

GE 1a

Universe of Knowledge

60 Hours
(45hrs Lect. + 15hrs Tut.)

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-Requisite of the Course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
GE 1a: Universe of Knowledge	4	3	1	0	-	-

Course Objectives

The course aims to introduce the concept and evolution of the universe of knowledge and its structural organization across disciplines. It develops an understanding of knowledge classification, mapping, and interdisciplinary relationships. The course also prepares learners to apply these concepts in organizing and retrieving information effectively in library systems.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- ☞ Explain the concept, scope, and evolution of the universe of knowledge and understand its philosophical foundations.
- ☞ Analyze various modes of thinking and methods of knowledge formation across disciplines.
- ☞ Examine the structure, organization, and dissemination of knowledge within society and classification systems.
- ☞ Evaluate the role of research, scholarship, and libraries in the creation, preservation, and transmission of knowledge.

UNIT I: Concept and Development of Knowledge 12 Hours

- ☞ Meaning of the Universe of Knowledge
- ☞ Scope of the Universe of Knowledge: Epistemology, Metaphysics, Logic and Education
- ☞ Interrelation of Various Subjects

UNIT II: Modes of Thinking and Methods of Knowledge Formation

12 Hours

- ☞ Authority-centred Modes of Thinking
- ☞ Speculative Modes of Thinking
- ☞ Positivistic Modes of Thinking
- ☞ Modes of Formation of Subjects and Branches of Knowledge

UNIT III: Structure and Organization of Knowledge

11 Hours

- ☞ Knowledge and Society
- ☞ Mapping of the Universe of Knowledge in Major Classification Schemes
- ☞ Dissemination of Knowledge and Information
- ☞ Knowledge and its Dynamics: Sources of Knowledge, Pattern of Development of Knowledge, and Advent of a Genius

UNIT IV: Research, Scholarship and Libraries in Knowledge Development

10 Hours

- ☞ Role of Research in the Growth of Knowledge: Fundamental and Applied Research
- ☞ Organization of Research
- ☞ Libraries as Centres of Knowledge Preservation, Organisation, and Dissemination

Essential Readings

- ☞ AGGARWAL (DS). Lectures on universe of knowledge. Delhi, Academic Publications. 1985.
- ☞ BATES (MJ). Understanding information: studies in the philosophy of information. Berlin, Springer. 2010.
- ☞ BLISS (HE). The organization of knowledge and the system of the sciences. New York, Henry Holt. 1929.
- ☞ BROOKES (BC). Fundamentals of information science. London, Harrow. 1980.
- ☞ FARRADANE (J). Concepts of information and knowledge. London, ASLIB. 1979.
- ☞ MACHLUP (F). The production and distribution of knowledge in the UNITED States. Princeton, Princeton University Press. 1962.

- ☞ MUKHERJEE (AK). Librarianship: its philosophy and history. Delhi, Asia Publishing House. 1966.
- ☞ PANDEY (SK) and SHARMA (SK). Universe of knowledge and research methodology. Delhi, KEN Publications. 1990.
- ☞ RANGANATHAN (SR). Prolegomena to library classification. Bombay, Asia Publishing House. 1967.

Suggested Readings

- ☞ KHANNA (JK). Communicating knowledge. Kurukshetra, Research Publications. 1997.
- ☞ KHANNA (JK) and VASHISHT (KK). Knowledge: evolution, structure and research methodology. Delhi, Ess Ess Publications. 1985.
- ☞ SHERA (JH). Foundations of education for librarianship. New York, Wiley. 1972.
- ☞ ZIMAN (J). Public knowledge: the social dimension of science. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. 1968.