

Lesson Outlines

1. Unity & diversity

Introduction to the temple worship unit. Explore the broad range of deity worship standards in ISKCON temples and how to accommodate these diversities in their local temple. The assessment methods used in this module will also be discussed.

2. Values and attitudes

Covers the attitude of a *pujari* and the qualifications needed to worship the deity.

3. Purity

Learn the importance of purity and how it assists us to develop in our Krishna consciousness and the performance of deity worship.

Devotees will learn the simple *ācamana* procedure.

4. Role and importance

Discuss the benefits of deity worship and why we do it. Also explore that deity worship is integral to devotional service and the mission of ISKCON.

5. The form of the lord

Discover what is a deity, which deities we worship and why. What is the mood of temple worship?

6. Authenticity

Explore the authenticity of the process deity worship and how it can give us the highest spiritual success.

7. Cleanliness

Further explore cleanliness and purity, focusing on personal cleanliness and preparing for worship.

Devotees will learn the Vaiṣṇava *ācamana* and *sāmānya-arghya* procedures.

8. Cleanliness – practical

Familiarize students with materials paraphernalia is made from, and what materials are acceptable for use. Also learn with how to clean paraphernalia and the different ingredients used for cleaning.

9. Sambandha

Explore our relationship with Kṛṣṇa and how important is it to understand this? Once we understand this what should we do? How does the process deity worship help us cultivate our relationship with Kṛṣṇa.

10. Ārati & skills

Learn about *ārati*, what it is and why we offer it? Learn what the items mean and gain the skills needed to prepare for and offer *ārati*.

11. Morning Worship (bathing & dressing) – an introduction

Learn about the bathing and dressing of brass deities. Why do we offer it? Devotees will gain the knowledge and skills that will assist them to serve the Lord.

12. Bhoga offering

Discover why we offer *bhoga* to the Lord and how to do it. Understand why the Lord accepts our offerings. Identify the different methods and the suitable times to use the different methods of offering *bhoga* to the Lord.

13. Oral feedback

Equip students with the knowledge and skills required to be able to give effective oral feedback to others.

14. Mantras and meditation

Explore the significance of the *mahā-mantra* and other *mantras* and meditation in deity worship. Discover them as a powerful means of accessing the spiritual reality.

15. Śoḍaśopacāra pūjā – Unpacked and explored

Discuss the details of preparing for *śoḍaśopacāra-pūjā*.

16. Śoḍaśopacāra pūjā – demonstration

Observe a skilled *pujari* perform the morning bathing and dressing.

17. Śoḍaśopacāra pūjā – practice

Tutorial — In smaller groups, devotees will get the opportunity to ask questions on aspects of the worship they are not familiar with and to get one on one guidance.

18. Waking and resting

Equip devotees with the skills required to wake the deities and put them to bed

8 Assessments classes

Devotees will get the opportunity to worship the deities under the guidance of an experienced pujari.

Assessment Methods

The student's performance in this unit is assessed through a range of methods outlined below. These assessment methods will help us to understand the student's assimilation of the knowledge, skills and values presented in the unit. The assessment is designed to facilitate the students achieve the learning outcomes.

Standard Worship with Sixteen Items

The devotee's ability to offer the "Standard Worship with Sixteen Items" to Sri Sri Gaura-Nitāi is the primary assessment for the course. Student's success is largely dependent of their knowledge of the worship procedures given in the *Method of Worship* handbook.

Homework

To properly facilitate our serving you, we humbly request that all homework and assessments are clearly labeled with your name, and the topic of the paper, i.e., which homework assignment or essay it is. Unless the papers are clearly labeled, they will not be assessed.

Due – All homework assignments are due first class of the temple worship unit on the next day of classes.

Clearly labeled – clearly label each page of all homework with your name, page number, which lesson it is from and the topic of the paper, i.e., which homework assignment it is as the header for the paper. Unless the papers are clearly labeled, they will not be accepted, and you will receive no mark. If the questions are numbered, please number your answers. It is preferable that you write the question before your answer.

Legible – Please write legibly, if it cannot be read, it cannot be assessed.

Other Practicals

Devotees will perform *ācamana* before each class, and each day several devotees will be graded on their ability to do the *ācamana* procedure.

Cleanliness

Devotees will be given an *ācamana* cup for the duration of the course. They are expected to keep this clean. At the start of each class the cleanliness of your *ācamana* cup will be graded.

Class Participation and Conduct

Participation in class activities and conduct is also an important part of the assessment. We encourage everyone to participate in the classroom activities and encourage devotees to participate in a Vaiṣṇava manner. Relationships are an important part of devotional service and are developed by observing appropriate protocol or etiquette.

Attendance

This is not a casual seminar where you may pick and choose which classes you attend. If you have enrolled for the course, you are expected to attend all the classes.

Punctuality

Is one of the key values of the course. Being punctual means arriving before the start of the class. At the start of the first class of the day the facilitator (or someone assigned by them) will ring a bell. Any devotee coming after that will be marked as late. If we receive a note beforehand, with a reasonable excuse, you will not be marked as late.

If you ***provide a note*** with reasonable excuse for not attending a class, or for being late you will receive 50% of the punctuality mark for that day (the note must be received at least ***five minutes before the start of the class***). If you are late without sufficient cause, you will receive a negative mark -25%. If you fail to come, then you will receive a negative mark -50%.

Only written notification will be accepted, verbal notification is not sufficient. Any devotee who gets less than 50% for the punctuality mark will fail the course regardless of how well they do in the rest of the course. Even though the total punctuality mark only counts for 10% of the total mark it is nonetheless vital for effective deity worship. Tardiness in deity worship is a cause of offensive deity worship.

Our purpose here is to practically demonstrate to the devotees the importance of punctuality in deity worship. It is the *pujaris* personal responsibility to the Lord to turn up on time for deity *seva*. If they are unable to turn up on time, they are individually responsible to make some suitable, alternative arrangement. It is not the responsibility of anyone else. After all, it is YOUR relationship with Kāñḍā.

Marks and Grades

The following are guidelines for facilitators to use when marking students. This may apply to any type of assessment used in this course.

High distinction	98% - 100%	Superb
Distinction	90% - 97%	Excellent
Credit	75% - 89%	No mistakes
Pass	60% - 74%	Further training
Incomplete	00% - 59%	Incomplete