

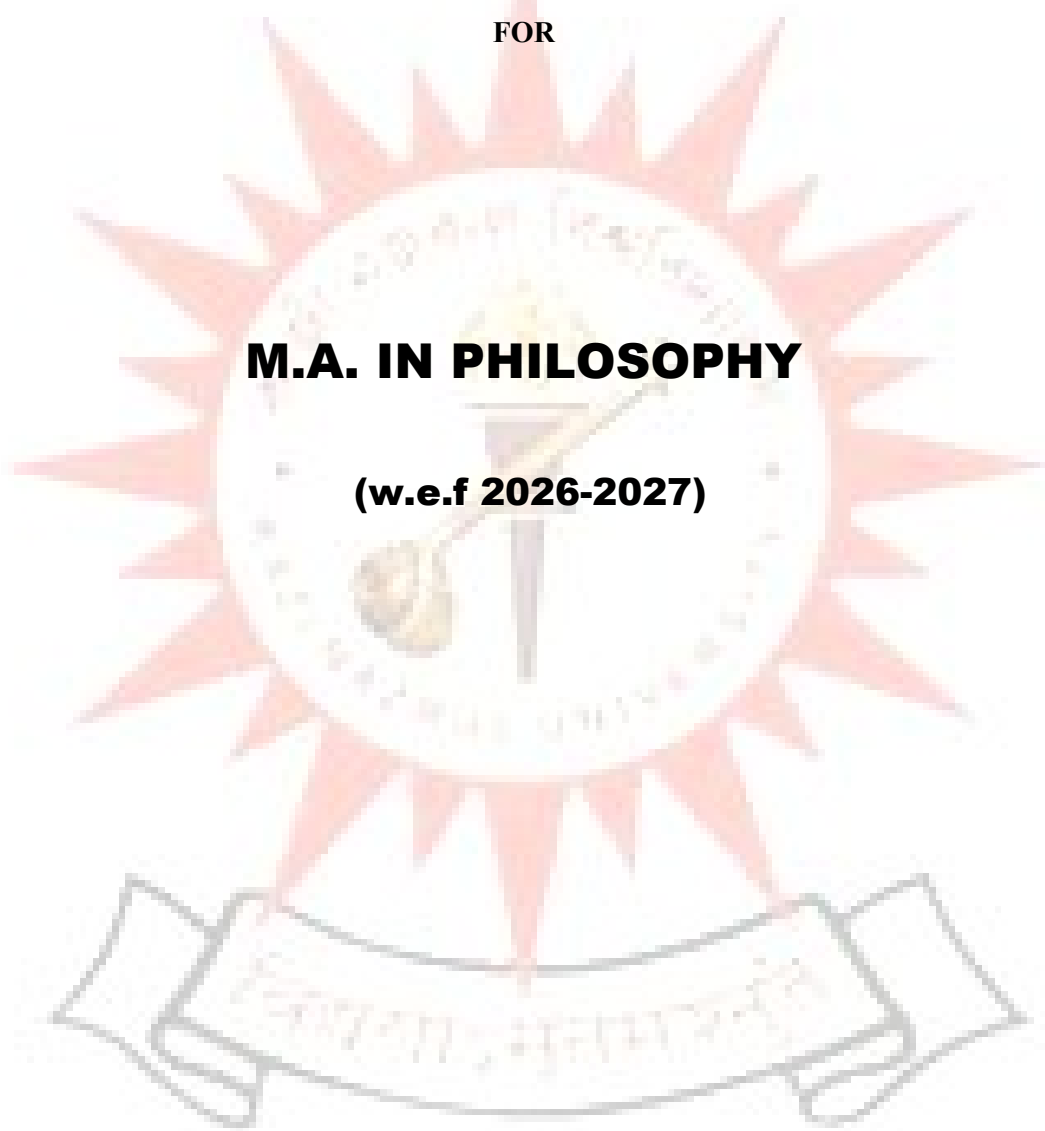


CURRICULUM & SYLLABUS

FOR

M.A. IN PHILOSOPHY

(w.e.f 2026-2027)



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
KAZI NAZRUL UNIVERSITY

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ASANSOL, WEST BENGAL

CURRICULUM & SYLLABUS FOR M.A. IN PHILOSOPHY

Academic session 2026-2027

The vision of the Department of Philosophy is to impart quality education to the students and making them globally competent. The emphasis of the department is to study classical philosophy from both Indian and Western perspectives, and also contemporary philosophical theories in both Indian and Western tradition. Keeping in mind the aforesaid goal the Department offers several new courses bearing relevance and significance in the contemporary world. We hope the syllabus as furnished below will fulfill our goal.

a) Aims :

- To give importance to student oriented learning.
- To impart quality education.
- To encourage the students in research work and critical thinking.

Programme Structure:

The course structure of the proposed programme is given below:

The students are required to take eight Major Coursework which are compulsory and three discipline specific elective courses/Major Research Coursework of five credits each. Students are to take two elective interdisciplinary elective (Minor) courses of four credits from other discipline

Semester-wise Course Division

First Semester: There are four compulsory Major Coursework with five credits each and one compulsory minor elective with four credits. Major Coursework are (i) Indian Epistemology (ii) Western Epistemology (iii) Formal Logic (iv) Classical Texts: Indian & Western and minor elective is (v) Formal Fallacies and Informal Fallacies.

Second Semester: There are four compulsory Major Coursework with five credits each and one compulsory minor elective with four credits. Compulsory Major Coursework are: (i) Indian Metaphysics; (ii) Western Metaphysics; (iii) Philosophy of Language: Indian & Western (iv) Phenomenology & Existentialism and compulsory minor elective is (v) Ethical Dilemma.

Third Semester: There are three Major Research Coursework (students have to select any one group as offered by the Department) with five credits each. These are (i) group-A 1. Sāṃkhya-Yoga, 2. Nyāya, 3. Buddhism; or (ii) group-B 1. Advanced Logic, 2. Philosophy of Mind, 3. Hermeneutics & Post Modernism and there will be one compulsory course with five credits. Compulsory Course is (iii) Research Methodology with AI

Fourth Semester: There are two compulsory Dissertations (courses) with five credits and fifteen credits. (i) Literature Review(five credits) and (ii) PG Dissertation (fifteen credits).

Learning Outcomes:

This program aims to explain various philosophical theories in both the Indian and Western traditions. After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize and respond to different types of philosophical questions and inquiries.
- Analyze various types of philosophical questions and inquiries.
- Present philosophical arguments accurately in both written and oral forms.
- Provide appropriate grounds for evaluating philosophical arguments and address potential counterarguments and objections.
- Describe and articulate their own points of view in a clear, consistent, concise, and thorough manner.

Programme Specific Outcome:

After successful completion of this course, the student should be able to achieve the following specific learning outcomes:

- Understand metaphysical, epistemological, and logical issues from both Indian and Western philosophical perspectives.
- Acquire knowledge of symbolic logic, deductive systems, formal techniques of reasoning, and methods for evaluating arguments.
- Develop an understanding of Indian logic.
- Gain knowledge of the philosophy of art from both Indian and Western perspectives.
- Understand linguistic philosophy in both Indian and Western traditions.
- Examine issues in continental philosophy, values, contemporary ethical issues, and various socio-political philosophical perspectives.

