



# International Diploma Course

## 19th Oct 2024 -5th Feb 2025

The international diploma course in deity worship for the year 2024-25 will be held from 19th October 2024 to 5th February 2025 at Mayapur Academy.

The details for the same are as follows:

### INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMA COURSE IN DEITY WORSHIP

#### **About the course:**

International Diploma in Deity Worship at Mayapur Academy is a 4 month on-site intensive educational program to train students in various aspects of a Pujari.

Developed on the instruction and teachings of His Divine Grace A.C Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, (ISKCON's Founder Acharya), the entire program focuses on the appropriate mood, values, skills and knowledge required to be a pujari within any of the ISKCON temples.

This unique educational program has produced hundreds of finest pujaris within ISKCON Communities over the last 16 years, contributing to the increase in standards of Brahminical culture worldwide.

All our courses and faculties emphasize on the essential values, the right mood that is built on the foundation of knowledge along with the expert skills.

The full 16 weeks program comprises of following units:

There are 5 core units :

1. Brahminical Culture & Ethics
2. Temple Worship
3. Cooking
4. Dressing
5. Mantras

Apart from Core units, there are several electives:

1. Samskaras
2. Festivals
3. Tulasi Care & Worship
4. Dress- design
5. Jewellery Making
6. Flower Arranging
7. Astrology

The curriculum has been developed and managed by ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry to fulfill Śrīla Prabhupāda's desire for the development of deity worship and brahminical culture in ISKCON. The program is a joint educational initiative of the ISKCON Mayapur Deity Department and ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry.

**Dates:** 19th October 2024 to 5th February 2025

**Venue:** Mayapur Academy, Chaitanya Bhavan, Campus of ISKCON Mayapur (India)

**Course Fee:** Rs.40 000

**Admission Criterion:** The course is open to all initiated devotees in good standing. While preference will be given to those with brahminical initiation, devotees with first initiation and gurukula devotees may also apply.

IMPORTANT: Application to attend the course does not automatically guarantee that the devotee will be accepted. We consider all applications individually before notifying prospective students of acceptance. For the duration of the course, devotees are required to attend the full morning program, follow the 4 regulative principles, and chant at least 16 rounds of Japa every day. This is a mandatory prerequisite.

**Admission Process:** Each applicant is required to fill a detailed form that also requires a letter of recommendation from the Temple President or recognised leader of the community. Each application is screened individually. Since there are limited seats for the course and preference is given to those with Brahminical initiation, each applicant is notified about the status of their application. There may be individual calls with the applicant or with the leader recommending them for the course, in case we need more clarity about certain aspects. All the approved applicants are then required to deposit the fee before the deadline for the admission into the program.

**Faculties:** <https://mayapuracademy.org/about-us/>

**Dress:** Students are required to wear traditional devotional attire. *Dhotīs* with *chaddars* and/or *kūrtās*/t-shirts for men and *saris* for women. Yogi pants and gopī skirts are not acceptable.

## FAQ:

### **What is Mayapur Academy?**

Mayapur Academy is a joint educational initiative of the ISKCON Mayapur Deity Department and ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry that offers several courses throughout the year to train students in different aspects of deity worship. All the courses are designed based on instructions and teachings of His Divine Grace A.C Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, ISKCON's Founder Acharya to fulfill his desire for the development of deity worship and Brahminical culture within ISKCON.

Its campus is located at ISKCON Mayapur in Chaitanya Bhavan

The Academy has classrooms with separate rooms for deity dressing with sets of deities to train in different aspects of deity dressing, a deity kitchen classroom with eight six-gas-burner stoves, a lecture room, and a library with an expanding collection of devotional literature.

The facilities at Mayapur Academy ensure that each student has a clean and structured learning environment to maximize the benefits of learning the brahminical arts.

### **Do you accept non initiated or first initiated devotees for this course?**

While the preference is given to devotees with Brahminical initiation , several of our courses are opened for first initiated and non initiated devotees as well.

Some courses like Samskaras for men are not open to non initiated devotees.

However, being initiated or even second initiated does not guarantee admission into our programs. Each application is screened individually, specifically for our 4 month diploma programs.

### **I don't wish to do the entire course, can I enroll for only some specific unit ?**

We give first preference to students who have enrolled for the full diploma program that is of 4 month duration. If the capacity of the individual course that you are intending to do is remaining (there is a maximum limit to each of our individual courses ) , seats are then filled on a first come first serve basis. We recommend all the students to apply timely and not wait for the last moment.

### **How to enroll for the admission in the course?**

All application forms are available at <https://mayapuracademy.org/>

Each applicant is required to fill a detailed form that also requires a letter of recommendation from the Temple President or recognised leader of the community. Each application is screened individually. Since there are limited seats for the course and preference is given to those with Brahminical initiation , each applicant is notified about the status of their application. There may be individual calls with the applicant or with the leader recommending them for the course, in case we need more clarity about certain aspects. All the approved applicants are then required to deposit the fee before the deadline for the admission into the program.

### **What is the difference between Diploma and Certificate courses?**

The full 4 month program is called Diploma

Whereas, if someone is attending only some specific unit and not the full program, they are given certificates.

For both diploma or certificate, devotees are required to attend the full morning program, follow the 4 regulative principles, and chant at least 16 rounds of Japa every day. This is a mandatory prerequisite.

### **Do you provide accommodation , Prasada for the duration of the course ?**

No, we don't provide that. These arrangements are to be made by students themselves.

**Can a non English speaker enroll for these courses ?**

Presently, the international diploma course is available in English language only. Some parts of this program are provided in Bangla and Hindi language as well at different times of the year.

**Who are the faculties for the course ?**

You can check out about our faculties and team at

<https://mayapuracademy.org/about-us>

**What is the refund policy in case I had to drop out in the middle of course?**

There shall be no refund of the fees. It can be transferred to some other student or you can take the course in future.