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***OFFICE OF DOCTORAL STUDIES***

***O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY SONIPAT***

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**PROGRAMME** : OPEN/Ph.D.  
**SEMESTER** : FALL/SPRING  
**NO. OF CREDITS** : 1.5  
**SUBJECT** : Bhagavad Gita for Leadership, Ethics, and Decision-Making  
**LOCATION** : HYBRID

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**INSTRUCTOR** : Dr. AAINA DUTTA  
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**OFFICE HOURS** : PRIOR APPOINTMENT

### Course description:

This course explores the Bhagavad Gita's wisdom through the lens of research methodologies, corporate leadership, behavioral sciences, and ethical decision-making. Students will analyze its philosophical foundations and apply its principles to modern management, innovation, sustainability, and work-life balance.

### Learning outcome:

- Understand **core philosophical and ethical** principles of the Bhagavad Gita.
- Apply Gita-based **decision-making models** to business, leadership, and research ethics.
- Integrate **mindfulness, resilience, and self-regulation** in corporate and academic settings.
- Explore Gita's impact on **sustainability, innovation, and stakeholder management**.
- Compare **Western and Eastern leadership models**, highlighting the Gita's relevance in contemporary scenarios.

### General competence

- Students should be able to analyze key concepts such as Dharma (duty), Karma (action), Bhakti (devotion), and Jnana (wisdom) and apply them to corporate leadership, governance, and ethical dilemmas.

- Students should be able to apply the Gita's teachings to enhance mental resilience, mindfulness, and work-life balance in high-pressure environments.
- Students should be able to evaluate ethical decision-making frameworks in business, policy, and research, using the Gita's wisdom to navigate moral conflicts.

### **Evaluation and Grading:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Weightage</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Formative Assessment	50%	Detailed Below
Summative Assessment	50%	Course Calendar

*Formative Assessment will consist of Individual/ Group Assignment with 50% weightage.*

*Summative Assignment will be done through evaluation of case studies which carries 50% weightage.*

### **Passing Criteria and Attendance Criteria:**

As per JGU Guidelines for the given courses.

### **Detailed Session Plan:**

#### **Module 1: Foundations of the Bhagavad Gita (Weeks 1-2)**

- Historical context and philosophical essence of the Gita
- Core themes: **Dharma (duty), Karma (action), Bhakti (devotion), and Jnana (wisdom)**
- Comparison with Western leadership and ethical theories (Stoicism, Kantian ethics)

#### **Module 2: Leadership, Decision-Making & Ethical Dilemmas (Weeks 3-4)**

- Krishna's guidance to Arjuna: **Handling dilemmas and moral conflicts**

- Applications in **corporate governance, strategic management, and HR leadership**
- Case studies: Ethical dilemmas faced by business leaders & solutions inspired by Gita

### **Module 3: Bhagavad Gita & Research Methodologies (Weeks 5-6)**

- Research ethics and intellectual humility (**Nishkama Karma – Work without Attachment**)
- Overcoming **confirmation bias and cognitive dissonance** in academic research
- Application of **Gita's wisdom in interdisciplinary problem-solving**

### **Module 4: Mindfulness, Mental Resilience & Work-Life Balance (Weeks 7-8)**

- Psychological benefits of **Karma Yoga and Sattvic mindset** in high-stress environments
- Neuroscience of **detachment and productivity**
- Meditation, focus, and resilience for **corporate executives and researchers**

### **Module 5: Innovation, Sustainability & Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) (Weeks 9-10)**

- Gita's influence on **sustainable leadership & corporate ethics**
- Principles of **Sattva, Rajas, and Tamas** applied to organizational change
- CSR strategies inspired by **Dharma and stakeholder responsibility**

### **Module 6: Bhagavad Gita & Future of Leadership in AI and Tech (Weeks 11-12)**

- Ethical AI, automation, and Gita's role in **human-AI collaboration**
- Gita's guidance on **digital transformation, crisis management, and adaptability**
- Final project presentations: Applying Gita's principles to **real-world corporate & research challenges**

**Course Resources:**

- **Primary Text:** Bhagavad Gita (Various translations & interpretations)
- **Reference Books:**
  - *The Bhagavad Gita for Business and Leadership* – Radhakrishnan Pillai
  - *The Leadership Sutra: An Indian Approach to Power* – Devdutt Pattanaik
  - *Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Business* – Fraedrich & Ferrell