



KALAA SRUSHTI ACADEMY

VOCAL & NON-PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STREAM

Course Curriculum

CONTENTS

1.	Purva	2
2.	Prathama.....	3
3.	Avantara.....	4
4.	Uttara.....	5
5.	Jyeshtha	6
6.	Nipuna.....	7

1. Purva

This is the earliest or first level of learning that happens in a practical mode. This gives the first - hand experience of the stream.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 6 years of age* in order to comprehend the teaching
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sarali Varisai : 12 2. Madhyasthayi Varisai : 5 3. Jantai Varisai : 12 4. Upper Hechchu Staayi Varisai : 5 5. Thakku Staayi Varisai : 5 6. Thaaddu Varisai : 4 7. Saptha Taala Alankarams : 7 8. General Practice Exercises : 4 9. Thevaram : 1 10. Self-Project/Assignment around taalam/history of Indian Music/Thevaram <p>1-8 to be practised in 3 Kaalams i.e. in 3 degrees of speed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Names of the seven swaras (saptha swaras). 2. Names of the twelve swara-staanams. 3. Definitions of Musical terms - Aarohanam, Avarohanam, Sruthi, Swaram, Staayi, Swaraavali, Akshara-kaalams, Jantai Varisai, Alankaram. 4. Definitions of Taalam, Tala-Angams, Lagu, Drutham, Anudrutham. 5. Names of the Sapta-Taalams with their respective Angams and Symbols.

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 6 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and no written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability to practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to orally respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the foundation set up and be able to understand and align to the basics of sruti and be able to demonstrate practically

2. Prathama

This is the second level of learning to move into singing/playing of geethams. This gives the first-hand experience of how the swaras and lyrics are connected in songs.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 7 years of age*
- ✓ *Certified as "Purva"*
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geetham : 6 2. Jathiswaram : 1 3. Divya Nama Keerthana : 2 4. Note Swarams: 2 5. Thevaram : 2 6. Practise Exercises: 18 7. Self-Project/Assignment: 1 <p>1 to be practised in 2 Kaalams</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition of signs and symbols used in notation 2. Swarastaanas taken by raagams handled in the practical lessons and their Aarohanam, Avarohanam. <p>* Theory from previous level to be revisited</p>

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 12 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate
- ✓ Previous level(s) curriculum also to be covered

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the foundation set up and be able to understand and align to the basics of sruti and taala aspects

3. Avantara

This is the third level of learning to move into singing/playing of geethams, varnams and basic krithis. This gives the first -hand experience of raga aspects/lakshanams, composers/vaageyakkaras, tala dimensions and musical terms.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 9 years of age*
- ✓ *Certified as "Prathama"*
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lakshana Geetham or Suladi : 1 2. Taana Varnam : 6 3. Krithi or Keerthana : 3 4. Noteswarams: 4 5. Swara-jati : 2 6. Thevarams : 3 7. Ashtapathi : 1 8. Thirupugazh : 2 9. Self-Project/Assignment: 1 <p>*Item 2 to be practised in 2 degrees of speed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition of the Raagams: Janaka-raagam, Janya-raagam and its varieties 2. Vaageyakaras or Composers: Life history 3. Raaga Lakshanam for few Raagas 4. Musical Instruments 5. Definition of types of compositions <p>* Theory from previous level to be revisited</p>

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 18 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate
- ✓ Previous level(s) curriculum also to be covered

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the deeper theoretical foundation, understand the aspects of ragas, instruments, composers etc and be able to appreciate the value through appreciating history

4. Uttara

This is the fourth level of learning to move into singing/playing of geethams, varnams and krithis at the next level of complexity. This gives the first -hand experience of being able to write notations, tune instruments etc.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 11 years of age*
- ✓ *Certified as "Avantara"*
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Varnam in Aadhi Taalam : 3 2. Varnam in Ata Taalam : 1 3. Kriti or Keerthana : 4 4. Thevarams : 2 5. Thirupugazh : 2 6. Subramaniya Bharatiyar Songs : 2 7. Sight singing: Simple sancharams set to Aadhi or Rupaka Taalams in few Raagams <p>1 & 2 to be practised in 2 Kaalams</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raaga Lakshanam for few Raagas 2. Scheme of 72 Melakartas - Names of chakras, the allocation of the swara mnemonics in the chakras 3. Janya raagas 4. Vaageyakaras or Composers: Gopalakrishna Bharati & Sri Thyagaraja 5. Musical instruments 6. Practising to write Varnam with notations (swara and sahitya)