Career Opportunities:

Philosophy explores the fundamental issues of the intellectual tradition. As a discipline, it involves critical and systematic inquiry into fundamental questions concerning right and wrong, truth and falsehood, the meaning of life, the nature of reality, and related issues. The study of Philosophy encourages students and researchers to formulate questions from new perspectives and to examine arguments through a philosophical lens. It provides excellent preparation for a variety of professional fields and academic programs, while also developing critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and effective communication skills. Furthermore, it offers a strong foundation for careers in teaching, research, writing, public service, law, journalism, and other professions that require rigorous intellectual engagement and sound judgment.

COURSE CURRICULUM

SEMESTER: I

Course Title	Course Type	Course Code	(L-T-P)	Credit	Marks		
					CA Marks	ESE Marks	Total Marks
Indian Epistemology	MC-1	MAPHIMC701	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Western Epistemology	MC-2	MAPHIMC702	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Formal Logic	MC-3	MAPHIMC703	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Classical Text: Indian & Western	MC-4	MAPHIMC704	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
MINOR COURSE - Choose from the Pool of Minor Courses offered in 5th Semester by other Disciplines within the faculty	MNC-1	See Pool	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
SEMESTER TOTAL:				25	500		

SEMESTER: II

Course Title	Course Type	Course Code	(L-T-P)	Credit	Marks		
					CA Marks	ESE Marks	Total Marks
Indian Metaphysics	MC-5	BAPHIMC801	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Western Metaphysics	MC-6	BAPHIMC802	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Philosophy of Language: Indian & Western	MC-7	BAPHIMC803	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Phenomenology & Existentialism	MC-8	BAPHIMC804	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
MINOR COURSE - Choose from the Pool of Minor Courses offered in 5th Semester by other Disciplines within the faculty	MNC-2	See Pool	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
SEMESTER TOTAL:				25	500		

Student exiting the programmes after securing 50 credits will be awarded PG Diploma in the relevant Discipline/Subject provided they secure following 2 credits in work based vocational courses during 1st year from the scheduled SWAYAM, NPTEL and ANY OTHER SIMILAR Courses.(Any one may pursue a course having more than 2 credits but 2 credit weightage will be considered .

Vocational Course	VC	VC201	0 - 0 - 4	2	30	20	50
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SEMESTER: III

Course Title		Course Type	Course Code	(L-T-P)	Credit	Marks		
						CA Marks	CA Marks	CA Marks
Sāṃkhya-Yoga	Group A	MCE-1	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Nyāya		MCE-2	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Buddhism		MCE-3	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Advanced Logic	Group B	MCE-1	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Philosophy of Mind		MCE-2	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Hermeneutics & Post Modernism		MCE-3	MAPHIMCE901	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Research Methodology with AI		RMC-1	MAPHIRMAI901	3 - 0 - 4	5	30+15	20+35	100

SEMESTER: IV

Course Title		Course Type	Course Code	(L-T-P)	Credit	Marks		
						CA Marks	CA Marks	CA Marks
Literature Review		RDC-1	MAPHIRD1001	0 - 3 - 4	5	60	40	100
PG Dissertation		RDC-2	MAPHIRD1002	0 -10- 10	10	180	120	300

POOL OF PHILOSOPHY MINOR COURSES OFFERED BY PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT FOR OTHER DISCIPLINES

Course Title	Course type	Course Code	(L-T-P)	Credit	Marks		
					CA Marks	ESE Marks	Total Marks
Formal Fallacies and Informal Fallacies	MNC-1	MAPHIMN701	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100
Ethical Dilemma	MNC-2	MAPHIMN801	5 - 0 - 0	5	30	70	100

SYLLABUS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (M. A.) IN PHILOSOPHY

(Academic session 2026-2027)

Continuous Assessment: 30 marks & End Semester Examination: 70 marks.

MODE OF EVALUATION:

Continuous evaluation will comprise of internal assessment and end semester examination.

SEMESTER- I

MAJOR COURSEWORK- 1

Course Name: Indian Epistemology

Course Code: **MAPHIMC701**

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-1		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Pratyakṣa Pramāṇa: This course aims to develop the skills to understand a philosophical text and decipher the underlying philosophical issues in it. And also tries to introduce some of the most important issues in Indian Philosophical system i.e. *Navya-Nyāya* in the light of *Bhāṣāparichhedaḥ* by Viśvanātha.

Prāmāṇyavāda: This course introduces Indian epistemology. In Indian epistemology the controversy over the truth (*pramāṭva*) of knowledge is a cardinal problem. Different schools of thought participate in this controversy. The entire discussion in *Prāmāṇyavāda* centres round the following set of questions:

1. What are the conditions for generating truth?
2. How can the truth of knowledge be known?

The exclusivity that we observe in Indian epistemology is both veridical cognition and non-veridical cognition is the matter of discussion in case of knowledge. So the theory about '*Pramāṭva*' also invites discussion related to erroneous cognition.

COURSE OUTCOME

Pratyakṣa Pramāṇa: This course will encourage the students to involve in the critical analysis in Indian Philosophy. This course will emphasize on the enriched tradition of argumentation in *Navya-Nyāya*.

Prāmāṇyavāda: This course is designed to enable students to know about certain fundamental epistemological problems. This course will enable students to think critically. Without critical analysis of anything, no understanding is possible.

Group –A

Suggested Topics:

- **Pratyakṣa Pramāṇa:**

Definition, Process & Types of *pratyakṣa*

Recommended Texts:

- ❖ *Bhāṣāparichhedah* by Viśvanātha (*pratyakṣa khaṇḍa*)

Group –B

- **Prāmāṇyavāda**

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ *Prāmāṇya* in the context of *utpatti* (genesis) and *jñapti* (ascertainment)

- **Theories of Illusion**

- ❖ (*khyātivāda*)– (a) *akhyāti*, (b) *anyathākhyāti*, (c) *anirvacanīyakhyāti* & (d) *ātmakhyāti*

Recommended Texts:

- *Tattvacintāmaṇi (prāmāṇyavāda)* by Gaṅgeśa.
- *Śloka-vārttika* by Kumārila Bhaṭṭa.
- *Nyāyasūtra* with *Bhāṣya* and *Tātparyatīkā*
- *Vijñaptimātratāsiddhi* with Sthiramati's Commentary
- *Prakaraṇapañcikā* by Śālikanātha Mīśra with *Nyāyavithi*

Suggested Readings:

- Satish Ch. Vidyabhusan: History of Indian Logic, MLBD, 2015.
- B.K. Matilal: The Character of Logic in India, State University of New York press, 1998.
- B.K. Matilal: Logic, Language and Reality, MLBD, 2017.
- S.S. Barlingay: A Modern Introduction to Indian Logic, National Publishing House, Delhi, 1965.
- Nandita Bandyopadhyay: The Concept of Logical Fallacies, Sanskrit Pustak Bhandar, 1977.
- Govardhan P. Bhatt: Epistemology of the Bhāṭṭa School of Pūrva- Mīmāṃsā, Varanasi, 1962
- J.N. Mohanty: *Gaṅgeśa's Theory of Truth*, MLBD, 2006
- Karl Potter: *Encyclopedia of Indian Philosophy (Vol. on Navya-Nyāya)*, Yoga Publication Trust, 2014
- B.K. Matilal: *Perception, An essay on Classical Indian Theories of Knowledge*, Oxford University press, 1992
- K.N. Jayatille: *Early Buddhist Theory of Knowledge*, MLBD, 1963
- Jha, V.N Ed. *Śloka-vārttika*, The Asiatic Society Publications, Kolkata
- Bandyopadhyay, Rupa, *Indian Theories of Illusions*, Mahabodhi Book Agency, Kolkata, 2020
- Shaw, J.L., *Cognition of Cognition*, , RMIC, Kolkata, 1998
- Chowdhury, Sukomal & et al Ed. *Vijñaptimātratāsiddhi*, Sanskrit College & University Publications, Collegestreet, 2017
- Ghoshal Preetam & Ghosh Sankalita Ed. *Jñāna o jñānasamvitti*, Mahabodhi Book Agency, Kolkata, 2016
- Bagchi, Yogendranath, *Prācīna Nyāya O Mīmāṃsā Darśana Sammata Prāmāṇyavāda*

MAJOR COURSEWORK- 2

Course Name: Western Epistemology

Course Code: **MAPHIMC702**

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-2		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Epistemology is that branch of philosophy which is concerned with knowledge; its definition, theories and nature. It is also concerned with justification and scepticism. This course packs in the traditional definition of knowledge, as well as the shortcomings of this formulation through Gettier-type counter examples and also the responses to these challenges. Various theories of justification are also included in this course, as “justification” is a very important epistemic term. And finally, the course incorporates the challenges posed by scepticism to the possibility of knowledge itself.

