

*An Online Certificate Course on the*  
**Foundations of Science and Spirituality**

**Course Brochure**



**Bhaktivedanta Institute (BI) | Kolkata**  
<https://www.binstitute.org>

## **1. Background and Need**

Modern education policy emphasizes upon a holistic understanding of the reality and its practical applications for the betterment of overall human activity. Contemporary approaches in modern education are overly bent towards rational analysis of natural phenomena. They do not emphasize upon the philosophical and spiritual foundations of life. Translating natural skills into professional skills is the need of the hour. This requires a greater insight into the scientific rational approaches and their contextual integration with the personality factors of the modern man.

Given the fact that the classroom education has been overly emphasizing upon the discoveries of science but not the adopted methodology, it will be evident in due course of such onesided approach is that the graduates of science and technology will have insignificant foundations of philosophical world view. Thus, the need of the hour is to examine the peripheral analysis of the methodologies adopted in these broad and diverse systems of knowledge. Thus, a deeper study of life is required from the integrated perspectives of scientific, philosophical and spiritual dimensions of life. To do so, a foundational training is required in the epistemological and ontological issues associated to scientific methodology, spirituality and their integration.

The Certificate Course on the Foundations of Science and Spirituality dovetails towards the affirming of the needful pedagogy for the integration of rational, philosophical and spiritual aspects of the reality. Thereby, graduates of the course will be able to extend their existing knowledge into novel dimensions of holism and reap upon the benefits of the holistic paradigm in their personal, professional and social spheres of life.

A graduate upon successful completion of the course will have broader outlook on the fundamental and applied issues in life.

## **2. Who can register for the Course?**

- Massive Online Open Course (MOOCs) Trainees in Value Education
- Students enrolled in Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) discipline

- Enthusiastic Science and Technology Graduates Desiring Professional Excellence and Distinction
- College and School Teachers in Science and Humanities
- Life Coach/Counsellors

### 3. Eligibility

- 10+2 in Science with Distinction
- Strong Interests in Vedanta/Philosophy

### 4. Course Syllabi

**Scientific Methods:** Elements of scientific method, Foundations of Classical and Quantum Physics, paradigm shift, epistemology and ontology of science, science beyond the science.

**Spirituality:** Elements and Characteristics of a Spiritual Process; Astika Vedic Philosophies and their Pramanas; Axioms of Bhagavata culture; Spiritual coherence of Vedanta and World religions; Epistemology and Ontology of Spirituality

**Spirituality in World Religions:** Need for distilled essence of religious principles; Common principles of world religions; Axioms of the Bhaktivedanta School as the distilled essence of world religions

**Synthesis of Science and Spirituality:** Six sigma of science-spirituality synthesis; Limitations of rational approach to understand the reality; method of inference; divinity inspired rational science; fine tuned universe; intelligent design; modern scientific validity of empirical Vedanta; common goals of science and spirituality; Vedantic perspectives of science and spirituality synthesis.

## 5. Credits

S. No.	Lecture Name	Lecture Hours	Assignment hours	International Credits
1	Scientific Methods	2	2	0.2
2	Spirituality	3	2	0.3
3	Spirituality in World Religions	2	2	0.2
4	Synthesis of Science and Spirituality	3	2	0.3

## 6. Time Table

Session	Contents	Assignments
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Course Overview</li><li>• Scientific Methods</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	-
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Live interaction</li><li>• Clarification of Doubts</li></ul>	Released: # [1]
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirituality</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	Submission Due: # [1]
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirituality</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	-
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirituality &amp; Spirituality in World Religions (a &amp; b)</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	Released: # [2]
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirituality (b)</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	Submission Due: # [2]
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spirituality in World Religions (b)</li><li>• Review of important concepts</li></ul>	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Live interaction</li><li>• Clarification of doubts</li></ul>	Released: # [3]
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Synthesis of Science and Spirituality</li></ul>	Submission Due: # [3]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of important concepts</li> </ul>	
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesis of Science and Spirituality</li> <li>• Review of important concepts</li> <li>• Live interaction</li> <li>• Clarification of Doubts</li> </ul>	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesis of Science and Spirituality</li> <li>• Review of important concepts</li> <li>• Live interaction</li> <li>• Clarification of Doubts</li> </ul>	Released: # [4]
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Summary</li> <li>• Award of Certificates</li> </ul>	Submission Due: # [4]

**\* To be held on Every Sunday from 6:00 to 07:30 pm on ZOOM.** Session dates to be confirmed through email/WhatsApp.

### ***Assignment submission and evaluation policy***

- For each subject, one home **assignment** would be released as google form document. The same shall be submitted online.
- Course pdfs and videos would be shared to each registered delegate to solve the assignment questions.
- Each exam paper has only multiple choice questions (**MCQ**). The questions have been prepared based on taught content.
- Each registered student must secure 50% marks in each exam paper. Otherwise, student shall revisit the lecture content and redo the assignments.
- A registered delegate would not be allowed to submit future assignments without securing 50% marks in the submitted assignments.

