

**CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION
SRI SRI UNIVERSITY, CUTTACK**

**MASTER OF ARTS (HINDU STUDIES)
TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT**

Course Code: MHS 202

Course Name: Dharma-Karma Vimarsha

Exam: July 2026

Session: August 2025

Semester: 2nd

Total Marks: 100

**A. Answer any eight questions (Essay Type). Answer in about 350–500 words each.
(10 × 8 = 80)**

1. Explain the concept of Dharma with reference to Śruti, Smṛti and Dharmasāstra traditions. Discuss the relevance of Dharma in modern human life.
2. Discuss the classification of Dharma according to Manusmṛti and explain the importance of Sādhāraṇa Dharma in ethical living.
3. Describe the role of Śruti and Smṛti as authoritative sources of Dharma. How do they guide social and moral conduct?
4. Explain the concepts of Pravṛtti-Dharma and Nivṛtti-Dharma. Discuss their significance in balancing worldly and spiritual life.
5. Analyse the doctrine of Karma in Indian philosophy. Differentiate between Karma, Akarma and Vikarma with suitable examples.
6. Discuss the idea of Niṣkāma Karma in the Bhagavad Gītā. Explain how detached action leads towards spiritual upliftment.
7. Explain the principles of Dharma in Vaidika, Jaina, Bauddha and Sikh traditions. Highlight similarities and differences.
8. Discuss the concept of Rājadharmā and explain the duties and responsibilities of an ideal ruler in ancient Indian traditions.

9. Explain the relationship between Dharma and Ṛta in Vedic philosophy. How does cosmic order influence moral order?

10. Discuss the importance of Ācāra, Vyavahāra and Prāyaścitta in maintaining social discipline and ethical harmony.

B. Write short notes on any four. Answer in about 150–200 words each.

(5 × 4 = 20)

1. Sādhāraṇa Dharma and Viśeṣa Dharma

2. Niṣkāma Karma

3. Varṇa-Dharma and Āśrama-Dharma

4. Sources of Dharma: Śruti and Smṛti

5. Concept of Ṛta in Vedic thought

6. Rājadharmā in ancient India