COURSE OUTCOME:

If we cannot ascertain what knowledge is, all attempts to gather information become futile. This course trains the students to critically analyse the concept of knowledge and fine-tune the reasoning skills.

Suggested Topics:

- Skepticism, fallibilism and the possibility of knowledge
- Traditional definition of knowledge
- Gettier problem and responses to it
- Theories of justification: foundationalism; coherentism; causal theory; reliability theory
- Internalism-externalism debate

Suggested Texts:

- J. Dancy: *Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*, Blackwell, Oxford University press, 1985
- R. M. Chisholm: *Theory of Knowledge* (3rd ed.) Prentice Hall, 1966
- J. Ayer: *The Problem of Knowledge*, Penguin Books, 1956
- J. L. Pollock: *Contemporary Theories of Knowledge*, Rowman & Littlefield, 1986
- G.S. Pappas & M. Swain (eds.), *Justification and Knowledge: New Studies in Epistemology*, D. Reidel Pub. Co., 1978
- Alan Musgrave, *Commonsense, Science and Scepticism: A Historical Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge*, Cambridge University Press, 1993
- W. Alston, ‘Internalism and Externalism in Epistemology’, *Philosophical Topics*, Vol. 14, 1986
- W. Alston, ‘An Internalist Externalist’, *Synthese*, Vol. 74, 1988
- L. Bon Jour, ‘Externalist Theories of Empirical Knowledge’, *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, Vol. 5, 1980
- Alvin Goldman, ‘The Internalist Conception of Justification’, *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*, Vol. 5, 1980
- K. Lehrer, and S. Cohen, ‘Justification, Truth, and Coherence.’ *Synthese*, Vol. 55, 1983
- R. Feldman, ‘Bon Jour and Sosa on Internalism, Externalism, and Basic Beliefs’, *Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 131, 2006
- Sutapa Saha, *Evidence and Truth: Responses to the Gettier Problem*, Allied Publishers, 1994
- Tushar Kanti Sarkar, *Knowledge, Truth and Justification*, Allied Publishers, 1992
- Sandhya Basu: *Justification: Concepts and Theories*, Progressive Publishers, 2003
- Proyash Sarkar, *Jñāna, Samśayavad O Yuktisiddhi Praśange*, Papyrus, Kolkata, 2009

MAJOR COURSEWORK - 3

Course Name: **Formal Logic**

Course Code: **MAPHIMC703**

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-3		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course aims to introduce students to the developments in reasoning.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Systematic Logical reasoning will refine their reasoning and argumentation techniques.

Suggested Topics:

- 1st Order Predicate Logic, multiple General Proposition, Relations, Identity, definite description.
- Truth tree for 1st Order Predicate Logic.

Recommended Texts:

- I. M. Copi: *Symbolic Logic* (5th edition), Chapters 3 and 4 Prentice Hall of India, 1998.
- Richard Jeffrey: *Formal Logic: Its Scope and Limits* (1 edition), Tata McGraw-Hill, 1930.

MAJOR COURSEWORK - 4

Course Name: Classical Texts: Indian & Western

Course Code: MAPHIMC704

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-4		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Classical Text: Indian (*Vedāntaparibhāṣā*): This course aims to develop the skill of how to understand a philosophical text and decipher the underlying philosophical issues in it. And also tries to introduce some of the most important Epistemological issues in the Indian Philosophical system i.e., *vedānta*.

[This course gives importance on both epistemology and metaphysics of Advaita Vedanta philosophy. From this our students can learn how Advaita Metaphysics is related with Advaita Epistemology.]

Classical Text: Western (*Critique of Pure Reason*): Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* is one of the most important philosophical texts in the history of Western Philosophy and the main objective of this course is to introduce a classical text from the Western Philosophical tradition.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Classical Text: Indian (*Vedāntaparibhāṣā*): This course will introduce students with some glimpses of our enriched tradition of Indian philosophical text. It also prepares their mind to appreciate and understand the intense philosophical analysis and argumentation of traditional Indian philosophical systems.

Classical Text: Western (*Critique of Pure Reason*): This course will introduce our students with Western philosophical perspectives, which eventually nurture their philosophical understanding as a whole. Introducing western thoughts with a thinker like Immanuel Kant will refine their philosophical insight.

Group –A

Suggested Text:

- ❖ Dharmarajadhvarindra: *Vedāntaparibhāṣā: (pratyakṣa pramāṇa)*

Suggested Readings:

- Śāstrī Pañchānan (Translated), *Vedānta-Paribhāṣa*, Sanskrit Pustak Bhandar, Calcutta, 1377 BC.
- Madhavananda Swami (Translated) *Vedānta-Paribhāṣa of Dharmarajadhvarindra*, Advaita Ashrama, 1942.

Group –B

Suggested Text:

- ❖ Immanuel Kant: *Critique of Pure Reason* [Preface of first and second edition to Transcendental Aesthetic (Space and Time)]

Recommended Texts:

- N. K. Smith : *Immanuel Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*, Trans. N. K. Smith, Macmillan & Co. Ltd., 1929.
- H. J. Paton: *Metaphysic of Experience (Vol. I &II)*, George Allen & Unwin, 1965.

Suggested Readings:

- Norman Kemp Smith, *Immanuel Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*, Macmillan and Co, London, 1929.
- Rasvihary Das, *A Handbook to Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*, Hind kitabs limited, Bombay, 1949.

MINOR COURSE - 1

Course Name: Formal Fallacies and Informal Fallacies

Course Code: MAPHIMN701

Course Type: Minor (Theoretical)		Course Details: MNC-1		L-T-P: 5 –0 – 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To introduce students to the structural and content-based errors in reasoning, distinguishing clearly between formal rules and informal contexts.

- To introduce students to the structural and content-based errors in reasoning, distinguishing clearly between formal rules and informal contexts.
- To cultivate a sharp analytical mind capable of identifying deceptive, weak, or invalid arguments in academic, political, and everyday discourses.
- To familiarize students with standard taxonomies of fallacies as established in both Western Aristotelian-Modern traditions and Classical Indian Logics.
- To enhance structural thinking, enabling students to construct logically sound, flawless arguments of their own.

COURSE OUTCOME

- Detect structural flaws (formal fallacies) in deductive arguments and content-based biases (informal fallacies) in natural language.
- Evaluate the validity and soundness of everyday reasoning, media reports, advertisements, and public debates.
- Apply logical rules to avoid semantic ambiguities, emotional traps, and cognitive biases in academic research.

