

Detailed Course Content

The course on *Dramas of Mahākavi Kālidāsa* comprises 7 lessons. A detailed description of the topics covered in each lesson is provided below:

Lesson 1: Introduction

- Introduction to Mahākavi Kālidāsa
- Anecdotes associated with the Mahākavi and his compositions
- Overview of dramas in Sanskrit literature comprising of the types and constituents
- Dramas of Kālidāsa

Lesson 2: Mālavikāgnimitram

- Storyline of the play
- Critical appreciation of the literary merits
- Highlights for rasāsvāda

Lesson 3: Vikramorvaśīyam – 1

- Source of the play
- Deviations introduced by Kālidāsa
- Benedictory verse
- Storyline
- The characterisation of principal characters

Lesson 4: Vikramorvaśīyam – 2

- Fourth act which is the innovation of the poet
- Select alaṅkāras and rasāsvāda of verses
- Select Subhāṣitas

Lesson 5: Abhijñānaśākuntalam – 1

- Sources of the play
- Deviations introduced by Kālidāsa
- Nāndī
- Storyline

Lesson 6: Abhijñānaśākuntalam – 2

- Suggestive verses
- Simple prose dialogues
- Certain generalizations
- Symbolism and suggestions employed
- Style of Kālidāsa – illustrations

Lesson 7: Abhijñānaśākuntalam – 3

- Rasāsvāda of select verses
- Ślokacatuṣṭayam from the fourth act