B.A. Philosophy (Minor) — Extra Departmental

Semester I

COURSE NO. ED 1.20
Outlines of Indian Philosophy

1. Nature of Indian Philosophy: Plurality as well as common concerns
2. Basic concepts of the Vedic and the Upaniṣadic worldviews: ṛta (the cosmic order); the divine and the human realms; the centrality of the institution of yajña (sacrifice); ṛta (duty/obligation)
3. Ātman: jāgrat, svapna, suṣupti, turīya; Brahman; śreyas; preyās; karma; saṃsāra; mukti
4. Cārvāka school: its epistemology, metaphysics and ethics
5. Jainism: Concepts of sat, dravya, guṇa, paryāya, jīva, ajīva; anekāntavāda, syādvāda and nayavāda; pramāṇas; ahimsā; bondage and liberation
6. Buddhism: theory of pramāṇas
7. Theory of dependent origination; the Four Noble Truths; doctrine of momentariness; theory of No-Soul. The interpretation of these theories in schools of Buddhism: Vaibhāṣika, Sautrāntika, Yogācāra, Mādhyamika
8. Nyāya: theory of primness; the individual self and its liberation; the idea of God and proofs for His existence
9. Vaiśeṣika: padārthas: dravya, guṇa, karma, sāmānya, viśeṣa, samavāya, abhāva; causation: asatkāryavāda; kāraṇa: samavāyi, asamavāyi, nimitta; paramāṇuvāda; adhṛṣṭa; niḥśreyasa

Suggested Readings:

M. Hiriyanna: Outlines of Indian Philosophy
C.D. Sharma: A Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy

S.N. Dasgupta: A History of Indian Philosophy, Vols. I to V
S. Radhakrishnan: Indian Philosophy, Vols. I & II
T.R.V. Murti: Central Philosophy of Buddhism
J.N. Mohanty: Reason and Tradition in Indian Thought
R. D. Ranade: A Constructive Survey of Upaniṣadic Philosophy
P.T. Raju: Structural Depths of Indian Thoughts
Datta & Chatterjee: Introduction to Indian Philosophy
A.K. Warder: Indian Buddhism
R. Puligandla: Fundamentals of Indian Philosophy
T.M.P. Mahadevan: An Outline of Hinduism
Madhavacharya: Sarva Darsana Sangraha (in Sanskrit)
Durgacharan Sankhya Vedanta Tirtha: Sri Gopal Basu Mallick Fellowship Prabandha,
4 vols. (in Bengali)

COURSE NO. ED 1.21
History of Western Thought

A. Language and Reality
1. Words and Things
2. Vagueness
3. Connotation
4. Ostensive Definition
5. Meaninglessness

B. What Can We Know?
1. What is Knowledge?
2. Sources of Knowledge

C. Our Knowledge of the World
1. Realism
2. Anti-realism
Semester II

COURSE NO. ED 2.9

Logic

1. Distinction between Deduction and Induction

2. Inductive Argument: Analogical argument — criterion of evaluation, simple enumeration — criterion of evaluation, Mill’s methods

3. Science and Hypothesis


Suggested Readings:

I.M. Copi: *Introduction to Logic* (the part on Induction)
J.S. Mill: *A System of Logic* for 2. & 3.

Semester III

COURSE NO. ED 3.7

Ethics

1. The nature and aim of ethics: Indian and Western

2. Presuppositions of ethics

3. The notions of good, right, duty/obligation: Indian and Western

4. Objects of moral judgement, vidhi & nisedhas

5. Free will, Determinism, karmvāda

6. Teleological ethics, deontological ethics & virtue ethics

7. Need for morality

Suggested Readings

S.K.Moitra: *The Ethics of the Hindus*

Surama Dasgupta: *The Development of Moral Philosophy in India*

Amita Chatterjee (ed.): *Bharatiya Dharmamiti*

M.Chatopadhyay & T.N.Bandyopadhyay (ed.): *Ethics*

W. Frankena: *Ethics*
W. Lillie: *Introduction to Ethics*
J. D. Mabbot: *Introduction to Ethics*
Daniel Slatman: *Virtue Ethics*

**Semester IV**

**COURSE NO. ED 4.11**

**Psychology**

1. Psychology: definition, nature and scope
2. Methods of psychology: experimental Method and systematic observation
3. Psychological processes: memory, thinking and learning
4. Aspects of developmental psychology: sensory, emotional, cognitive, social, linguistic
5. The Unconscious, dream
6. Psychological concepts: motivation, conflict, emotion, attitude & prejudice
7. Brain and its function

**Suggested Readings**

C. T. Morgan et. al.: *Introduction to Psychology*
E. B. Harlock: *Developmental Psychology*
P. N. Bhattacharyya: *A Textbook of Psychology*, vols. I & III

**COURSE NO. ED 4.12**

**Emerging Trends of Thought**

The candidates may choose any three of the following topics:

Feminism
Eco-philosophy
Dalit ideology
Religious fundamentalism
Peace studies
Development Studies

**Suggested Readings:**

1. a) V. Geetha: *Gender*
   b) Shefali Moitra: *Feminist Thought*
2. a) Peter Singer: *Practical Ethics*
   b) Rabindra Nath Tagore: 'The Religion of the Forest' in *Creative Unity*
3. a) R. S. Sharma: *Who Were the Sudras?*
   b) Ambedkar: *The Fifth Varna*
4. a) Huntington: *The Clash of Civilizations*
   b) Nripen Ganguli: *Faces of Fundamentalism*
5. Rabindra Nath Tagore: 'International Relations' 
6. Jan Nederveen Pieterse: *Development Theory*