Suggested Topics

Formal Fallacy:

- Definition of a Fallacy; Truth vs. Validity;
- Syllogistic Fallacies: Fallacy of Four Terms, Undistributed Middle, Illicit Major, Illicit Minor, Fallacy of Exclusive Premises, Affirmative conclusion from Negative Premises, Fallacy of Affirming the consequent, Fallacy of denying the antecedent, Fallacy of Affirming the disjunct, Fallacy of converting A, Existential Fallacy.
- Fallacy of mal-observation, Fallacy of non-observation, Fallacy of post-hoc ergo propter hoc, Fallacy of taking co-effect as a cause, Fallacy in Analogy, Fallacy in Probability.

Informal Fallacy:

- **Fallacy of Relevance:** Argument from Ignorance, Argument from Inappropriate Authority, Argument from Complex Question, Argument against the Person, Argument from Accident, Argument from Converse Accident, Argument from False Cause, Circular Argument, Argument from Emotion, Argument from Appeal to pity, Argument from Force, Argument from Irrelevant Conclusion.
- **Fallacy of Ambiguity:** Equivocation, Amphiboly, Accent, Composition, Division

Suggested Readings:

- Copi, Irving M., Cohen, Carl, & Rodych, Victor. (2019). *Introduction to Logic* (15th Edition). Routledge.
- Hurley, Patrick J., & Watson, Lori. (2018). *A Concise Introduction to Logic* (13th Edition). Cengage Learning.
- Baronett, Stan. (2016). *Logic* (3rd Edition). Oxford University Press.

SEMESTER- II

MAJOR COURSEWORK - 5

Course Name: Indian Metaphysics

Course Code: **MAPHIMC801**

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-5		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The goal of this course is to present and critically engage with some of the important debates in the area of Indian metaphysics. This is a text-based course.

COURSE OUTCOME:

This course will introduce our students with the Indian traditional analytic approaches (i.e. *Nyāya*, *Vedānta* and *Sāṃkhya*) and to deep philosophical issues like Causality, *Prakṛti*, *Puruṣa*, *atman* etc.

Suggested Topics:

- Concept of *Prakṛti* and *Puruṣa* in *Sāṃkhya*
- Different theories of causation: *satkāryavāda*, *asatkāryavāda*, *svabhāvavāda*, *pratītyasamutpādvāda*
- The World & its creations: *ārambhavāda*, *pariṇāmvāda* and *vivartavāda*
- Introduction to categories in *Vaiśeṣika* metaphysics (*uddeśaprakaraṇa* of *Praśastapādabhāṣya*)
- The concept of *Īśvara* (God); proofs for the existence of God

Recommended Texts:

- ❖ *Nyāyasūtra-vāṭsyāyanabhāṣya*
- ❖ *Praśastapādabhāṣya*
- ❖ *Nyāyakusumāñjali*
- ❖ *Sāṃkhyakārikā* with *Sāṃkhyatattvakaumudī* (*kārikā*-1-3, 9-22)

Suggested Readings:

- Stephen H. Philips: *Classical Indian Metaphysics*, Delhi: MLBD, 1997.
- Jadunath Sinha: *Indian Realism*, London, Kegan Paul, 1938.
- P.K. Mukhopadhyay: *Indian Realism*, Calcutta, K.P. Bagchi 1984.
- Harsh Narain: *Evolution of the Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika Categoriology*, Bharati Prakashan, 1976
- Sadananda Bhaduri: *Studies in Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika Metaphysics*, Bhandarkar Oriental Research institute, Poona, 1946.
- Larson, Gerald James: *Classical Samkhya*. Motilal Banarasi Das Publishers Private Ltd. Delhi, 2014.
- Narayan Chandra Goswami: *Sāṃkhyatattvakaumudī*, Sanskrit Pustak Bhandar, 1389 (Bengali Year)

MAJOR COURSEWORK - 6
Course Name: Western Metaphysics
Course Code: MAPHIMC802

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-6		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Metaphysics is an inquiry into the nature of reality. It has been one of the most basic concerns for philosophers since the time of ancient Greek philosophy. This course comprises some of the traditional concerns such as reality, truth, being, personal identity, as well as contemporary issues such as the theory of relativity of space and time and quantum theory.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Metaphysics is one of the building blocks in understanding philosophy. The course has been carefully designed to seamlessly mould the classic and the contemporary. Issues from physics have been introduced, so that the students can engage in a dialogue with the scientists and keep up with the progress that is made in the empirical disciplines.

Suggested Topics:

- Problem of being and becoming: Parmenides and Aristotle
- Realism and Antirealism: Nature and Varieties
- Theories of Truth
- Ontological Relativity: W.V.O. Quine
- Theory of Relativity of Space and Time
- Self and Personal Identity: John Locke, P. F. Strawson, Bernard Williams and Sydney Shoemaker

Suggested Readings:

- Aristotle, *Metaphysics*, Translated by Hugh Lawson-Tancred Penguin Books, 1998.
- Michael J. Loux: *Metaphysics: A Contemporary Introduction*, Routledge, 2006.
- D.W. Hamlyn :*Metaphysics*, Cambridge University Press, 1984.
- John Locke, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Trans. By R.S. Woodlhouse, Penguin Books, 1997.
- P.F. Strawson: *Individuals: An Essay in Descriptive Metaphysics*, Methuen, 1957.
- B.A. Brody : *Identity and Essence*, Princeton University Press, 1980.
- Gilbert Ryle : *The Concept of Mind*, Penguin Books, 1973
- Sydney Shoemaker : *Self-knowledge and Self-Identity*, Cornell University press, 1963
- E. J. Lowe: 'Substance', *An Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (ed. G.H.R. Parkinson), Routledge, 1996.
- S. Chakraborti: *Realism and its alternatives*, Papyrus, 2000
- Chanda Gupta: *Realism Versus Realism*, Allied, 1995.
- Bernard Williams: *Problem of the Self*, Cambridge, 1973.
- Richard Taylor: *Metaphysics*, Prentice Hall, 1992.
- F.H. Bradley: *Appearance and Reality*, Oxford, 1897.
- George Gammow, *Thirty Years that Shook Physics: The Story of Quantum Theory*, Dover Publications Inc., 1985
- George Gammow, *Mr Tompkins in Paperback*, CUP, 2012

MAJOR COURSEWORK - 7

Course Name: Philosophy of Language: Indian & Western

Course Code: MAPHIMC803

Course Type: MAJOR COURSEWORK (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-7		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Philosophy of Language explores the nature of language and its relation to the world and the mind. The linguistic turn in western philosophy during the 20th century marks a very crucial shift in the methodology of philosophy. The course combines a detailed study of the key concepts concerning “meaning” and “truth”. The works of Frege, Russell and Wittgenstein (early and later), will give a clear perspective on this branch of philosophy. Whether philosophy should be done in formal language or in ordinary language, will also be debated in the course.

COURSE OUTCOME:

This course aims to acquaint the students with the many nuances of the use of language. Language is an indispensable part of human culture and evolution, but one seldom pauses to think how language performs so many functions. The paper will acquaint the students precisely with this kind of analytic skills.

