



Deity worship @ home — Syllabus

ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry is delighted to welcome you to the Deity Worship @ Home online course.

By establishing a relationship with the Lord through His deity we can easily reawaken our dormant Krishna consciousness. By learning how to do the rituals of deity worship and understanding their function and purpose, we can easily develop our loving relationship with the Lord.

Course description

The course duration is six weeks.

Each week there are weekly assignments, discussion board posts, assigned readings, online quizzes, etc.

At the end of each week there is a live, interactive session which will include online discussion debriefs, Q & A sessions, and procedure tutorials.

This in-depth training covers the knowledge, skills and values required for the daily worship of deities in your home and introduces you to concepts that are applicable both in the home worship environment as well as the temple.

A Facebook account is required for participation in this course. The private Deity Worship @ Home course Facebook group is the hub for course interaction, assignments, quizzes, discussion forums, and is exclusively viewable only by registered students and facilitators.

The live session times will vary according to location and will last approximately 60-90 minutes and will be hosted on Zoom.

- This course covers all the basic knowledge, skills and values required for the daily worship of deities in your home.
- There is a balance between the theory and practical aspects of deity worship in your home.
- This course introduces you to concepts that are applicable both in the home worship environment as well as the temple.
- The necessity of cleanliness will be explored as well as the transcendental nature of the deity,
- Each week will cover different aspects of deity worship practices and philosophy and will build upon the prior sessions.

Course schedule

Week 1 — 20–26 June

- Course introduction
- Why deity worship?
- Ritual and culture
- Mood of worship
- Comparison between worship at home and in the temple,

Week 2 — 27 June – 3 July

- Purity
- Getting ready for worship
- Ācamana
- Waking the deities.

Week 3 — 4–10 July

- The form of the Lord
- Inviting the Lord into your home
- Offering food.

Week 4 — 11–17 July

- Finding the balance/standards
- Tulasī
- Ārati

Week 5 — 18–24 July

- Bathing and dressing the deities

Week 6 — 25–31 July

- Children and deity worship
- Travel and deity worship
- Offenses
- Putting the deities to bed.
- ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry
- Conclusion

Live session schedule

North America — Saturdays, starting 26th June @ 5pm New York US EST (GMT- 04:00)

Asia Pacific — Saturdays, starting 26th June @ 6pm Sydney AEST (GMT+10:00)

Each live session will begin 5 minutes prior to the start time with a video introduction.

Meet your facilitators

Nṛsimha Kavaca dāsa



Has been training devotees and holding courses in deity worship since 1999 and took on the service of ISKCON Deity Worship Minister in 2005. In this course he is the lead facilitator.

- **Email:** nrsimha.kavaca@iskcon.org
- **Office hours:** 6–7am GMT by appointment only

Kṛṣṇendu dāsa



For more than 35 years working in devotee education at the school level as well as adult education. Kṛṣṇendu dāsa is an experienced online educator and a facilitator in this course.

- **Email:** krsnendu@successfulvaisnavas.com
- **Office hours:** 7–8am GMT, by appointment only

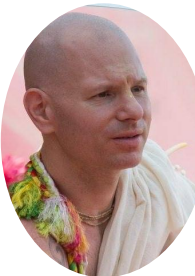
Rasa devī dāsi



North American representative of ISKCON Deity Worship Ministry. Has been teaching deity worship since 2019. In this course Rasa dd manages the assignments and Facebook group, as well as providing support on the Facebook group.

- **Email:** rasadd.rps@gmail.com
- **Office hours:** 5-6pm GMT, Saturday by appointment only.

Jayananda dāsa



ISKCON Deity Worship Minister, North America and facilitator at the Mayapur Academy. Has been teaching deity worship since 2010. In this course he manages registration and payments and will provide technical support for participants.

- **Email:** jayananda@iskcon.org
- **Office hours:** 2pm-11pm GMT, by appointment only

Course materials

- Recording of all live sessions will be posted to the course Facebook group.
- All course assignments are available in the Units in the Facebook group. All responses to assignments and Units are done in the Facebook group.
- Student handbook “Deity worship @ home” is downloadable from the Facebook group.
- You are encouraged to read the materials listed below in “Learning Resources” before the course begins.

Learning resources

- *Nectar of Devotion* — Introduction through to the end of Chapter 19
- *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* 7.5.23–24, 11th Canto chapter 27
- *Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Madhya-līlā* 24.330–336
- Instructional video content

Assessment overview

- The assignments average about 1 to 2 hours each week and consist of reading from Śrīla Prabhupāda’s books and answering simple multiple choice questionnaires.
- There will also be assignments where participants are required to read passages and post comments in the appropriate unit in the Facebook group.
- Additionally, you are required to upload videos of yourself doing various tasks.
- Assignments are expected to be completed and submitted before the start of the next session. The final date for submission of all assignments is the last day of March 2021

Assignments and coursework will be weighted as follows:

End of week quizzes	40%
Forum quizzes and questions	20%
Ācamana video	10%
Ghee wick making video	10%
Food offering video	10%
Arati video	10%
TOTAL	100%

Course policies

- You are expected to attend all online sessions. As this may not always be possible, you will have access to recordings of each session, which will be available shortly after the live session finishes. However, not attending live sessions will negatively impact your grade for attendance.
- As a general practice, assignments are due by the start of the next session. All coursework, assignments, etc. must be submitted no later than 31 August, 2021. No assignments will be accepted after this date.
- Facebook group content and recorded sessions are accessible until 31 August 2021.
- Facilitators are making themselves available to students at the designated times, but appointments are necessary.