts, the methods of general and special and the uniqueness in expanding the philosophy of Siddhanta.

PRT – C408	DASAKARYAM OR AVVAI GNANA KURAL	C	3
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Ten steps of Purity - Tattva Rupam, Tattva Darshanam, Tattva Sudhi, Anma Roopam, Anma Darshanam, Anma Suddhi, Siva Roopam, Siva Darshanam, Siva Yogam, Siva Bhogam with special reference to Unmai Neri Vilakkam and Pandaara Sastras.

(OR)

Avvai Gnanakural

Various Avvaiyars – Avvaiyar Works to Bhakti movement – Philosophy of Avvaiyar – Detail study of Avvai Gnanakural.

PRT – C409	ATHEISM IN INDIAN PHILOSOPHY	C	2
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Heterodox systems in Indian Philosophy - Freedom from birth, God's grace self-realization Carvakas, Jainism, Buddhisim and Ajivakas.

PRT – C410	PANCAKSHARA AND DANCE OF SIVA	C	3
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Mantra of Five letters, Dance of Siva – with reference to five elements - Mystical Experience from dance of Siva with special reference to Thirumandhiram, Unmai Vilakkam and Thiruvarut Payan.

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PRT – E405	AESTHETICS IN SAIVA TEMPLES	E	3
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Construction of Saiva Temples, Chronology of Temple Architecture and Fine arts, Worship in Temple, Visiting Saiva Temples.

PRT – E406	PHILOSOPHY OF YOGA	E	3
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The course deals with the nature of soul, god and world, the art of living and realities, freedom, love, physical and metaphysical experience. History of Yoga tradition; Introduction in Tamil - Thirumoolar and Avvaiyar- Comparative study of Patanjali Yoga.

UOM –S003	SOFT SKILL	S	2
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UOM –I001	INTERNSHIP	I	2
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IV SEMESTER

PRT – C417	SIVAGNANA BODHAM AND ITS COMMENTARIES - II	C	3
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Selected commentaries of Sivagnana Bodham except Sivagnana Munivar with special reference to Pandi Perumal Vruti and Cinthanai Urai - Critical study of Saiva Siddhanta with reference to Vadivelu Chettiar's monistic commentary of Sivagnana Bodham Twelve sutras.

PRT – C418	KAAMIGA AGAMA	C	2
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Outlines of Kaamiga Agama, Mahotsava in Kaamiga Agama and other Agamas.

PRT – C411	CONTEMPORARY SAIVA SIDDHANTA OR ULLOOR SIVASUBRAMANIYAR CADHAKAM	C	3
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Kumaraguparar's Kandhar Kali Venba - Pamban Kumaragurudasar's Therndhene En Kanni - Somasundara Nayagar's Siddhanta Undhiyar.

Or

Pamban Kumaragurudasar's Ulloor SivaSubramaniyar Cadhagam – The structure of the texts, the methods of general and special and the uniqueness in expanding the philosophy of Siddhanta.

PRT – C412	PHILOSOPHY OF LIBERATION OF ETERNAL LIFE – MARANAM ILLA PERUVAAZHVVU	C	3
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Concept of Liberation in Thirukkural, Arpuda Thiruvandhadi, Thirumandhira Upadesam- Concept of Anaindhor in Meikanda Sastras – Suddha Saathagam Concept of Dhegha Siddhi in Naanilai Sadhagam by Dhandapani Swamigal and Gnana Cariyai by Saint Ramalingar.

PRT – C413	COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF NAYANMARS AND ALWARS	C	3
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Salient features of Thevaram and Divya Prabandham - Comparative study of Pathway to God in Nayanmar and Alwar works.

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PRT – C414	MYSTICISM OR NALVAZHI AND SIVA BOGA CARAM	C	2
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Mysticism – Siddhar- Mysticism of Arunagiri Naadhar, Thirupporur Chidambara Swamigal, Thayumanavar , Guru Namachivayar, Kuhai Namachivayar and Seekazhi Citrambala Nadigal, Kaazhi Kannudaiya Vallal, Kamalai Gnana Prakasar, Aathy Siva Prakasar, Perur Santhalingar, Viruthachalam Kumara Devar, Ramalinga Adigalar, Pamban Swamigal and Kovalur Gnaniyar Swamigal.

OR

NALVAZHI AND SIVA BOGA CARAM

The salient features of Avvaiyar’s Nalvazhi and Kamalai Gnana Prakasar’s Siva Boga Caram

PRT – C415	PROJECT WORK	C	6
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Dissertation

PRT – E407	PHILOSOPHY OF THIRUKKURAL	E	3
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This course deals with the following: the place of Thiruvalluvar in the Ethics and Philosophical history in Tamil. Meipporul, Oozh, Mei Unarthal, Art of living and love - Human – State- Goal – Life.

UOM –S004	SOFT SKILL	S	2
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