Group A

Philosophy of Language: Indian

Suggested Topics:

- *Bhāṣāparichheda (śabda-khaṇḍa)* : *padajñāna*, *śakti*, the means to *śaktigraha*, The concept of *lakṣaṇā*, and its classifications. The debate between Naiyāyikas and Mīmāṃsakas regarding the locus of *śakti*
- Conditions for ascertaining sentence- meaning: *ākāṃkṣā*, *yogyatā*, *sannidhi*, *tātparya*;
- Indian Theories of Meaning: *anvitābhīdhanavāda*, *abhihitānvayavāda*, *saṃsargamaryādāvāda* and Grammarians view (*sphoṭavāda*)

Recommended Texts:

- Viśvanātha : *Bhāṣāpariccheda* with *Siddhāntamuktāvalī (Śabdakhaṇḍa)*
- Bhartṛhari : *Vākyapadīyam*

Suggested Readings:

- K.N. Chatterjee: *Word and its Meaning : A New Perspective*, 1980
- Gaurinath Sastri: *The Philosophy of Word and Meaning*, 1959
- K. Kunjuni Raja: *Indian Theories of Meaning*, Adyar Library and Research Centre, 1969.
- K.A. Subramaniam Iyer: *Bhartṛhari*, Poona oriental, 1969.
- Kar, Nyāyācārya Gangadhar, *Śabdārthasambandhasamīkṣā*, Mahabodhi Book Agency, Kolkata, 2015
- Sastri Panchanan, *Bhāṣāpariccheda*, (ed.)

Group B

Philosophy of Language: Western

Suggested Topics:

- Introduction: Linguistic turn in philosophy
- Issues and Problems: sense and reference; concepts and objects; propositional attitudes; proper names; definite descriptions
- Theories of meaning: picture theory; use theory; speech acts
- Logical positivism

Suggested Texts:

- A. P. Martinich (ed.): *The Philosophy of Language*, Oxford University Press, 1985
- John R. Searle (ed.): *The Philosophy of Language*, Oxford University Press, 1971
- B. Russell: *Logic and Knowledge*, R.C. Marsh (ed.), Allen and Unwin, 1956
- B. Russell: *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*, Allen and Unwin, 1919
- L. Wittgenstein: *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, (trans.) D.F. Pears and B.F. McGuinness, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1961
- L. Wittgenstein: *Philosophical Investigations*, (tran.) G.E.M. Anscombe, Basil Blackwell, 1953
- J. L. Austin: *How to Do Things with Words*, (eds. G.T. Warnock and J.O. Urmson), Oxford University Press, 1980
- J. L. Austin: *Philosophical Papers*, (eds. G.T. Warnock and J.O. Urmson), Oxford University Press, 1979
- Saul Kripke: *Naming and Necessity*, Oxford University Press, 1996
- Michael Dummett: *The Seas of Language*, Oxford University Press, 1993
- Max Black: *A Companion to Wittgenstein's Tractatus*, Cambridge University Press, 1971
- P.F. Strawson: *Logico-Linguistic Papers*, Methuen & Co LTD, 1971
- Donald Davidson, *Inquiries into Meaning and Truth*, Oxford University Press, 1984
- Michael Devitt & Kim Sterelney, *Language and Reality*, MIT Press, 1987
- Mark Textor, *Routledge Philosophy Guide Book to Frege on Sense and Reference*, Routledge, 2010 W.V.O. Quine, *Word and Object*, MIT Press, 1960
- J. Searle, *Speech Acts: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language*, Cambridge University Press, 1969
- P.T. Geach & Max Black (Tr.), *Philosophical Writings of Gottlob Frege*, Blackwell, 1960
- A.W. Moore (ed.), *Meaning and Reference*, Oxford University Press, 1993
- Pranab Kumar Sen, *Reference and Truth*, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 1991
- Sandhya Basu & Kumar Mitra (ed.), *Paschattya Bisleshani Darsan*, Rabindra Bharati University, 2010

Course Type: Major (Theoretical)		Course Details: MC-8		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The aim of these two courses is to teach the core concepts of phenomenology & Existentialism as these two subject matters are now a major and important subject matter of philosophy. It will provide an ability to analyze the phenomenological and Existential texts by Husserl and other Existentialists. Keeping in Mindful of the recent development of philosophy, this course will help the students to develop their research mentality.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Existential philosophy investigates a new area of philosophy so the course will help to highlight some new questions for the students as well as for the researcher. We hope by this course one can find his own place in existence and society using the frameworks developed by the Existentialist in order to define one's responsibilities within a community.

As a key discipline phenomenology will help the students and new researchers to analyse the phenomenological arguments and discussions though it has some distinct features and something different from other philosophical topics. It will help to recognise and reflect the phenomenological learning of Husserl.

Suggested Topics:

Phenomenology:

- Development of Husserl's Phenomenology, Reduction, Essential Intuition, Intentionality, Solipsism and Inter-subjectivity, the Life-World

Existentialism:

- Søren Kierkegaard: Critique of Objectivity, Three Stages of Existence, Leap of Faith.
- Martin Heidegger: The Question of Being, Dasein (Being-in-the-world), Authentic vs. Inauthentic Existence (Das Man), Being-towards-death.
- Jean-Paul Sartre: Being-in-itself vs. Being-for-itself, Absolute Freedom, Bad Faith.

Recommended Texts:

- Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time* (trans. J. Macquarrie & E. Robinson), Harper and Row Publishers, 1962.
- Jean-Paul Sartre: *Being and Nothingness*, Philosophical Library, 1943.
- J. N. Mohanty & W. R. Mckenna (eds): *Husserl's Phenomenology : A Text Book*, University Press of America , 1989.
- Dermot Moran: *Introduction to Phenomenology*, Routledge, 1999.
- Debabrata Sinha: *Phenomenology and Existentialism: An Introduction*, Progressive Publishers, 1974.
- Krishna Roy : *Hermeneutics: East and West*, Allied Publishers Ltd. & J.U., 1993.
- R.C. Solomon: *From Rationalism to Existentialism*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, February 14, 2001.
- R. C. Solomon: *Phenomenology and Existentialism*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, February 28, 2001.

Course Name: Ethical Dilemma**Course Code:** MAPHIMN801

Course Type: Minor (Theoretical)		Course Details: MNC-2		L-T-P: 5 –0 – 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course aimed to highlight on the interdisciplinary perspectives of philosophy. The aim of this paper is to highlight the ethical and moral dilemmas. In our daily life we sometime face moral dilemmas and sometimes we feel confused to take any decision. Those dilemmas are puzzling us. Instead of wondering over those puzzles, philosophical insights may help us to tackle those situations more efficiently.

COURSE OUTCOME:

