

CARNATIC MUSIC – PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

Subject Code- 033

Class-X (2026-27)

Introduction

The course in Carnatic music - Percussion Instruments at Secondary and Senior Secondary level is being offered for the students, who develop an aptitude and creative ability in the art of Percussion Instruments and carry forward their capabilities in Percussion 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 as well as cadences of musical rhythm, 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 Percussion instruments.
- To inculcate curiosity about the formation of Tala and its various Jaatis, angas etc and further development to the 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 artists of their respective fields.
- To motivate students to take up percussion 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 Percussion Instruments in Carnatic Music
- Will be able to understand the Tala and its various systems in Carnatic music.
- Will be able to learn the art of playing Carnatic percussion instruments, its techniques and skills
- Will be able to assimilate musical concepts with other disciplines
- Will be able to develop a scientific approach in all aspects, through systematic training opportunities offered during teaching – learning process
- Will be able to appreciate Percussion music as a career oriented subject.

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Assessment Design

Sr.no	Component	Marks
A	Theory	30
B	Practical	50
C	Internal Assessment	20

Curriculum & Examination Structure

(A) Theory

Max. Marks: 30

Time: 2 Hours

S.No.	Topics
1.	Detailed Knowledge about the structure and components of the instruments opted.
2.	Playing techniques adopted for Sapta tala alankaras in three speeds.
3.	16 Angas of Talas, Korvai, Koraippu etc. <i>In preparing Korvai and Koraipu, only Adi and Roopka talas expected. Other talas are deleted</i>
4.	Basic knowledge of Jaati and Gati Bhedas in detail.
5.	A brief outline of different schools of playing Mridangam. Deleted the detailed explanation of different schools of Mridangam <i>but only Brief explanation is expected.</i>
6.	Life sketch and contribution of Palghat Mani Iyer and Palani Subramania Pillai

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

S.No.	Topics	Marks
1.	Knowledge of tuning Mridangam.	6
2.	To prepare and play Sollukattu for Adi, Rupaka, Triputa and Chapu tala varieties.	14
3.	Accompaniment for musical form like Varnam, and Tillana. <i>Deleted slow tempo accompaniment to Padam in addition to jati swram and Kriti</i>	8
4.	Knowledge to prepare Mohra and Korvai in Adi, Rupaka, Chapu and Triputa talas.	12
5.	Play "Tani Avartanam" for at-least 6 to 8 avartanas in only Adi and Roopaka tala are expected and other varieties of tala are deleted.	10
	Total	50

(C) Internal Assessment and Project Work**Max. Marks: 20**

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