

Course Work – M Phil – PhD Syllabus 2021- Department of Philosophy

Details of the Papers

Paper – 1 – 501 – University Level

Paper – 11 – 502 – School /Department Level

Paper – 111 – 503 - School /Department Level

Paper – 1V – 504 (Dissertation) - School /Department Level

Course – 502 (Credits – 04)

Research Methodology

The Objectives/aims of the Course:

1. The course as the second paper of the Pre-PhD integrated course instills advanced knowledge and dimensions of research methodology in general and research methodology in philosophy in particular
2. The course on Research Methodology also introduces and integrates the essential competence which is spread out into the world of theory of knowledge, language skills, computer skills and conceptual skills.

Course Outcome:

The course/paper as the Pre-PhD integrated course provides the research students:

1. Competence to carry on Research successfully
2. Knowledge to ground and analyze philosophy more historically and theoretically
3. Conceptual, Language and Computer skills

Research as ‘the finding out of what we do not already know’ and as organized learning, is extension and advancement of knowledge in general. The course offers to equip the research student to go for diligent inquiry or examination in seeking facts or principles; laborious or continued search after knowledge and truth. It is oriented to the construction of analysis or

interpretation of existing human products of human, scientific, literary and artistic activity aimed at increasing the accuracy and depth of knowledge and human understanding.

More specifically, the course makes the research student to look into the post-modern and contemporary philosophy to connect their concerns within the frameworks of Critical theories, Phenomenology, Existentialism, Hermeneutics, Structuralist and Post-structuralist and the Feminist thinking from broadly Western and Indian philosophy's point of view. The course invites the stakeholders to have a firm ground on the concepts like reason and rationality, freedom and determinism, cause and effect, appearance and reality, virtues and values, justice, power, state and society, infinity and finiteness, facticity and normativity, necessity and possibility, negation and affirmation, essence and existence, beauty and sublime, liberty and equality, gender and sex etc.

Unit – 1 Methods of Acquiring knowledge: Western

- a. Dialectical Method b. Rational Method c. Empirical-Scientific Method d. Phenomenological Method e. Interpretative-Hermeneutic Method f. Marxian Method g. Feminist Method

Unit -2 Methods of Acquiring knowledge: Indian

Nyāya Method b. *Vedanta* Method c. *Mimāmsa* Method

Unit -3 Types of Research – General and Specific

- General – a. Fundamental Research b. Applied Research c. Action Research
- Specific – a. Thinker Based b. Concept Based c. Comparative

Unit -4 Research Problem in Philosophy

- a. Problem and Perspective b. Statement of the Problem c. Objectives d. Survey of Literature e. Bibliography

Unit – 5 Preparation and Presentation of the Research Report/Thesis

- a. The Use of Language, Preparation of the Text: Citation/Bibliography Styles, Diacritical Marks
- b. Preparation of the Text: Digital Skills, Presentation of the Thesis– computer application: MS word, Excel, PPT.

Suggested Readings:

1. Steven M.C, (2000) *Exploring Philosophy: An Introductory Anthology*, Oxford,Oxford University press.

2. C.R Kothari, (2004) *Research Methodology, Methods and Techniques*, New Delhi, New Age International.
3. David Barubrooke, (1987)*Philosophy of Social Sciences*,Engelwood Cliffs, N.J Prentice Hall.
4. Ted Benton and Ian Craib, (2001) *Philosophy of Social Science*, New York, Palgrave.
5. Josef Bleicher, (1980) *Contemporary Hermeneutics*, London, Routledge.
6. Jerome Bruner, (1990) *Acts of Meaning*, Cambridge M A, Harvard University Press.
7. JuergenHabermas, (1990)*On the Logic of Social Sciences*, Trans. Shierry Weber Nicholson & Jerry Stark, London, Polity.
8. B. K. Matilal, (1991) *Perception*, Clarendon Press, Oxford.
9. J.N Mohanty,(2004) *Essays in Indian Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.
10. T M P Mahadevan, *The Mechanics of Thesis Writing*.
11. Sanjay Saxena, (2000)*A First Course in Computers*, Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
12. Pauline V. Young &Calin F. Schmid, (1975) *Scientific Social Survey and Research*, Prentice Hall of India Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi.
13. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy <<http://plato.stanford.edu>>

(The course teacher may suggest further readings on the themes as per the availability of the research materials/ titles keeping in view the requirements of the students.)

