

# GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

## SYLLABUS FOR M. A. COURSE IN PHILOSOPHY

### UNDER INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE AND OPEN LEARNING

There shall be 10 papers of 80 marks each, five in the previous and five in the Final. The five papers in the previous are Compulsory. Of the five papers in the Final papers 1 to 3 are compulsory. Papers 4 to 5 are optional. The candidates are to offer anyone of the optional groups specified in the syllabi.

#### PREVIOUS

##### PAPER-I

#### INDIAN PHILOSOPHY.

**FIRST HALF** : Vedic Thought- Materialism- Jaina anekantavada-  
Schools of Buddhism-Nyaya Vaisesika Mimamsa  
Epistemology.

**SECOND HALF** : Samkhya- Yoga - Vedanta: Sankara and Ramanuja.

#### BOOKS RECOMMENDED

Madhavacharyya-Sarvadarshana Samgrha	(Eng. Trans.)
Prasatapada Bhasham	(Eng. Trans)
Isvarakrishna-Samkhya-Karika	(Eng. Trans)
Sarirakabhasya - I.I.I. - 4	(Eng. Trans)
Sribhasya - I.I.I. - 4	(Eng. Trans)
Purusba Sukta, Nasadiya Sukta	(Eng. Trans)
Ishopanishad	(Eng. Trans)
S. Radhakrishnan : Indian Philosophy	

## **BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- S.N. Dasgupta : History of Indian Philosophy  
J.N. Sinha : History of Indian Philosophy  
D.M. Dutta : Six Ways of Knowing  
T.R.V. Murti : Central Philosophy of Buddhism  
B.K. Matilal : Epistemology, Logic and Grammar in Indian Philosophy  
C.D. Sharma : Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy  
K.R. Porter : Presupposition of Indian Philosophy  
M. Hiriyanna : Outlines of Indian Philosophy  
Satkori Mookherjee : The Buddhist Philosophy of Universal Flux  
Rhys Davids : Buddhism : Its History and Literature

## **PAPER-II**

### **WESTERN CLASSICAL PHILOSOPHERS**

**FIRST HALF** : Plato, Descartes, Hume

**SECOND HALF** : Kant

### **BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- Plato : Theatetus  
Descartes : Discourse on Method  
Hume : Enquiry concerning Human understanding.  
Kant : A Critique of Pure Reason (Introduction, Transcendental Aesthetic, Metaphysical and Transcendental Deduction of Categories, Doctrine of imagination, Doctrine of method.)

### **BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- Anders Wedberg : A History of Philosophy (in 3 Vols).  
Copleston : History of Philosophy  
O' Connor : A Critical History of Western Philosophy  
N.K. Smith : The Philosophy of David Hume,  
A Flew : Hume's Philosophy of Belief  
Paton : Kant's Metaphysic of Experience  
Korner : Kant  
Bennett : Kant's Analytic  
Strawson : The Bounds of Sense  
P. Edwards (ed.) : Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Relevant articles)

## PAPER-III

### CONTEMPORARY WESTERN PHILOSOPHY

- FIRST HALF** : Bradlev, Husseri, Sartre  
**SECOND HALF** : Russell, Moore, Wittgenstein

#### BOOKS RECOMMENDED

- Bradley : Appearance and reality (Substantive and Adjective, Relation, Thought and Reality).
- Husserl : The 'Idea of Phenomenology in Readings in twentieth Century Philosophy' ed. Alston and Nakhnikian.
- Sartre : Existentialism and Humanism (Sections relevant to essence and existence).
- Russell : Logic as the essence of Philosophy (Our Knowledge of the External World, CH-I).
- Moore : Refutation of Idealism.
- Wittgenstein : Tractatus Logic - Philosophicus Philosophical Investigation (Fact and Proposition, Logical Atoms, Family resemblance, Language games).

#### BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

- Passmore : A Hundred Years of Philosophy.
- Urmson : Philosophical Analysis
- Ayer : Russell and Moore - The Analytical Heritage
- PA. Schilpp (ed) : The Philosophy of Bertrand Russell
- " : The Philosophy of G. E. Moore
- Wollieim : F. H. Bradley
- M. Warneck : Existentialism
- Anscombe : An Introduction to Wittgenstein's Tractatus
- Barrett : The Irrational Man
- R. O. Elveton : The Phenomenology of Husserl
- H. Spiegelberg : The Phenomenological Movement.
- P. Edwards (ed) : Encyclopaedia of Philosophy (Relevant articles).