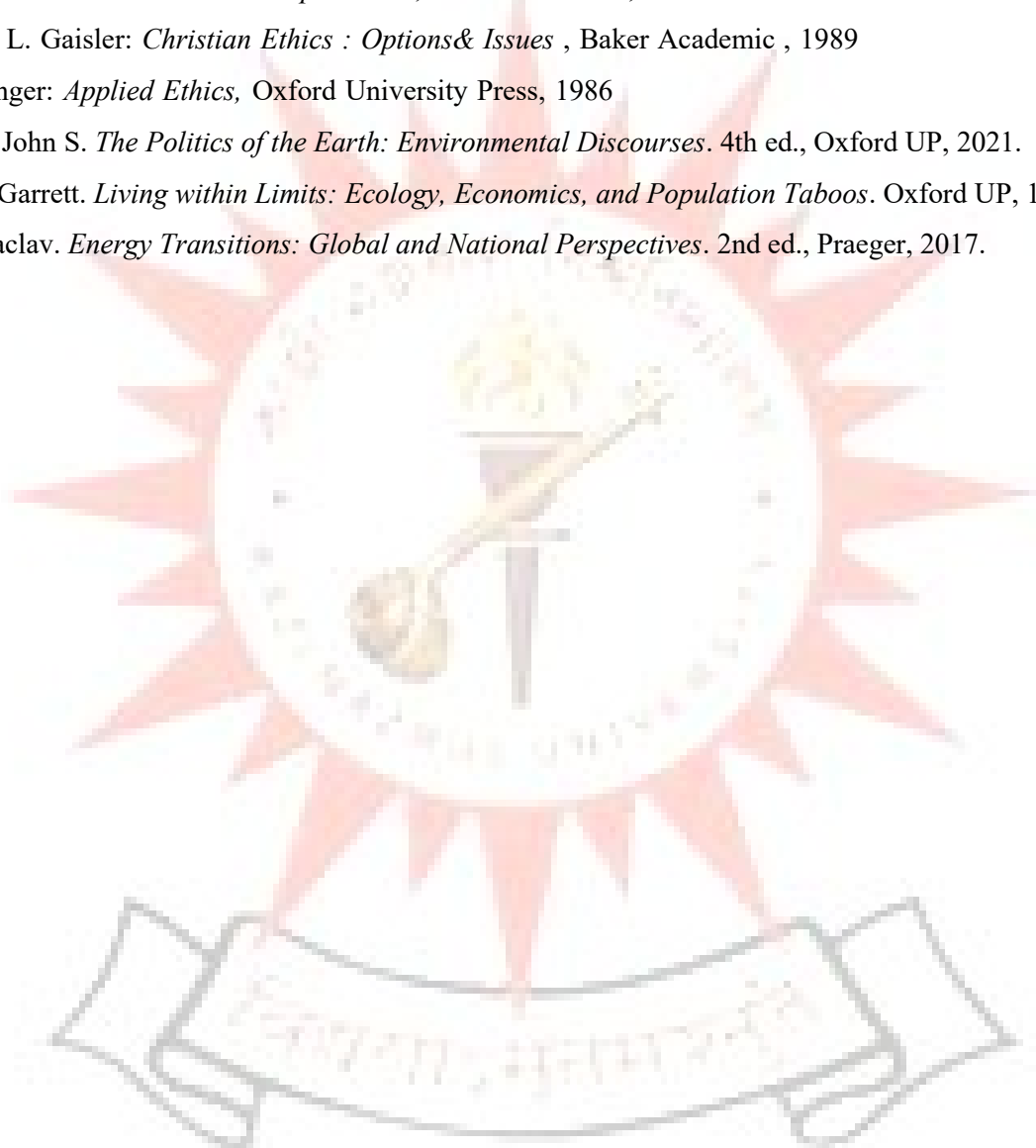
This course will help the students to realize and resolve those puzzling dilemmas more efficiently.

Suggested Topics:

- Introduction
- Ethics and ethical dilemma
- Dilemma related to situation
 - Trolley Problem
 - Fairness Dilemma
 - Prisoner's Dilemma
 - Samaritan's Dilemma
 - Sophie's Choice Dilemma
 - Traveler's Dilemma
 - Double Blind
 - Hedge Hauge's Dilemma
 - Extortion
 - Hobson's Choice
 - Morton's Fork
 - Graded Absolutism
- Dilemma related to Human Life
 - Dilemma regarding Abortion, Suicide, Euthanasia, Marriage and Co-habitation,
- Dilemma related to Environment
 - Environment, Development, and Sustainability
 - Population vs. Carrying Capacity
 - Energy Transitions

Suggested Readings:

- Haviland William A., Prince Herald Y.L., Mc. Bride Bunny, Walrath Dana: *Cultural Anthropology: The Human Challenge*, Cengage Learning, 2011.
- Evan Jesrtmann: *Same Sex Marriage and the Constitution*, Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- Philippa Foot: *The Problem of Abortion and the Doctrine of Double Effect*, 1967
- David Bunin: *A Defense of Abortion*, Cambridge Studies in Philosophy & Public Policy, University of Colorado, 2003
- Patrick, Lee.: ‘Prolife Argument Form of Substantial Identity: A Defense’, *Bio-ethics*, June, 2004
- Rodger E Meiners: *A Victim Compensation*, Lexinton Books , 1978
- Norman L. Gaisler: *Christian Ethics : Options& Issues* , Baker Academic , 1989
- Peter Singer: *Applied Ethics*, Oxford University Press, 1986
- Dryzek, John S. *The Politics of the Earth: Environmental Discourses*. 4th ed., Oxford UP, 2021.
- Hardin, Garrett. *Living within Limits: Ecology, Economics, and Population Taboos*. Oxford UP, 1993.
- Smil, Vaclav. *Energy Transitions: Global and National Perspectives*. 2nd ed., Praeger, 2017.



SEMESTER- III

Major Research Coursework Elective

(Any one group to be opted)

Group A

Major Research Coursework - 1

Course Name: Sāṃkhya-Yoga

Course Code: **MAPHIMCE901**

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-1		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The aim of this course is to explore and present a special Indian text and critically engage with some of the important subject matters in the area of Sāṃkhya and Yoga Philosophy.

COURSE OUTCOME:

This will introduce our students with the Indian traditional approaches through the discussions on classical Sāṃkhya and Yoga Philosophy

Recommended Texts/Topics:

- Īśvarakṛṣṇa: *Sāṃkhyakārikā* with *Sāṃkhyatattvakaumudī* of Vācaspati Miśra (Select portion)
- Patañjali : *Yogasūtra* with *Yogasūtrabhāṣya* of Vyāsa (Select portion)

Major Research Coursework - 2

Course Name: Nyāya

Course Code: **MAPHIMCE902**

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-2		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The goal of this course is to present and critically engage with some of the important Discussions in the area of Indian classical philosophy. This is a text-based course and the text Nyāyasūtra with Vātsyāyanabhāṣya (*adhyāya-I*) will be explored in this course.

COURSE OUTCOME:

This course will introduce students with our enriched tradition of Indian philosophical text. It also prepares to understand the intense philosophical analysis and argumentation of traditional Indian philosophical systems.

Recommended Texts/Topics:

- **Gautama : Nyāyasūtra with Vātsyāyanabhāṣya** (Select portion)

Major Research Coursework- 3

Course Name: Buddhism

Course Code: **MAPHIMCE903**

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-3		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The aim of this course is to critically examine the core epistemological and metaphysical issues in Mahāyāna and Buddhist Logical traditions. By analyzing seminal texts, the course explores the concepts of emptiness (śūnyatā), dependent origination, and the criteria of valid perception (pratyakṣa) as developed in classical Indian Buddhism.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Upon completion of this course, students will develop rigorous philosophical skills to analyze and evaluate classical logical arguments. They will gain a deep understanding of the subtle debates between Buddhist schools and their non-Buddhist interlocutors.

Recommended Texts/Topics:

- *Mulamadhyamakārikā* (Topics: *pratīyaya-parīkṣa*, *svabhāva-parīkṣa* & *nirvāṇa-parīkṣā*)
- *Nyāyabindu* of Dharmakīrti (*pratyakṣa pariccheda*)

Suggested Readings:

- Garfield, Jay L. (1995). *The Fundamental Wisdom of the Middle Way: Nāgārjuna's Mūlamadhyamakakārikā*. Oxford University Press.
- Siderits, Mark & Katsura, Shoryu (2013). *Nagarjuna's Middle Way: Mulamadhyamakakarika*. Wisdom Publications.
- Kalupahana, David J. (1996). *Mulamadhyamakakarika of Nagarjuna*. Motilal Banarsidass.
- Stcherbatsky, Th. (1930). *Buddhist Logic (Vol. II)*. Motilal Banarsidass.
- Prasad, Hari Shankar (Ed.). (1997). *Nyāyabindu of Dharmakīrti: With the Commentary of Dharmottara*. Eastern Book Linkers.
- Gangopadhyaya, Mrinal Kanti. (1984). *Dharmakīrtir Nyayabindu (Pratyakṣa Pariccheda)*. Sanskrit Pustak Bhandar. (in Bengali).

