



FIRST SEMESTER, 2014-2015

Course Handout (Part II)

Date:

In addition to part I (General course Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No.: **HSS F235**
Course Title: **Introductory Philosophy**
Instructor-in-charge: **ANUPAM YADAV**

1. Scope and Objective

A critical survey of some of the major Western and Indian philosophical viewpoints and in that the objective is to bring to the fore their significance in human lives.

2. Text books:

1. Thilly, F., A History of Philosophy, Central Book Depot, Allahabad, 1984.
2. Sharma, C.D., Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy, Motilal Banarasidas, New Delhi, 1960.

Reference books:

1. Puligandla, R., Fundamentals of Indian Philosophy, D.K. Print World (P) (Ed.), New Delhi: 1997
2. Hiriyanna, M., The Essentials of Indian Philosophy, George Allen and Unwin Ltd., London, 1949.

Course Plan:

| Lecture No. | Learning Objectives | Topics to be covered | Reference: Chap./Sec. # (Book) |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | To get familiar with the subject | Introduction, what Philosophy does | Introduction, TB1 |
| 2 | To learn the act of philosophizing, and knowing the divisions within the subject | Typical questions of Philosophy; traditional divisions of Philosophy | Introduction, TB1 |





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| 3 | To understand the linkages between Philosophy, science, and religion | Philosophy, science, and religion | Introduction, TB1 |
| 4 | To understand the nature of the beginning of Philosophy | Greek Philosophy before Socrates | TB1, Ch. 1 |
| 5 | To know the fundamental issues of Philosophy | Plato on the issues of knowledge and ideas | TB1, Ch. 3 |
| 6-7 | To continue with the learning of major philosophical issues | Plato on virtues, self, and society | TB1, Ch. 3 |
| 8 | To learn about the genesis of rationalism | The beginning of Modern Philosophy | TB1, Ch. 11 |
| 9-11 | To know about Rene Descartes' views on the act of doubting and the self | Rene Descartes: what do we know with certainty, the self as mind, body, and machine | TB1, Ch. 12 |
| 12 | To understand the meaning of empirical investigations | British empiricism | TB1, Ch. 13 |
| 13-14 | To learn about Hume's views about major philosophical issues | David Hume: Re-investigation into origin and nature of knowledge, problems of substance, cause, self, and god | TB1, Ch. 13 |
| 15 | To know the nature of ethics and ethics of David Hume | Ethics: David Hume on sympathy | TB1, Ch. 13 |
| 16 | To learn the ethics of Kant | Kant on duty | TB1, Ch. 16 |
| 17 | To know the ethics of Mill | Mill on happiness | TB1, Ch. 19 |
| 18 | To know existentialism as way of life | Existentialism | TB1, Ch. 20 |
| 19 | To understand the issue of existence and the nature of ethical self | The problem of existence, the main characteristics, the ethical self | TB1, Ch. 20 |
| 20 | To be familiar with the Indian | Introduction to various | TB2, Ch. 1 |





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| | philosophical thought | Indian philosophical systems | |
| 21 | To know the nature of Vedas and upanisads | Vedas and upanisads | TB2, Ch. 1 |
| 22 | To know the major philosophical themes of Vedas | Atman and brahman | TB2, Ch. 1 |
| 23 | To understand Vedanta system and Sankara's non-dualism | Vedanta system: non-dualism of Sankara, | TB2, Ch. 15 |
| 24 | To know Sankara's views on the absolute, self, world | Sankara on the absolute, self, and world | TB2, Ch. 15 |
| 25-26 | To understand Ramanuja's system of thought | Ramanuja: qualified non-dualism and self | TB2, Ch. 18 |
| 27 | To understand the theoretical basis of Vaishesika | Atomism of Vaishesika | TB2, Ch. 11 |
| 28-30 | To assess the basis of knowledge | Nyaya: sources of knowledge, causation | TB2, Ch. 12 |
| 31 | To know the fundamental division | Samkhya: purusa and prakrti | TB2, Ch. 9 |
| 32-33 | To understand the Yoga system of thought | Yoga: chitta and its vrittis, astanga yoga | TB2, Ch. 10 |
| 34-36 | To know about a heterodox system of thought | Buddhism: four noble truths, doctrine of dependent of origination, nirvana | TB2, Ch. 5 |
| 37-38 | To know about a parallel system of Buddhism that is another heterodox system of thought | Jainism: anekantavada, syadvada, kaivalya | TB2, Ch. 4 |
| 39-40 | Concluding note | Concluding note on Indian philosophical systems, general aims, current relevance | TB2, Ch. 1 Puligandla, Chap. 1 |

Evaluation Scheme:





BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI
Pilani Campus
Instruction Division

| EC No. | Evaluation Component | Duration | Weightage | Date, Time & Venue | Remarks |
|--------|----------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|
| 1 | Mid Semester Test | 90 Minutes | 30 | To be announced | CB |
| 2 | Quiz / Report / Assignment | - | 30 | To be announced | CB/OB |
| 3 | Comprehensive Examination | 3 Hours | 40 | To be announced | CB |

Chamber Consultation Hour: To be announced in the class.

Notices: Notices, if any, concerning the course will be displayed on the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences notice board.

Makeup Policy: Make-up components will be allowed provided there would be a documentary proof to support the case.

Instructor-in-charge
HSS F236



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