

Total points: NA

Word Limit: NA

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**Instructions:**

- (i) Submit in Turnitin. Section: **Assignments**
- (ii) Use the format below for identifying your submission. Write it on the top as seen here.

M20HSS316-ITP/Assignment-[#]/[Roll number]/Program

e.g. M20HSS316-ITP/Assignment-2/20166737/CSE

- (iii) Your submission must be a single PDF, named with your IIITH id. E.g. 20166737.PDF
  - (iv) Use the format Assginment-[#] in the 'Assignment Title' field when submitting
  - (v) Viewing similarity report: Immediately. Option to resubmit: **YES**
  - (vi) Similarity index threshold to be considered for evaluation: **15%**
  - (vii) DO NOT include the question in your submission.
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**(1) Write very briefly about yourself.** Instead of writing about your school and family details, these are some of the questions that you could consider: What are your intellectual dispositions? Do you have any unique view? What do you do when you are not studying? Why? What excites you the most? Is there anything about the world that you would like to see changed but is not very popular? What do you like about IIITH and what do you don't like? Where do you want to go from here?

**(2) Why did you take this course and what are your expectations?** You may have taken it out of interest or perhaps you just came here for improving your grade aggregate. Even in the latter case, is it possible that you would have some ideal of what ought to have motivated you to do a Philosophy course? If you came here because you had an interest to learn Philosophy, what explains that interest? Why prefer Philosophy over other Humanities courses? Now that you taking this course, what do you expect to leave the course with? What do you think you will in this course that is different from other Engineering and Science courses? Do you have any creative ideas to make the course conduct interesting?

**(3) Do you agree with the claim '*studying Philosophy improves a student's thinking ability*'?** NYU is said to have the world's best Philosophy department<sup>1</sup>. Here's a snippet

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/university-subject-rankings/2020/philosophy>  
<https://www.philosophicalgourmet.com/overall-rankings/>

from their website: “...research shows that majoring in philosophy is excellent preparation for a wide range of careers”<sup>2</sup>. The Philosophy department in Princeton tells you that many well-known people studied Philosophy in college and “skills acquired by concentrating in philosophy can thus be useful for a variety of careers”.<sup>3</sup> Harvard’s Philosophy department states that “Philosophy prepares you for any career in which you have to think through a problem”.<sup>4</sup> Some universities highlight how Philosophy can help you score well in tests like GRE. The Philosophy department in Florida State University says “because studying philosophy improves one's analytical skills, it affords a greater probability of success on standardized tests such as the GRE, LSAT, and GMAT”.<sup>5</sup> The Philosophy department in University of Washington says “not surprising that philosophy students have historically scored more highly on tests like the LSAT and GRE, on average, than almost any other discipline”.<sup>6</sup> Over at Michigan State University, the Philosophy page proclaims that “Those who study philosophy frequently find it enjoyable and beneficial and go on to do exceptionally well at graduate and professional skills, in a wide range of careers (e.g. public service, journalism, business, computer science and medicine)”.<sup>7</sup> There are many more such examples if you do an internet search on ‘why study Philosophy’.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://as.nyu.edu/philosophy/undergraduate/studying-philosophy-at-nyu.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://philosophy.princeton.edu/undergraduate/general-info>

<sup>4</sup> <https://philosophy.fas.harvard.edu/welcome-undergraduate>

<sup>5</sup> <https://philosophy.fsu.edu/undergraduate-study/why-philosophy>

<sup>6</sup> <https://phil.washington.edu/why-study-philosophy>

<sup>7</sup> <https://lsa.umich.edu/philosophy/undergraduates/studying-philosophy.html>