Course-503 (Credits – 04)

Epistemology and Metaphysics

Course Objectives:

This course is a part of the core course of M.Phil/ Ph.D Philosophy Programme to be offered at the departmental level. By studying this course the potential researchers are expected to get a guideline regarding how philosophical research is to be conducted in the eastern and the western fields of philosophy. The fundamental issues in epistemology and metaphysics are extensively dealt with in both the eastern and western philosophical traditions. The themes chosen for study here reflect the essence of hard core philosophical engagement with the problems of defining knowledge, specifying the methods and the sources of the acquisition of knowledge and finally identifying the extent or the limits of knowledge. From the knower's point of view the

knowledge obtained on his or her part is having an invariable connection with the questions of the nature of reality. The matter of acceptance of the possibility of the reality's being known either in totality or in part plays a major role in the choice of philosophical positions. This course is designed to reflect upon the divergent philosophical positions (on the relationship among knowledge, reality and the self) as argued and defended by the contemporary thinkers in both the fields of Indian and Western philosophies.

Course Outcome

- i) The study of this course shall provide the researchers with an understanding of the basics of philosophy and the way to problematize philosophical issues.
 - ii) The course is offering a comparative model of considerations of philosophical problems.
 - iii) How to adopt an appropriate perspective and make use of the relevant methodology for addressing any basic issue in philosophy is given an exemplary treatment in the course material. In the light of which the researchers can conveniently develop their respective study models.
1. Knowledge and Belief: Some Selected Western Philosophical Approaches
 2. Concept of Reality: Indian and Western
 3. Knowledge and Reality
 4. Self and the World
 5. Knowledge and Mysticism

Suggested Readings:

1. E. L. Gettier,(1963) "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge", *Analysis*, Vol: 23, No. 6.
2. Michael Clark, (1963)"Knowledge and Grounds: A Comment on Mr. Gettier's Paper", *Analysis*, Vol: 24, No. 2, Dec.
3. J.N. Mohanty, (1929) "Consciousness and Knowledge", in *Reason and Tradition in Indian Thought*, Clarendon Press, Oxford.
4. K.C. Bhattacharyya,(2011) "The Concept of Philosophy" in *Indian Philosophy in English*, J. Garfield and N. Bhushan (edited), Oxford University Press.
5. D. W. Smith,(2016) "Cognitive Phenomenology" in *Philosophy of Mind and Phenomenology*, D. Dahlstrom, A. Elpidorou and W. Hopp (edited), Routledge.
6. B.K. Matilal,(1991)*Perception*, Chapter-III, Clarendon Press.
7. M. Buber,(1996)*I and Thou* (Selected Portion), trans. Walter Kaufmann, Simon and Schuster.

8. E. Levinas, (1998) “The Understanding of Spirituality in French and German Culture”, Trans. AndriusValevicius, *Continental Philosophy Review* 3.
9. S. Radhakrishnan, (1997) “Mysticism and Ethics in Hindu Thought” in *Eastern Religions and Western Thought*, Oxford University Press.
10. B. Russell,(2004)*Mysticism and Logic and Other Essays* (Selected Portion), Dover Publication.
11. A. I. Goldman,(2010) “Why Social Epistemology Is Real Epistemology” in A Haddock, A. Millar and D. Pritchard (edited) *Social Epistemology*, Oxford University Press.
12. R. Langton,(2000) “Feminism in Epistemology, Exclusion and Objectification” in *The Cambridge Companion to Feminism in Philosophy*, M. Fricker and J. Hornsby (edited), CUP.

(The Course teacher may suggest further readings on the themes as per the availability of the research materials/titles keeping in view the requirements of the students)

Course-504 (Credits – 04)

Dissertation