



WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

SYLLABUS FOR
HONOURS
&
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME
UNDER
CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM [CBCS]

Finalised by the UG BOS, Philosophy, WBSU, in the BOS Meeting held on 18.07.2018 following the guidelines of UGC, the guidelines suggested by the University and the observations and suggestions of the teachers from UG Colleges affiliated to WBSU. This Curriculum for Philosophy will effect from the academic session 2018-19.

B.A. Honours in Philosophy-Total Credit-140

I. Core Course

PHIACOR01T-PHIACOR14T [14x6=84 Credit]

14 Papers each carrying 5 Credits and 14 Tutorials each carrying 1 Credit.

One Credit=1 class/week.

Total 75 hours Lecture and 15 hours Tutorial per Course or Module

Tutorial- One Tutorial per Course per Week

Semester –I

PHIACOR01T [History of Western Philosophy - I]

A. Basic concepts of pre-Socratic philosophy [In brief]: 10 Lectures

Cosmology-origin (Ionian)

Being and change (Eliatics)

Process philosophy (Heraclitus)

The Sophists

B. Plato and Aristotle: 10 Lectures

Plato's Theory of knowledge (*Episteme*) and Opinion (*Doxa*) and its refutation by Aristotle.

Plato's theory of Idea, Aristotle's refutation,

Aristotle: Form and Matter

C. Medieval Philosophy: 10 Lectures

Reason, Faith [**In brief**], God---Augustine, Aquinas

D. Descartes, Spinoza, Leibnitz 45 Lectures

Descartes---Method of Doubt, *Cogito*, Different Types of Ideas, Criterion of Truth, Theory of knowledge, Theory of Substance.

Spinoza---Substance, Attributes and Modes, Existence of God, Pantheism, Theory of knowledge

Leibnitz--- Innate Idea, Monad, Truths of Reason, Truths of Fact, Pre-established Harmony.

PHIACOR02T [Western Logic-I]

1. Basic concepts---Propositions, Propositional form, Argument and Argument form, Truth functional connectives, Truth and Validity. 5
2. An overview of Traditional Laws of Logic, Boolean interpretation of Categorical Propositions and consequences, Syllogism, Venn Diagram. 15
3. Propositional Logic: 55
 - i. The Method of Truth Table and Truth Tree as decision procedures:
 - a. Statement forms and Statements---Tautologous, Contradictory and Contingent by Truth Table and Truth Tree method;
 - b. Consistency by Truth Tree method;
 - c. Validity determination by Truth Table method and Truth Value Assignment method.
 - ii. Method of Deduction ---Construction of formal proof of validity by using 19 Rules, I.P. and C.P.
 - iii. Invalidity by Shorter Truth Table method.

Semester-II

PHIACOR03T: Outlines of Indian Philosophy-I

1. Basic concepts in Indian Philosophy:
Ṛta, ṛṇa, Jajña, pañca-kośa, Ātman, Brahman, jīva, śreyas, preya, mokṣa (In brief) 8
 2. *Nāstika Schools*:
 - i. *Cārvāka*
Epistemology—Perception as the only source of Knowledge, Refutation of Inference
Metaphysics---Causality---*yadr̥icchāvāda/svabhāvavāda/ākasmikatāvāda, jagat and bhūtacaitanyavāda.* 6
 - ii. *Bauddha*---Four noble truths, *pratītyasamutpādavāda, kṣṇabhaṅgavāda, nairātmyavāda,* Basic tenets of four Bauddha schools (In brief). 15
 - iii. *Jaina*--- Concepts of *jīva, ajīva, dravya, guṇa, paṛiyaya, anekāntavada, syādavāda* 10
 2. *Āstika School* 36
- Nyāya* system:
Four *Pramāṇas*:
Pratyakṣa pramāṇa: lakṣaṇa, classification into *nirvikalpaka* and *savikalpaka* (including *pratyabhijñā*) and *laukika* and *alaukika*.

Anumāna pramaṇa:
Lakṣaṇa, pakṣa, sādhyā, hetu, vyāpti, vyāptigrahopāya, svārtha and parārthānumana.

Outlines of *upamāna pramana* and *śabda pramāṇa*.
Vaiśeṣika System:
The Basic outlines of *dravya, guṇa, karma* and detailed analysis of *sāmānya, viśeṣa, samavāya and abhāva. paramāṇuvāda.*

PHIACOR04T [Western Logic-II]

- A. Quantification:
Need for Quantification Theory, Singular Propositions, Quantifiers, Translating Traditional Subject—Predicate Proposition into Logical Notation of Propositional Function and Quantifier, Predicate and Predicate functions, Individual Constant and Individual Variable. Quantification Rules and Proving Validity, Proving Invalidity for Arguments Involving Quantifiers. 45
- B. Induction:
Mill's Method [In brief] and Copi's Criticism 6
- C. Induction per simple enumeration, Analogical Inference
- D. Criteria of Scientific Hypothesis C and D =6
E. Probability:
Alternative Conceptions of Probability, the Probability Calculus, Joint Occurrences and Alternative Occurrences. 18