## 7. Course Fees

- Students: 50 €/-
- Professionals: 60 €/-

### Payment options

After filling the registration form, you will receive a payment link to your e-mail provided.

(Note: Registration request will be complete only after sending the payment acknowledgment to Registration Coordinator)

## 8. Course Pedagogy

- Deeper thinking and application of scientific knowledge
- Cultivation of inclusive knowledge to supplement scientific temper
- Broadened thought process
  - Thinking integrated with personality
  - Unconditioned and open-ended thinking converging to practical solutions
- Spirituality embedded into lifestyle
  - Cultivation of detachment to enhance efficiency in all walks of life
  - With highest subjectivity, spirituality providing solutions beyond scientific temper and philosophical wisdom.
- Integration of reductionistic and non-reductionistic paradigms of the reality.

## 9. Course Benefits

- Inclusive knowledge
  - Deeper understanding of science, philosophy and spirituality
  - Adequate training in systematic and creative thinking

- Practical realizations of spirituality
  - Experience superlative to sensory and speculative frameworks
  - Meditation improvising inner dimension of life
- Customized solutions to dynamic challenges and crisis of life
  - Balanced and optimized approaches
  - Seamless integration

## 10. How to Register

- Contact the Registration coordinator
- Scan the QR Code on the poster
- Refer Course Website communicated
- Fill registration form:  
<https://forms.gle/3nFUABHz6fhDadhX8>

Step1: Fill the registration form

Step2: Send it to coordinator (optional)

Step3: Receive an e-mail with payment link

Step4: Pay the prescribe fee

Step5: Send the payment acknowledgment to registration coordinator

Step6: Receive confirmation e-mail

## 11. Course Instructors and Administrators

S. No.	Name	Duties
1	<b>Prof. Ramagopal Uppaluri</b> Honorary Director (Distance Education), BI Kolkata & Professor of Chemical Engineering, IIT Guwahati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Technical matters</li> <li>• Troubleshooting</li> <li>• Scientific Methods</li> <li>• Synthesis of Science and Spirituality</li> </ul>
2	<b>Prof. Ramjee Repaka</b> Department of Mechanical Engineering IIT Ropar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific Methods</li> <li>• Live sessions</li> <li>• Troubleshooting</li> </ul>

3	<b>Sri Segar Millindar</b> Aviation Consultant, Mumbai & Former Assistant General Manager, Air India, Mumbai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synchronization</li> <li>• Troubleshooting</li> <li>• Synthesis of Science and Spirituality</li> </ul>
4	<b>Ajaya Kumar Sahoo</b> Research scholar Bhaktivedanta Institute, Kolkata & Technical Manager (Software Product Development), Quest Global Services, Bangalore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment Release and Grading</li> <li>• Clarification of Doubts</li> </ul>
5	<b>Mr. Acyuta Kesav Das</b> Bhaktivedanta Institute Kolkata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration &amp; Enrollment</li> </ul>

## 12. Frequently asked questions

**Q1. I have interest to register for the course. However, I am not available during Saturday morning class session. Can I register?**

Yes, you can! All content available on ZOOM would be available for offline viewing for a stipulated period of time. Also, live interaction will have significant content to enrich learning dynamically. Therefore, you are advised to at least register for the live sessions.

**Q2. Will I get a Certificate if I secure less than 50% marks in the Assignments despite doing repeated attempts?**

No!

**Q3. What other courses can we take from the Bhaktivedanta Institute?**

In due course of time, the institute is planning to offer many courses. However, for all these courses, the existing course i.e., Foundations of



Science and Spirituality is the most important and necessary pre-requisite course. The interactive sessions based future courses of the institute are:

- Nature of Reality
- Personal Excellence
- Professional Excellence
- Holistic Excellence
- Foundations and Applications of Science and Spirituality
- Advanced Synthesis of Science and Spirituality

### 13. Contact us

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