



**ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**  
**AWANTIPORA**  
**International Centre for Spiritual Studies**

Syllabus for entrance test for admission to PhD programme in Spiritual Studies at the International Centre for Spiritual Studies, IUST.

**Part-1**

1. **Spirituality in Abrahamic Religions**
  1. Concept of Spirituality in Islam
  2. Concept of Spirituality in Judaism
  3. Concept of Spirituality in Christianity
  4. A comparative study of spirituality in the Abrahamic religions
2. **Spirituality in Indic Religions**
  1. Concept of Spirituality in Hinduism
  2. Concept of Spirituality in Buddhism
  3. Concept of Spirituality in Sikhism
  4. A comparative study of spirituality in Indic religions
3. **Spiritual concepts in Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Judaism and Christianity**
  1. Karmic cycle and Moksha
  2. Dhyāna and Nirvāna
  3. Gurmukh, Gurbānī and Mukti
  4. Hāgā, Siḥā, the Lord's prayer and Christian Meditation
4. **Meditation Practices in Major World Religions**
  1. Exercise of remembrance (dhikr) and reflection (taffakur) in Islam
  2. Meditative practices in Judaism and Christianity
  3. Practice of meditation (dhyāna) in Hinduism
  4. Practice of meditation (dhyāna) in Buddhism
5. **Taşawwuf (Sufism-I)**
  1. Meaning and origin of Taşawwuf
  2. Development of Taşawwuf
  3. Life and doctrines of:  
Ḥasan al-Basrī (RA), Rābi'ah al-Basari (RA)
  4. Life and doctrines of:  
Junayd al-Baghdādī (RA), Bāyazīd Bisṭāmī (RA)
6. **Taşawwuf (Sufism-II)-Life and Teachings of:**
  1. Shaykh Sayyid 'Abdul al-Qādir Jilānī (RA)
  2. Khwāja Mu'īn al-Dīn Chistī (RA)
  3. Shaykh Shihāb al-Dīn al-Suhrawardī (RA)
  4. Bahā' al-Dīn Naqshband (RA)

**7. An Introduction to Major Šūfīs Works-I**

1. *Al-Risālah al-Qushayriyyah*
2. *Kashf al-Mahjūb*
3. *'Awārif al-Ma'ārif*
4. *Futūh al-Ghayb*

**8. An Introduction to Major Šūfīs Works-II**

1. *Kīmīyā-yi Sa'ādat*
2. *Tazkirat al-Awliyā'*
3. *Nafahāt al-Uns*
4. *Al-Futūhāt al-Makkiyyah*

**9. Major concepts and theories in spirituality**

1. *Tawhīd, wisāl, spiritual worlds*
2. *Khanqah, muraqabah, dhikir*
3. *Waḥdah al-wujūd*
4. *Waḥdah al-shuhūd*

**10. Major Šūfī Personalities of Kashmir**

1. Mīr Sayyid 'Alī Hamadānī <sup>(RA)</sup>: Life and thought
2. Shaykh Nūr-ud-Dīn <sup>(RA)</sup>: Life and teachings
3. Shaykh Yaqūb Sarfī <sup>(RA)</sup>: Life and works
4. Shaykh Ḥamzah Makhdūm <sup>(RA)</sup>: Life and role

**11. Mystical Heritage of Kashmir**

1. Origin and Development mysticism in Kashmir
2. Mysticism in the Vākhs of Lal Ded
3. Didactic thought of Shaykh Nūr-ud-Dīn <sup>(RA)</sup>
4. Rishī tradition and Rishī personalities of Kashmir

**12. Spiritual Ecology**

1. Three Dimensions of ecology: Soil, Spirit & Society
2. Environmental ethics in Indic religions
3. Environmental ethics in Abrahamic religions
4. Spirituality based programs for sustainable development

**13. Inter-faith Dialogue**

1. Basic principles of Inter-faith dialogue
2. Goals of inter-faith dialogue
3. Principles towards better inter-faith relations
4. Types of inter-faith dialogue



## Part-2

1. **Research Methodology: An Introduction**
  1. Meaning of research and hypothesis
  2. Objectives of research
  3. Characteristics of a researcher
  4. Significance of research
2. **Approaches and Types of Research**
  1. Qualitative approach to research
  2. Quantitative approach research
  3. Descriptive and Analytical research
  4. Conceptual and Empirical research
3. **Methods of Data Collection**
  1. Collection of Primary data
  2. Observation method
  3. Collection of data through questionnaires
  4. Collection of secondary data
4. **Approaches and Challenges with Special Reference to Religious Studies**
  1. Traditional Approach, Modern Approach
  2. Apologetic Approach, Polemic Approach
  3. Inter-disciplinary Approach
  4. Orientalist Approach
5. **Research Format**
  1. Application and the need of transliteration and translation and abbreviations in research
  2. Review of literature and its significance
  3. Classification of Sources
    - a) Primary      b) Secondary      c) Tertiary
  4. Bibliographical Format: APA Style, Chicago Manual, Harvard Style
6. **Ethical and Legal Dimensions of Research**
  1. Basic ethical principles of research
  2. Plagiarism: Definition, types and implications
  3. Fairdeal Doctrine
  4. Concept of Similarity Index check and the major software's used in its determination/assessment