

**M. Phil Syllabus**  
**Department of Philosophy**  
**University of North Bengal**  
**India**

**M Phil:**

**Full Marks – 800**

**1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course I - IV: 50 marks each x 4 courses = 200**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester:**

**Course V - VIII: 50 marks each x 4 courses = 200**

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Semester: Seminar (100), Dissertation (200),**

**Viva Voce on Dissertation (100) =400**

**Pass marks: 50% in each paper**

# Semester I

## Course I- Philosophical Methodology I

Ancient Greek approaches to philosophy: Socratic Method  
The epistemic approach: Rationalism and Empiricism.  
Linguistic analysis as a method  
Notions of Descriptive and Revisionary metaphysics (Strawson)  
Pragmatism  
Thought experiment  
Scientific method  
Phenomenological Method  
Hermeneutics  
Postmodern Approaches (Structuralism, Post-structuralism, Deconstruction)

### Books recommended:

1. Moran , Dermot & Timothy Mooney ed.: *The Phenomenology Reader*
2. R.G. Collingwood: *An Essay on Philosophical Method*
3. Timothy Williamson: *Philosophy of Philosophy*, Blackwell Publishing, 2007
4. Lyotard, Jean-François (1984) *The Postmodern Condition*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
5. Popper, Karl; *The Structure of Scientific Discovery*, Harner Torch Books, New York, 1968
6. Kuhn, Thomas; *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Chicago University Press, 1970
7. Feyerabend, P; *Against Method*, Cornell University Press, Verso, London,1975
8. Ricoeur, Paul; *Hermeneutics and Human Sciences* ,Martinus Nijhoff Dordrecht, 1984
9. James, William: *Pragmatism* (1907)
10. Rorty, Richard ed.: *The Linguistic turn* (1979)
11. GadamerHans Georg: *Philosophical Hermeneutics*, Univ. of California Press,1977

## Course II- Philosophical Methodology II

Concept of Philosophy in Traditional Indian schools of thought  
Concept of Philosophy in Modern Indian Thought (Kalidas Bhattacharya, K. C. Bhattacharyya, J. N. Mohanty, B. K. Matilal, Ras vihari Das, Daya Krishna )  
Methods in Philosophy (Tarka, samsaya, vada, jalpa, vitanda, uddesa, laksana, pariksa, manana, sravana, nididhyasana, samvada, pariprasna)

### Books recommended:

1. Bhattacharya, Gopinath (ed.): *Studies in K. C. Bhattacharyya*, Vol. I and II, MLBD
2. Das, Rasvihary: *Katipay Darshanik Prabandha*, Bangiya Darshan Parisad, Kolkata
3. Tarkavagish, Phanibhusan: *Nyayadarshan*, Vol. I, WBSBB, Kolkata
4. Matilal, B. K.:*Epistemology, Logic and Grammar in Indian Philosophical Analysis*, Mouton 1971 (new edition Oxford University Press 2005)
5. Matilal, B. K.:*Logic, Language and Reality*, Motilal Banarsidass, New Delhi 1985

6. Matilal, B. K.: "On The Concept of Philosophy in India," in *Philosophy, Culture and Religion: Collected Essays*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2001
7. Ganeri, Jonardon: *Philosophy in Classical India: The Proper Work of Reason*, Routledge, 2001
8. Mohanty, J.N.: *Reason and Tradition in Indian Thought*, Oxford, 1998
9. *Knowledge, Meaning and Intuition* by Raghunath Ghosh, New Bharitiya Book Corporation, Delhi

### **Course III- Critical Review of Philosophical Literature**

Set of articles or a book pre-approved by the Departmental committee

### **Course IV**

#### **Part I- Basic Computer Applications**

- Internet: How to access web resources, download articles (Google scholar, inflibnet), communicate using email, networking for research purposes
- MS Word

#### **Part II- Initiation to thesis /dissertation writing**

- What is expected in a thesis/dissertation?
- Developing research skills
- Finding the research question
- Literature review
- Writing and Presentation skills

## Semester – II

### Course V-Epistemology (Indian & Western)

#### A. Selections from:

1. Jayarasi's *Tattvopaplavasingha* Trs. By Eli. Franko (MLBD)
2. Gangesha on *Pramanya* (*Gangesha's Theory of Truth* by J. Mohanty), Visva-Bharati