## **PAPER-IV**

### **ETHICS**

- FIRST HALF** : Ethical Theories of Plato, Aristotle, Mill and Kant.
- SECOND HALF** : Ethical Theories of Moore, Ayer, Stevenson and Hare

#### **BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- Field : Plato's Ethical Theory
- Ross : Aristotle
- Mill : Utilitarianism
- Kant : The Moral Law : Ground Work of the Metaphysics of Morals
- P. Foot (ed) : Theories of Ethics
- Hudson : Modern Moral Philosophy

#### **BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- Taylor : Plato
- Paton : The Categorical Imperative
- P. Winch : The Moral Philosophy of Kant
- A. Quinton : Utilitarian Ethics
- Ross : Kant's Ethical Theory.
- Moore : Principal Ethica
- Stevenson : Ethics and Language
- Hare : Language of Morals.
- Warnock : Contemporary Moral Philosophy.
- Kerner : The Revolution in Ethical Theory
- Sidgwick : Methods of Ethics.
- Acton : Kant's Moral Philosophy.
- Broad : Five Types of Ethical Theories
- Blanshard : Reason and Goodness.
- Hill : Contemporary Ethical Theories
- Paul Edwards (ed) : Encyclopaedia of Philosophy (Relevant articles)

## PAPER-V

### LOGIC

**FIRST HALF** : The nature of Logic - Fundamental Ideas of Logic- Symbolic and Classical Logic- Truth Functions- Interdefinitions of logical constants, construction of Truth Tables - The Matrix Method of Testing arguments. Tautologies and self inconsistencies— The Boolean Expansion - The Decision Problem- The Deductive System of Truth-functions.

**SECOND HALF** : General Propositions - Analysis of Singular, Existential and universal propositions. Analysis of the Four Aristotelian Forms of Propositions- Symbolization of sentences in everyday language- Classes and the Syllogism- sets and set notations Elementary Principle about operations on sets.

#### BOOKS RECOMMENDED

Ambrose and Lazerowitz : Fundamentals of Symbolic Logic  
P. Suppes : Introduction to Logic ( Part II on "Set Theory")

#### BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

Copy : Symbolic Logic  
Jeffry : Formal Logic: Its scope and Limits

### FINAL YEAR

#### PAPER-I

### CONTEMPORARY INDIAN PHILOSOPHY

**FIRST HALF** : K. C. Bhattacharyya : The Absolute and its Alternative Forms Concept of Philosophy. Sri Aurobindo : Reality, Evolution

**SECOND HALF** : Gandhian Thought- Gandhi 's conception of Religion- Truth and Non- Violence- Gandhi's Economic Ideas- Main concepts of Gandhi's Political Philosophy. Sarvodaya and social reconstruction.

## **BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- K. C. Chattacharyya : Studies in Philosophy (Selected Chapters.)  
Sri Aurobindo : The Life Divine (Relevant Chapters)  
M.K.Gandhi : Collected works (Relevant Sections).

## **BOOKS FOR REVERENCE**

- Kalidas Bhattacharayya : Fundamentals of K.C. Bhattacharyya's Philosophy  
R. S. Misra : Integral Advaitism of Sri Aurobindo  
M. Reddy : Aurobindo's Philosophy of Evolution  
N. K. Bose : Selections from Gandhi.  
B. N. Ganguly : Gandhi's Social Philosophy.  
N. K. Bose : Studies in Gandhism.  
B. Bhattacharyya : Evolution of the Political Philosophy of Gandhi.  
V. T. Patil (ed) : Studies on Gandhi.  
Sri Krishna Kripalani : All Men are Brothers.  
K. G. Mashruvaia : Gandhi and Marx.  
S. C. Biswas' (ed) : Gandhi - Theory and Practice  
A. C. Das : Sri Aurobindo and Some Modern Problems.  
K..R.Srinivasa lyengar : Sri Aurobindo.  
S. K. Maitra : Studies in Sri Aurobindo's Philosophy.  
Haridas Choudhury : Sri Aurobindo : The Prophet of Life Divine.