Semester-III

PHIACOR05T [History of Western Philosophy-II]

- A. Empiricism: 50
Locke---Ideas and their classifications, Refutation of Innate Ideas, Substance, Locke's Realism and theory of knowledge, Primary and Secondary Qualities
Berkeley---Rejection of Abstract Ideas, Rejection of the distinction between Primary and Secondary Qualities, *esse est percipi*, Idealism
Hume---Impression and Ideas, Association of Ideas, Judgement concerning relations of Ideas and matters of fact, Causality and Scepticism
- B. Kant: 25
Conception of Critical Philosophy, Possibility of Metaphysics, Copernican Revolution, Distinction between *a priori* and *a posteriori*, Distinction between Analytic and Synthetic Judgement, Possibility of Synthetic *a priori* Judgement, Space and Time, Transcendental Idealism, Noumena and Phenomena.

PHIACOR06T [Outlines of Indian Philosophy-II]

- A. *Saṅkhya* System:-
Duhkha-traya, *Satkāryavāda* as opposed to *Asatkāryavāda*, arguments in favour of *Satkāryavāda*, *Prakṛti*- Its Constituents and Evolutes, Arguments for the existence of *Prakṛti*, *Puruṣa*-Arguments for its existence, Plurality of *Puruṣa*, Liberation. 20
- B. *Yoga* System:

Citta, Cittabhūmi, Cittavṛtti, Cittavṛtti -nirodha, Aṣṭāṅgayoga, Concept of Īsvara.

15

C. *Mīmāṃsā* System:

Pramāṇas in brief and *Arthāpatti* and *Anupalabdhi* in detail. (*Prābhākara* and *Bhāṭṭa* view).

10

D. *Advaita Vedānta* Philosophy of *Śaṅkara*:

Sattvatraividhyavada, Vivartavada, Brahman, Relation of Brahman with Jīva and Jagat, Doctrine of Māyā.

20

E. *Ramānuja*:

Brahman, Jīva, Jagat, Prapatti, Refutation of Śaṅkara's theory of Māyā 10

PHIACOR07T [Western Ethics]

A. Introduction to Ethics---Definition, Scope, Presuppositions, Basic concepts of morality, moral problems, moral action. Object of moral judgment. 8

B. Different types of ethical theories---Descriptivism vs Normativism and Prescriptivism; Deontologism* , Teleologism** ,Naturalism, Naturalistic fallacy. 30

A. *Deontologism-- with special reference to Kant. [Good will, good will and duty, Categorical Imperative ,Duty for Duty's sake, Kingdom of Ends.] 12

B. **Teleologism ---Hedonism, Utilitarianism and its different types (with special reference to Mill and Bentham) ---Act, Rule [basic concepts only]. 20

C. Theories of Punishment. 5

Semester-IV

PHIACOR08T [Social and Political Philosophy-Western]

A. Concept of Social Philosophy and Political Philosophy
Relation and difference: Social and Political Philosophy on the one hand and Sociology and Political Science on the other. 4

B. Basic concepts:
Society, Community, Association, Institution, Caste and Class, Social groups. 20

C. Social Change:
The Marxist view and the Gandhian view. 7

D. Family:

- i. The Marxist interpretation of Family.
- ii. Sex gender divide, Patriarchy and the Feminist interpretation of Family.
- iii. The Marxist -Feminist Debate. 14

E. Political Ideals:

Government: Democracy and its different forms [Direct, Indirect, Parliamentary and Presidential] 10

F. Socialism and its varieties:

Utopian, Democratic, Scientific 15

G. Separation of Power:

Three wings of the Government---Legislature, Executive and Judiciary (with special reference to Montesquieu) 5

PHIACOR09T [Psychology and Philosophy of Mind]

A. Relation between Philosophy of Mind, Psychology and Philosophy of Psychology. 5

B. Psychology as science. 2

C. Associationism:

Perception and Learning, Gestalt theory of Perception and Learning 10

D. Methods of Psychology:

Introspection, Extrospection and Experimental 8

E. Freud's Theory:

Conscious and Unconscious, Id, Ego and Super Ego 10

F. Dualism, its types. 2

G. General discussion on Behaviourism---Methodological and Philosophical. 4

H. The Relation between body and Mind: Parallelism, Interactionism, Bundle theory, Double Aspect theory, Occasionalism, Emergentism, and Epiphenomenalism. 20

PHIACOR10T [Classical Indian Text]

Text: Annambhaṭṭa's *Tarkasaṃgrahaḥ* with *Dīpikā tika* (From *buddhi* up to *upamānakhandam*) 75