Group B

Major Research Coursework- 4

Course Name: Advanced Logic

Course Code: **MAPHIMCE904**

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-1		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course aims to introduce students to the developments in reasoning.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Systematic Logical reasoning will refine the reasoning of the students and argumentation techniques and this course will prepare them to understand the logical issues more clearly so that they can engage in it more meaningfully.

Suggested Topics:

- Philosophical Logic
- Truth-tree as a Decision Procedure: Testing Validity of Arguments involving Multiple Quantifiers, Testing Logical Truths of Statements
- The method of Existential Conditionals
- Axiomatic system : PM
- Meta-theory of propositional Logic: Consistency, Completeness, Independence and Soundness

Recommended Texts:

- Richard Jeffrey: *Formal Logic: It's Scope and Limits* (1st Ed.), Chapters: 7 & 9, Macmillan and co., 1930.
- Quine: *Methods of Logic*, Harvard University Press, 1982.
- Russell & Whitehead: *Principia Mathematica*, Cambridge University Press, 1913.
- Geoffrey Hunter: *Metalogic: An Introduction to the Metatheory of Standard First Order Logic*, University of California Press, 1971.
- Basson & O'Connor: *Introduction to Symbolic Logic*, Oxford University Press, 1976.
- Hughes & Londey: *The Elements of Formal Logic*, Methuen, 1965.

Suggested Readings:

- Quine: 'On what there is' in *From a Logical point of View*, Harvard University Press, 1953.
- D. F. Pears: "Is existence a predicate?" in P.F. Strawson (ed.) *Philosophical Logic*, Oxford University Press, 1967.
- P.K. Sen : 'Variables and Quantification', in *Logic, Induction, and Ontology*, Jadavpur Studies in Philosophy, Vol. 2, Macmillan, 1980.

Major Research Coursework- 5

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-2		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Philosophy of mind deals with a number of issues, which can be broadly classified under “Metaphysical” and “Epistemological”. In this course, the metaphysical issues regarding the nature of mind are introduced. The pivotal question that needs to be addressed, is—‘how can mind be placed in a physical world?’ Here we encounter the most fascinating debates that try to explain mind and mental phenomena, namely, dualism, behaviourism, materialism and functionalism. Reconciliation between the two seemingly unbridgeable entities will be sought after through the works of some of the most iconic philosophers from Descartes to Putnam, Fodor and Davidson.

COURSE OUTCOME:

The students will be introduced to the different theories of the mind and will be able to appreciate how something so close as our mind has led to thousands of years of puzzlement and yet remains so enigmatic. Also, unique to this paper, is the study of some of the most famous thought experiments in philosophy.

Suggested Topics:

Nature and scope of philosophy of mind; Mind in empirical psychology; Mind in *a priori* philosophy; Philosophical taxonomy of mental phenomena; Sensations and propositional attitudes.

- The mind-body problem
- Theories relating to the metaphysics of mind and their varieties: dualism; behaviourism; identity theory; functionalism; eliminative materialism; anomalous monism
- The problem of consciousness

Suggested Readings:

- John Cottingham (ed), *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press, 1996
- Gilbert Ryle, *Concept of Mind*, Routledge, 2009
- J.J.C. Smart, “Sensations and Brain Processes”, in *The Mind- Brain Identity Theory*, C.V. Borst (ed.), Macmillan, 1979
- D.M. Armstrong, “The Causal Theory”, in *Mind and Cognition: an anthology*, W.G. Lycan (ed.), Blackwell, 1990
- U.T. Place, “Is Consciousness a Brain Process?”, in *Mind and Cognition: an anthology*, W.G. Lycan (ed.), Blackwell, 1990
- Tim Crane, *The Mechanical Mind*, Routledge, 2003
- Hilary Putnam, “The Nature of Mental States”, in *Readings in Philosophy of Psychology* (vol.1), Ned Block (ed.), Harvard University Press, 1983
- Ned Block, “Troubles with Functionalism”, in *Readings in Philosophy of Psychology* (vol. 1), Ned Block (ed.), Harvard University Press, 1983

- Donald Davidson, “Mental Events”, in *Mind and Cognition: an anthology*, W.G. Lycan (ed.), Blackwell, 1990
- Jaegwon Kim, “Multiple Realisation and the Metaphysics of Reduction”, in *Super venience and Mind*, Cambridge University Press, 1993
- Jaegwon Kim, “The Many Problems of Mental Causation”, in *Mind in a Physical World: An Essay on the Mind-Body problem And Mental Causation*, MIT Press, 2000
- Paul Churchland, *Matter and Consciousness*, MIT Press, 2001
- D. J. Chalmers (ed), *Philosophy of Mind: Classical and Contemporary Readings*, Oxford University Press, 2002
- Samuel Guttenplan, *A Companion to the Philosophy of Mind*, Wiley-Blackwell, 1996
- David Braddon-Mitchell and Frank Jackson (eds.), *Philosophy of Mind and Cognition*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2006
- William Jaworski, *Philosophy of Mind: A Comprehensive Introduction*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011
- John R. Searle, *Mind: A Brief Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2004
- Peter Carruthers, *The Nature of the Mind: An Introduction*, Routledge, 2004
- E. J. Lowe, *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind*, CUP, 2000
- Ian Ravenscroft, *Philosophy of Mind: A Beginner’s Guide*, OUP, 2005
- Brian Beakley and Peter Ludlow (eds.), *The Philosophy of Mind: Classical Problems/ Contemporary Issues*, MIT, 1994
- Jaegwon Kim, *Philosophy of Mind (Dimensions of Philosophy)*, Westview Press, 2005
- K. T. Maslin, *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind*, Polity, 2001
- Madhabendra Nath Mitra, Amita Chatterjee, Proyash Sarkar (eds.), *Manodarshan: sarirbad o tar bikalpa*, Jadavpur University Press, 2013

Major Research Coursework- 6

Course Type: Major Research Coursework (Theoretical)		Course Details: MCE-3		L-T-P: 5 - 0 - 0	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
			30		70

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Hermeneutics is considered as the study of interpretation. It plays a very significant role in various disciplines where the matter concerned demands exegetical approach. The disciplines include theology (especially Biblical Studies), jurisprudence, medicine, human sciences, social sciences, and humanities where the disciplinary subject matter demands hermeneutic intervention in case of unfolding the meaning of human intentions, actions, beliefs, and behaviour and the meaning of human experience as it is restored in the literature and art, culture, history and tradition and other artifacts. Philosophically, hermeneutics concerns the meaning of interpretation with its nature, scope, and implications for human existence. Hermeneutics considers interpretation in the arena of fundamental philosophical questions concerning language, history, tradition, and culture, being and knowing, art and poetic experience, and human life.

Postmodernism: The main purpose of this course is to provide with and understanding of the main features of modernity, such as scientific thought, reasoning, objectivity, enlightenment, etc., as opposed to the postmodernist standpoint that grew as a critique of modernist grand narratives. Interestingly, the concepts of modernity and post modernity cut across disciplines- from literature, art, architecture, to possibly all wakes of life. It is not easy to define postmodernism, as the postmodernists are against definition and it is also difficult sometimes to draw a line of demarcation between modernism and postmodernism, as postmodernism operates at the edge of modernity.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Hermeneutics, as a part of this course, is designed to generate ability among our students to present the exegetical account of certain philosophical questions.