## **PAPER-II**

### **THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE**

- FIRST HALF** : Philosophical Scepticism- Perception-Memory-  
Knowledge and Belief-Meaning and Reference  
**SECOND HALF** : Meaning and Criterion of Truth Criteria of personal  
identity Self Knowledge-Knowledge of other minds.

## **BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- A.J. Ayer : Problem of Knowledge  
A.P. Griffiths (ed) : Knowledge and Belief  
B.R. Gross : Analytic Philosophy  
S. Shoemaker : Self- Knowledge and Self-Identity (Chapters-1 and  
V)  
Hamlyn : Theory of Knowledge.

## BOOK FOR REFERENCE:

- Chisholm : Theory of Knowledge  
Woozley : Theory of Knowledge  
B. Williams : 'Personal Identity and Individuation' in Problems of the Self.  
L. Wittgenstion : Philosophical Investigations  
Ammerman : Classics of Analytic Philosophy  
A. J. Ayer : Language Truth and Logic  
Austin : Sense and Sensibilia.  
P. Edwards (ed) : Encyclopaedia of Philosophy (Relevant articles).

## PAPER-III

### METAPHYSICS

- FIRST HALF** : The Nature of metaphysical enquiry-Metaphysical Arguments.  
Universals : Realism, Conceptualism, Nominalism and Resemblance Theory.  
Cause : Necessary connection and constant conjunction, contemporary analysis of casual language. Space and Time-Mind and Body.
- SECOND HALF** : The Problem of categories: Aristotle, Kant and Ryle  
Concept of Person, Values, Freedom and Determinism, Language and Reality.

## BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

- A Pap and  
P Edwards (ed) : A Modern Introduction to Philosophy (Relevant articles).  
Walsh : Metaphysics.  
Pears (ed) : Nature of Metaphysics.  
Strawson : Individuals (Chs. on Persons).  
Ryle : Categories (collected papers Vol- II)  
I. Berlin : Concepts and Categories.  
J. Hospers : Introduction to Philosophical Analysis. (Relevant Chapters)  
A. C. Ewing : The Fundamental Questions of Philosophy (Ch. on space and time).

## **BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- M. Capek (ed) : The concept of space and time. (Introduction only)  
Rorty (ed) : The Linguistic Turn (Art Language and Ontology').  
Taylor : Metaphysics.  
Hall : What is Value  
Strawson : Categories (In a collection of Essays on Ryle).  
Walsh : Categories (In a collection of Essays on Kant by Wolff).  
A.G.N. Flew (ed) : Essays in Conceptual Analysis (Art. 'Language and Metaphysics').  
P. Edwards (ed) : Encyclopaedia of philosophy (Relevant Articles).

## **(OPTIONAL)**

### **Group (A)**

## **PAPER-IV LOGIC**

- FIRSTHALF** : Logic and Language- Arguments Containing compound statements- The Method of Deduction- Propositional Functions and Quantifiers-Logic of Relations-Deductive Systems.
- SECOND HALF** : Reasoning, Entailment and Necessity-Formal Logic: Generality, Form, System-Truth-Functions: Truth Tables, Constants and Logical Relations-Classes-Predicative Formulae and Quantifiers Subject, Predicate and Existence General Statement and Relations. Meaning and Truth-Logical Truth- The Scope of Logic.

## **BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- I. M. Copi : Symbolic Logic (Chapters I to 6).  
P. F. Strawson : Introduction to Logical Theory.  
W. V. Quine : Philosophy of Logic

## **BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- Ambrose and Lazerowitz : Fundamentals of Symbolic Logic  
Supper : Introduction to Logic  
I. M. Bochenski : A History of Formal Logic  
Kneale and Kneale : The Development of Logic



- Jeffrey : Formal Logic: Its Scope and Limits  
 Hughes and Londey : Elements of Formal Logic.  
 Benson Mates : Elementary Logic.  
 R. K. Stoll : Set Theory and Logic.  
 Copi and Gould (ed) : Contemporary Readings in Logical Theory.  
 P. F. Strawson : Philosophical Logic.