Semester-V

PHIACOR11T [Philosophy of Language---Indian and Western]

A. Indian Philosophy of Language:

Text: *Annambhaṭṭa's Tarkasaṃgrahaḥ* with *Dīpikā tika-Śabdakhandam* 35

B. Western Philosophy of Language: Hospers---Word, Meaning, Ambiguity, Vagueness P. Alston- Speech acts.	40
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PHIACOR12T [Ethical and Social Philosophy of India]

A. Introduction: Special features of Indian Ethics as opposed to Western Ethics	6
B. Basic Concepts with social significance in <i>BhagavatGītā</i> : <i>Karmayoga, Sthitaprajña, Yogaksema and Lokasamgraha</i>	16
C <i>Puruṣārtha</i> ---Concept of the four <i>Puruṣārthas</i> and their interrelation	6
D. <i>Sukhavāda</i> ---Cārvāka	
E. <i>Dharma</i> : Definition, <i>Sādhāraṇadharmā, Viśeṣadharmā, Varṇadharmā, Āśramadharmā, Svadharmā</i>	20
F. <i>Karma</i> : <i>Nitya, Naimittika, Kāmya, Niṣkāma, Sancita, Sanciyaman and prarabdha.</i>	10
G. Concepts of <i>Pañcaśīla, Brahmavihāra, Anuvrata, Mahāvratā, and Ahimsā.</i>	15

Semester-VI

PHIACOR13T [Western Epistemology &Metaphysics]

A. Knowledge---Definition, components, types of Knowledge: Knowing that, Knowing how, Knowledge by Acquaintance, Knowledge by description.	15
B. Theories of Truth---Correspondence theory, Coherentism, Pragmatism	15
C. The problem of Induction.	08
D. On what there is: Realism, Idealism, and Phenomenalism	15
E. The Problem of Universals: Realism, Conceptualism and Nominalism	12
F. The Causal Principle, the Entailment Theory of Causation, the Regularity Theory of Causation.	10

PHIACOR14T [Some Modern Indian Thinkers]

A. Vivekananda---Practical Vedanta, Karma-yoga, Unification of Religions.	i5
B. Gandhi--- <i>Sarvodaya</i> , Non-Violence and Trusteeship, Caste.	25
C. Aurobindo---Evolution and Involution.	10
D. Ambedkar---Caste: Equality and Fraternity.	25

Distribution of modules of Core Course [Hons.]:

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Modules</u>
I, II, V and VI	2 in each semester
III and IV	3 in each semester

II. Elective Course

Discipline Specific Elective (DSE)

[4 Papers each carrying 6 (5 Credit for lecture and 1 credit for tutorial) credit= (6X4) =24 credit.

Total 75 hours Lecture and 15 hours Tutorial

Semester- V

[Candidates have to choose any Two from the following Courses]

PHIADSE01T [Elective Logic]

[75 lectures will be distributed as per requirement]

Set Theory:

Introduction, Membership, Inclusion, the Empty Set, Operations on Sets, Intersection, Union and Difference, Domain Of Individuals, Translating sentences of everyday language into Set Notation, Venn diagram, Definition of Relations, Properties of Binary Relations, Definition of Functions and Operations on Functions.

Patrick Suppes- Introduction to Logic (Chapters 9, 10 and 11)

Quine's Method of Resolution- Fell Swoop and Full Sweep

Quine: Methods of Logic

PHIADSE02T [Practical Ethics]

[75 lectures will be distributed as per requirement]

Killing:

Killing of animals, Suicide, Euthanasia

- i. Human Rights:
Discrimination and its different types [with special reference to Caste /varna.
- ii. War, Violence and Terrorism.
- iii. Concept of Environmental Ethics.
- iv. Feminist Ethics---Justice based Ethics vs. Care based Ethics and Ethics based on Empathy; female foeticide and abortion.

PHIADSE03T [Philosophy of Religion]

- i. Introduction: 10
 - a. Scope and nature of Religion.
 - b. Relation between-
Philosophy of Religion and Theology
- ii. Difference between: 10
Spirituality and Religiosity

Sacred and Profane

Magic and Religion

- iii. Problem of evil [Hospers] 5
- iv. Proofs for the existence of God: Ontological, Cosmological, Teleological, Moral 20
- v. Grounds for disbelief in God: Sociological theory and Freudian theory. 10
- vi. Some Major Religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam. 20

Semester-VI

[Candidates have to choose any Two from the following Courses]

PHIADSE04T

[75 lectures will be distributed as per requirement]

Rabindranath, *Sadhana*

PHIADSE05T

Russell, Problems of Philosophy- [75 lectures will be distributed as per requirement]

- i. Appearance and Reality,
- ii. Knowledge by acquaintance and knowledge by description,
- iii. On induction,
- iii. The Value of Philosophy.

PHIADSE06T

Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*