This paper will acquaint the students with two of the biggest intellectual movements of the western world and will also acquaint them with a different style of argumentation from the analytic philosophy..

Group A

Suggested Topics:

Methodological Hermeneutics:

- **Scheleiermacher:** Distinction between Psychological Interpretation and Grammatical Interpretation, Schleiermacher's contribution to the field of Contemporary Semantics, the idea of style, the idea of discourse.
- **Wilhelm Dilthey:** Theory of understanding and interpretation; cultural products and the spirit of an age, Historical Consciousness, the hermeneutic circle

Ontological & Philosophical Hermeneutics:

- **Martin Heidegger:** Phenomenology as hermeneutics; the defining capacity of Dasein as the interpretative understanding of its world; Interpretation of poetic experience
- **Hans-Georg Gadamer:** Theory of fore-conceptions and prejudices; consciousness as effective- historical; lived acquaintance with developing tradition; fusion of horizons

Group B

Post Modernism

- Modernism and Post- modernism
- Rejection of author and text: Deconstructionism
- Relation of Power and Knowledge: Foucault
- Debate between Rorty & Derrida

Suggested Readings:

- Hans-George Gadamer, *Philosophical Hermeneutics*, translated & ed. By David E. Lirge, University of California Press, 1977.
- Hans-Georg Gadamer: *Truth and Method*, Tr. W. Glen-Doepel, Sheed & Ward, 1979
- J. Bleicher: *Contemporary Hermeneutics*, 1980
- Kurt Muller: Vollmer (ed.), *The Hermeneutics Reader*, Basil Blackwell, 1986.
- Krishna Roy: *Hermeneutics: East and West*, Allied Publishers Ltd. & J.U., 1993.
- H. G. Gadamer: *Truth and Method*. Bloomsbury, 2013
- Gary Shapiro and Alan Sica (eds.), *Hermeneutic Questions and Prospects*, The University of Massachusetts Press, 1984.
- Jean- Francois Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*, Translated by Geoff Bennington and Brian Massumi, University of Minnesota Press, 1979
- Joseph Natolic and Linda Hutcheon (eds.), *A Postmodern Reader*, State University of New York Press, 1993.
- Richard Kearney and Mara Rainwater (eds.), *The Continental Philosophy Reader*, Routledge, 1996.
- Christopher Norris : *Derrida*, Harvard University Press, 1988
- Richard Rorty : *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*, Princeton University Press, 1970
- Richard Rorty : *Truth and Progress: Philosophical Papers*, Cambridge University Press, 1998
- Wilhelm Dilthey : *Selected Writings*, Trans. H. Rickman, Cambridge University Press 1976
- Martin Heidegger: *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*, Trans. A. Hofstadter, Indiana University Press, 1982
- Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time*, Trans. J. Macquarrie & E. Robinson, Blackwell, 1962

Course Type: Practical (Theoretical / Practical)		Course Details: RMC-1		L-T-P: 3 - 0 - 4	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
		30	15	20	35

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course aims to develop the skills to grow the knowledge of methods and methodology involved in research. This course tries to search for a critical and systematic inquiry into fundamental questions, and encourages the researchers to formulate questions from some new angle to follow the arguments from a Philosophical point of view, and also provides a strong foundation to develop writing skills.

COURSE OUTCOME:

This course emphasizes on enriched tradition of argumentation in Indian and Western philosophical tradition.

SUGGESTED TOPICS:**Unit: I**

- Basic concepts of Philosophical Methodology
- Quantitative and Qualitative Methods
- Kinds of research and topics of research
- Bibliography : MLA & APA formats
- Methods in western Philosophy: Socratic Method, analytic Method, hermeneutic Method.

Unit: II

- vāda, jalpa and vitaṇḍā: Nyāyasūtra with Vrtti.
- Mīmāṃsā hermeneutics
 - Understanding meaning of sentence.
 - Understanding *tātparya* of a Text.

Unit: III

- Use of Internet: Fundamentals and Services – E-mail, FTP, Telnet, WWW
- Use of AI

Unit: IV

- Theory of Research Ethics: Goal Based, Duty Based, Right Based
- Plagiarism

Suggested Readings:

- *Critical thinking, Academic Writing and Presentation skills*, Andersen, P. K. Nayar, Madhuchanda Sen, Pearson Education, January, 2010.
- *Writing philosophy papers*, Zachary Seech, March, 2003.
- *Writing, Reading and Research*, (2nd), Richard Veit, Christopher Gould and John Cliffrd, Allyn & Bacon, December, 1996.
- *Research Methodology*, C. R. Kothari, Gaurav Garg, New Age International Publishers, September, 2019.
- *MLA Handbook for writers of research papers*, 7th Addition, Affiliated East- West Press, December, 2008.

- *Concise Rules of APA style*: American Psychological Association, 14 Mar. 2013.
- *Philosophical Methodology: The Armchair or the Laboratory?*, Mathiew C. Hong, Rutledge, July, 2013.
- *Hermeneutics: East and West*, Krishna Roy, Allied Publishers Limited in collaboration with Jadavpur University, Calcutta, 1993.
- *Nyāyasūtra Vṛtti*, Viśvanātha
- *Nyāyamanjari*, Jayanta Bhatta
- *Prakaraṇa pancikā*, Sālikānātha Misra
- *Sabdaśaktiprakāśikā*, Jagadīśa Tarkālamkāra



SEMESTER- IV

DISSERTATION- 1

Course Name: Literature Review

Course Code: **MAPHIRD1001**

Course Type: Practical (Theoretical)		Course Details: RDC-1		L-T-P: 0 - 3 - 4	
Credit: 5	Full Marks: 100	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
		60		40	

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The primary objectives of this course are:

- To train students in identifying, locating, and critically evaluating scholarly literature (books, journals, and research papers) related to their chosen research area.
- To develop the ability to synthesize diverse philosophical or theoretical perspectives and identify existing research gaps.
- To familiarize students with academic integrity, avoiding plagiarism, and referencing styles (such as APA or MLA).
- To cultivate skills in structuring and writing a comprehensive, logical, and structured Literature Review.

COURSE OUTCOME:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Efficiently search and curate relevant academic databases and classical resources for research.
- Critically analyze, compare, and contrast different philosophical arguments, methodologies, or historical viewpoints.
- Formulate clear research questions by mapping out what has already been studied and what remains unexplored.
- Produce a well-structured, plagiarism-free academic literature review draft with accurate citations.
- Present and defend their research survey logically before an evaluation committee.

DISSERTATION- 2

Course Name: PG Dissertation

Course Code: **MAPHIRD1002**

Course Type: Practical (Theoretical)		Course Details: RDC-2		L-T-P: 0 -10- 10	
Credit: 15	Full Marks: 300	CA Marks		ESE Marks	
		Practical	Theoretical	Practical	Theoretical
		180		120	

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- to understand the basic concepts of research and its methodologies
- to identify and discuss the role and importance of research in the subject of philosophy
- to identify and discuss the issues and the concepts salient to the research process
- to identify and discuss the complex issues inherent in selecting a research problems, selecting an appropriate research design, and implementing a research project
- to identify appropriate research topics
- to select and define appropriate research problem and parameters

COURSE OUTCOMES:

- prepare a project proposal
- organize and conduct research in a more appropriate manner
- write research report and dissertation
- write a research proposal for projects, grants, books etc.
- explain key research concepts and issues
- read, comprehend and explain research articles in their academic discipline
- understand the importance of research ethics and integrate research ethic into the research process
- be able to assess and critique a published journal article that uses one of the primary research methods in the field