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 12 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate
- ✓ Previous level(s) curriculum also to be covered

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the deeper theoretical foundation, understand the aspects of ragas, instruments, composers etc and be able to appreciate the value through appreciating history
- ✓ Be able to notate geethams, varnams etc...
- ✓ Be able to sing/play raga sancharas

5. Jyeshtha

This is the fifth level of learning to move into singing/playing of varnams and krithis at the next level of complexity. This gives the first-hand experience in advanced theory.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 12 years of age*
- ✓ *Certified as "Uttara"*
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taana Varnam (Ata Talam) : 2 2. Taana Varnam in any other Taalam (other than Adi or Ata) : 1 3. Madyama kaala Kriti/Keerthana : 2 4. Swara-jati by Shyama Sastri : 1 5. Nava Varnam or Navagraha Kriti by Muthuswami Dikshitar : 1 6. Chauka kaala Kriti/Keerthana : 1 7. Ashtapadhi by Jayadevar or Jawali or Tarangam : 1 8. Sight singing: in few Raagas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raaga Lakshanam for few Raagas 2. Musical Forms 3. Musical Terms 4. Vaageyakaras or Composers: Muthuswami Dhikshitar, Shyama Sastri & Arunachala Kavirayar 5. Musical instruments 6. The scheme of 72 Melakartas

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 12 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate
- ✓ Previous level(s) curriculum also to be covered

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the deeper theoretical foundation, understand the aspects of ragas, instruments, composers etc and be able to appreciate the value through appreciating history
- ✓ Be able to notate geethams, varnams etc...
- ✓ Be able to sing/play raga sancharas

6. Nipuna

This is the sixth and final level of learning before one moves on to hone his/her own skills through self-learning and performance experiences.

Joining criteria

- ✓ *Minimum of 14 years of age*
- ✓ *Certified as "Jyeshtha"*
- ✓ *Able to read Tamil/English*

Course Content

Practical	Theory
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ata Tala Varnam : 3 2. Panchartna Kriti : 1 3. Kriti/Keethana : 5 4. Raagamalika : 1 5. Padam : 1 6. Thillana : 1 7. Pada Varnam : 1 8. Thirupugazh : 1 9. Raaga Aalapana, Niraval and Kalpana swaras for any Chauka kaala Kriti / Keerthana 10. A short Raaga Aalapana of any Raaga chosen by the candidate from Avantara, Uttara, Jyeshtha or Nipuna 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raaga Aalapana 2. Varieties in Tanam 3. Methods in Niraval 4. Methods of developing Kalpana swaras 5. Gamakas - types and applications 6. Musical instruments 7. Raaga Lakshanam for few Raagas 8. Vaageyakaras or Composers: Papanasam Sivan, Swati Thirunal Maharajah & Arunagiri Nathar 9. Brief knowledge of Pannisai. Short life history of the Naalvar (Thevara composers). 10. Mudras of 10 composers 11. Musical Terms

Course Duration

- ✓ *Minimum recommended duration is 24 months* in order to appear for course completion certification

Evaluation Method

- ✓ *Only practical and written evaluation* to obtain course completion certificate
- ✓ Previous level(s) curriculum also to be covered

Pre-requisite for Evaluation

- ✓ *Ability practically demonstrate* the lessons by memory through singing (for vocal) or playing (for instrumental) and be able to respond on theory questions

Course end objectives

- ✓ Get the deeper theoretical foundation, understand the aspects of ragas, instruments, composers etc and be able to appreciate the value through appreciating history
- ✓ Be able to notate geethams, varnams etc...
- ✓ Be able to sing/play raga sancharas

Thank You