## PAPER-V

### LOGIC

- FIRST HALF** : Probability and Induction-The Traditional Problem of Induction- Theories of Probability-Primary and Secondary Inductions.  
 The Nature of Induction-Enumerative and Eliminative Induction-The Method of Hypothesis.
- SECOND HALF** : Anumana: Paramarsha, Vyapti, Paksata, Hetvabhasa.

### BOOKS RECOMMENDED

- W.Kneale : Probability and Induction.  
 S. Barker : Induction and Hypothesis.  
 Annam Bhatta : Tarka Samgraha-Dipika (ed).  
 (Gopinath Bhattacharyya).

### BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

- Von. Wright : Logical Problems of Induction.  
 Von Wright : A Treatise on Induction and Probability.  
 K. R. Popper : The Logic of Scientific Discovery.  
 I.P.Day : Inductive Probability.  
 D.Williams : The Ground of Induction.  
 J.O. Wisdom : Foundation of Inference in Natural Science.  
 Swinebume (ed) : Justification of Induction.  
 H.E.Kyberg : Probability and Inductive Logic.  
 D.C.Guha : Navya Nyaya system of Logic.  
 Vidyabhusan : History of Indian Logic.  
 C. Bhattacharyya : Elements of Indian Logic.  
 S. S. Barlingay : A Modern Introduction to Indian Logic.

**GROUP-B**  
**RELIGION**  
**PAPER-IV**  
**(PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION)**

- FIRST HALF** : Nature of Religion-Relation to Theology and Philosophy. Religious Experience Mysticism-Idea of God-How is God known-Arguments for the Existence of God - God, Man and world Miracle-Incarnation.
- SECOND HALF** : Immortality of soul-Problem of Evil-Freedom of will, Karma and Rebirth-Purusarhas (Dhannartha Kama and Moksa)-Religious language and Symbolism-Contemporary Critiques of Religion (Materialism, Logical Positivism)

**BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- Lotze : Philosophy of Religion.
- Flew and Me Intre : New Essays in Philosophical Theology.
- John Hick : Classical and contemporary Readings in Philosophy of Religion. Udayana's Nyaya Kusumamjali.
- I.C. Sharma : Ethical Philosophies of India

**BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- Paton : The Modern Predicament.
- Mitchell : The philosophy of Religion.
- Hume : Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion.
- Radhakrishnan : The Idealist View of life.
- Hick : Evil and the God of Love.
- Charlesworth : Philosophy of Religion : Historical Approaches.
- Smart : Reason and Faith.
- P. T. de Chardin : The Phenomenon of Man
- Hastings (ed) : Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics.
- Gopalan : Hindu Social Philosophy.

**PAPER-V**  
**COMPARATIVE RELIGION**

- FIRST HALF** : Nature, Necessity, Scope and methods of Comparative Religion, Brief History of the Subject with reference to Pioneers and their works . Theories of the origin of religion Comparison of Religions at the Primitive level-Religions at the dawn of Human Civilization  
Ancient Religions : Zoroastrianism, Confucianism, Taoism and Shintoism.
- SECOND HALF** : Comparative Study of the following Religions: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Judaism Christianity, Islam and Sikhism.

**BOOKS RECOMMENDED**

- Bouquet : Comparative Religion  
Radhakrishnan : Eastern Religions and Western Thought.  
Zaehner : Comparative Religion.

**BOOKS FOR REFERENCE**

- James : Comparative Religion.  
Chatterjee : Studies in Comparative Religion.  
Devaraja : Hinduism and Christianity.  
Smart : Religious Experience of Man-kind.  
Parminder : Comparative Religion.  
J. Wach : Comparative Study of Religion.  
Lewis and Slater : The Study of Religions.  
Hocking : Living Religions and World Faith.  
P. Edwards (ed) : Encyclopaedia of Philosophy (Relevant articles).  
K.N. Tiwari : Comparative Religion.  
Hastings (ed.) : Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics.  
H. D. Bhattacharyya : Foundations of Living Faiths  
M.Eliade : Comparative Religion.

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