



The Upanishads

in the Light of Sri Aurobindo

Facilitator: Vladimir Yatsenko, PhD | Format: Self-directed, Self-reflective | Code: ULSA
Weeks 20 to 26 | Certificate in Applied Integral Studies (Postgraduate level) (optional)

Course Brief: Major concepts from Isha, Kena, Aitareya and Taittiriya Upanishads are presented from the perspective Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, along with commentaries of Shankara, Sayana and other scholars.

Course Overview:

Units	Week
1. The Structure and the general content of the Upanishads Epistemology of Upanishadic literature	1-2
2. The Vision of the Isha Upanishad	3-4
3. The Four movements of the Isha Upanishad	5-6
4. The Kena Upanishad 1-2: Knowledge about Brahman	7-8
5. The Kena Upanishad 3-4: The Parable of the Gods	9-10
Minor Project	11-12
6. The Aitareya Upanishad: The Myth of Creation. Purusha Sacrifice	13-14
7. The Aitareya Upanishad: The Myth of a Primeval Death and the Embodiment of the Spirit in Matter	15-16
8. The Aitareya Upanishad on the knowledge of Consciousness Samjnana, Ajnana, Vijnana, Prajnana	17-18
9. The Taittiriya Upanishad: Bhrigu Valli, Knowledge about Brahman	19-20
10. The Taittiriya Upanishad: Brahmananda Valli, Knowledge of the Five Purushas	21-22
Major Project *	23-26

* Recommended

VLADIMIR YATSENKO, PhD, is a professor of Vedic Studies, Integral Studies and Sanskrit. He has been teaching Vedic Studies and Sanskrit since 1993; he teaches onsite as well as online courses. He is also a published writer.

Vladimir completed MA in Oriental Languages and Literature (Sanskrit), General and Theoretical Linguistics from St. Petersburg University (1992), studied Sanskrit Grammar at Poona University (1991-1992) and became a life member of Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (Pune), where he studied Nirukta of Yaska. His PhD in Indian Philosophy focused on



“The Concept of Agni in the Rigveda in the light of Sri Aurobindo” from M.S. University (Vadodara).

Vladimir is a visiting professor of Sanskrit and Integral Studies at Auro University (Surat), facilitator of the courses: Science of Living, Foundations of Indian Culture. At University of Human Unity (Auroville), Vladimir teaches Vedic Studies, Indian Philosophy, Indian and Integral Yoga Psychology, Sanskrit Language, Philosophy of Language and Theory of Linguistics. He also teaches at Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced Research (Puducherry) and The Indian Psychology Institute (Puducherry). He is currently a Visiting Member at LaGrace Integral Life Center (USA).

A Russian by birth, Vladimir has lived and taught at Auroville since 1993. At The Gnostic Centre, Vladimir teaches Vedic Studies and Sanskrit Language and Linguistics.