#### B. Selections from:

1. Lehrer, Keith: *Knowledge*, Oxford University Press, London 1974.
2. Pollock, John; *Knowledge and Justification*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1974.
3. Rorty, Richard; *Philosophy and Mirror of Nature*; Princeton University Press, Princeton N.J. 1979
4. Wittgenstein, Ludwig: *On Certainty*
5. Foucault, Michel: *The Archaeology of Knowledge* (1969)
6. Nozick, Robert: *Philosophical Explanations* (1981)
7. Williamson, Timothy: *Knowledge and Its Limits*, OUP, 2000
8. Quine, W.V.O: "Epistemology Naturalized" in *Ontological Relativity and Other Essays*, Columbia University Press, 1969

### Course VI- Metaphysics (Indian & Western)

#### A. Selections from:

1. *Prasastapadabhasya* with *Nyayakandali*, Trs. Ganganath Jha, Choukhamba, Varanasi
2. *Tarkapada* (*Brahmasutra Sarirakabhasya*)

#### Further reading:

1. Damodar Ashrama, Dandi Swami: *Prasastapadabhasya*
2. Chattopadhyay, K. Ed.: *Prasastapadabhasya* with *Nyayakandali*
3. Viswarupananda, Swami: *Vedantadarsan*, Vol. I
4. Das, Rashvihar: *Introduction to Sankara*

#### B. Selections from:

1. Aristotle: *Metaphysics*
2. Heidegger: *Introduction to Metaphysics*
3. Bergson, Henri Louis: *An Introduction to Metaphysics* (1903)
4. Williams, Bernard: *Problems of the self*

### Course VII- Any one of the following:

#### Option 1. Philosophy of Language (Indian & Western)

#### A. Selections from:

1. *Jaiminisutra* with *Sabarabhasya*
2. Bhatta, Kumarila: *Slokavarttikam*

**B. Selections from:**

1. Chomsky, Noam: *Language and Mind*
2. Horwich, Paul: *Reflections on Meaning*
3. Grice: *Studies in the way of words*
4. Quine, W. V. O.: *Word and Object*
5. Evans, G.: *The Varieties of Reference*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1982

**Option 2. Philosophy of Art (Indian & Western)****A. Selections from:**

1. Abhinavagupta: *Dhvanyaloka with Locana Commentary*
2. Bharata: *Natya Sashtra*
3. Tagore, Abanindranath: *Chhabir Saranga*
4. Coomarswamy, Ananda: *The Dance of Shiva: Fourteen Indian Essays*

**B. Selections from:**

1. Kant, Immanuel: *Critique of Judgement*
2. Croce, Benedetto: *Aesthetics*
3. Tolstoy, Leo: *What is Art?*
4. Sartre, Jean-Paul: *The Psychology of Imagination*
5. Goodman, Nelson: *The Languages of Art*
6. Walden, Scott ed.: *Photography and Philosophy: Essays on the Pencil of Nature*,
7. Allen, Richard, and Murray Smith, eds.: *Film Theory and Philosophy*
8. Carroll, Noël and Jinhee Choi. *The Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures*

**Course – VIII - Special Text****Detailed study of any one of the following (several may be offered):**

1. Camus, Albert: *The Rebel: An Essay on man in Revolt*
2. Husserl, Edmund: *The Crisis of European Science and Transcendental Phenomenology*
3. Gangesha (Rajendranath Ghosh ed.) : *Vyaptipanchaka* , WBBB, Kolkata
4. Dharmakirti: *Sambandhapariksha* (along with *Philosophy of Relation* by V. N. Jha, Satguru, Delhi; *Relation as Real: A Critique of Dharmakirti*, by Raghunath Ghosh, Satguru, Delhi)
5. Hemacandra: *Pramanamimamsa* (Satkari Mookerjee and N. Tatia, Hemacandra's *Pramanamimamsa*, Text and Translation with Critical Notes, Tara Publications, 1970)
6. Nozick, Robert: *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* (1974)
7. Kripke, Saul: *Naming and Necessity* (1980)
8. Strawson, P. F.(ed.): *Philosophical Logic*, Oxford University Press, 1988
9. Bauman, Zygmunt; *Postmodern Ethics*, Blackwell Publication, Oxford, 1993
10. McDowell, John: *Mind and World*, Harvard University Press, 1996
11. Sen, Amartya: *The Idea of Justice* (2009)