

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SPIRITUAL SCIENCES TEXAS, USA
BACHELOR DEGREE IN DANCE - KUCHIPUDI
Academic Year: 2026-27

YEAR - 1

Theory

Unit -1

- Study of Indian Classical Dance Forms.
- Natyotpati (Origin of Natya).
- The Village and the Dance (History of Kuchipudi)
- Evolution of Kuchipudi
- Natya, Nritya and Nritya.

Unit – 2

- Treatises of Classical Dance: (Brief Introduction to Natya Shastra and Abhinaya Darpana.)
- Brief Introduction to Margi and Desi.
- Importance of Music in Dance.
- Origin and history of Indian Music.
- Technical terms of carnatic music.
- Patra and apatra and kinkini lakshana
- **Introduction to Abhinaya**
 - Angika Abhinaya - shiro bedhas, drishti bedhas, greeva bedhas
 - 1. Hastas- Asamyuktha hastas, Samyuktha hastas and Nritya hastas. (Shlokas and viniyoga according to abhinaya darpana)
 - 2. Pada Bhedas (Feet moments)
 - Aharya Abhinaya - (Anuroopa, Roopanuroopa, and Viroopa (Jewellery used in Kuchipudi style)
 - Vachika Abhinaya
 - Sathvika Abhinaya

Unit-3

- Technical terms of carnatic music.
- India Classical Music. (Carnatic and Hindusthani Music)
- Life Histories: Siddendra Yogi, Vedantham Lakshmi Narayana Shastri, Chinta Venkata Ramayya, Musical Trinities and Purandara dasa.

Practicals

Unit-1

- Kuchipudi Namaskaram with shloka and explanation - Natyaarambha shlokas (Natya Shastra)
- Dhyna Shloka
- Prathama Pata - Pada Bhedas (Sama pada, Udhgatita, Agratala sancharah, Anchita, Kunchitha and soochi)
- Traditional Adavus (connects with six adavus/ adagulu in three speeds- Ontee adavu, Chowkam, Jaradagu, Pakkanattu, Kartharinattu and Guppi adagu)
- To recite the Pataakshara (sollukatu)
- Jathis - Chaturasra
- Introductions to Hastas
- Compositions- Swarajathis - Jathi compositions for swara of any raga)

Unit-2 (Paper - 1)

Adavus.

- Pancha jathi adavus in all three speeds.
- Mukthaya Adavus.
- Adaptation of jaathis in the jathis. (Tishra, Chaturara, Khanda, Mishra and sankeerna)
- Compositions-Swarajathi, Shloka Abhinaya,Pushpanjali/ Pooja nruthyam, Poorva ranga with Stuti, Jathi swaram (Atana - Ragam) Kouthvam- (Jeyam Jeyam tha nana Tha Jeyam)

(Paper -2)

- Compositions: Natesha Kauthvam, Astakam, Devarnama, Ramayana Shabham, Manduka shabdham, keerthana.
- Learn to sing the compositions with tala.

Unit-3

- Introduction to Tala and Laya.
- Sarale varase, Janti varase, Dattu varase, Mandara Sthayi varase , Geetham 1 and Geetham 2 and 3.

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YEAR - 2

Theory

Unit -1

- Comparative study of Natya shastra and Abhinaya dharapana.
- Introduction to folk, regional and ritual art forms.
- Brief Introduction to Margi and Desi aspects of dance.
- Natya Mela and Nattuva Mela.

Unit – 2

- The Kuchipudi Repertories.
- Compositional forms in Carnatic music.
- Life histories of vaageyakaaras.
- History and origin of Devadasi.

Unit-3

- Communication Skills.
- Soft Skills.

Practicals

Unit-1 (Paper -1)

- Compositions: :krishna Shabham, vasantha swarajathi ,tarangam,padam/javali,thillana.

(Paper-2)

- Bhama Kalapam Praveha Dharavu.

Unit-2

- Introduction to Sapta Talas.
- Madhya Sthayi Varase, Tara Sthayi Varase, Alankaram, Geetham 4, 5 and 6.

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YEAR - 3

Theory

Unit -1

- Rasa and Bhava.
- Kuchipudi Yakshagana an overview.
- Introduction to the Dramaturgy of Kuchipudi.
- Kuchipudi contributions.
- Kuchipudi Family.

Unit – 2

- Importance of Kuchipudi Flag.
- Veni Vrthantham.
- The Kuchipudi Reportires.
- Decline and reforms of Devadasi.

Unit - 3

- Art Managemnt

Practicals

Unit-1

(Paper -1)

- Compositions: BhamaKalapam (2nd half)

(paper-2)

- Solo Production.

Unit-2

- Geetham to sing.
- Swarajathi to sing.