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# UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

## NOTICE

Program Outcome (PO)/ Program Specific Outcome (PSO)/ Course Outcome (CO) for the following Subjects, offered by the University of Calcutta pertaining to the U.G. (4-Year Honours & Honours with Research/ 3-Year MDC) Courses of Studies under CCF , as laid down in the accompanying pamphlets:-

1. Bio-Chemistry
2. French
3. Human Development
4. Political Science
5. Economics
6. Mathematics
- ✓ 7. Philosophy
8. Women's Studies

  
Secretary  
20/06/2025  
U.G. Councils

**University of Calcutta**  
**B.A. Programme in Philosophy**

**Programme Specific Outcomes**

The objective of B.A. program in **Philosophy** is to encourage the students to obtain a comprehensive grasp of the subject including its historical development and diverse philosophical traditions (both Indian and western). It aims to foster the ability to question assumptions, explore different philosophical perspectives and at the same time develops the capacity for critical thinking, rigorous analysis and analytic skill.

The expected outcomes of the course, in essence, are as follows:

- Philosophy emphasizes in-depth analysis of any issue, critical thinking, effective communication, persuasive power, and writing skill- which are of immense value across various disciplines and professions.
- It provides a thorough understanding of the fundamental questions concerning reality, human existence, knowledge and morality leading an undergraduate to a deeper understanding of oneself and of the world around him. The student will develop the skill to apply their philosophical learning to important public issues.
- It fosters open-mindedness in outlook and the ability to appreciate different perspectives, even those that challenge one's own beliefs.
- It prepares the ground for application of logical rules and principles for solving practical problems in real life situations.
- It lays emphasis on understanding different ethical principles and values for developing a strong sense of moral responsibility and making sound moral judgments.
- Finally, a course in Philosophy will help the students to acquire the ability to analyse original texts, extract the arguments of the author and evaluate them.

## **Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes (SEMESTER - I to SEMESTER - VI)**

### **Fundamentals of Philosophy**

#### **Course Objective:**

The main objective of this course is to familiarize the learners with the very basics of philosophy through a comprehensive coverage of the major philosophical branches like epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, etc.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to identify and analyse the nature and scope of philosophy. They will be able to determine its relationship with other disciplines particularly with common sense and science.
- They will elucidate the relation between the core branches of philosophy such as metaphysics, epistemology, ethics and logic.
- Students will engage with and critically analyze fundamental philosophical questions concerning the nature of reality, knowledge, and value.

### **Outlines of Indian Philosophy**

#### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to provide students with a foundational understanding of key concepts of Indian Philosophy, such as *Rta*, *R̄ṇa*, the law of karma, nature of self and liberation etc. It focuses on understanding the nature of reality, the human condition and the path to spiritual liberation through exploring the concepts like dharma, karma etc.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will explore the richness of Indian Philosophical tradition.
- Students will be able to comprehend the gradual development of Indian Philosophical systems.
- Students will grasp fundamental terms and ideas within Indian philosophy such as Karma and Dharma.

## **Indian Philosophy-I**

### **Course Objective:**

The aim of this course is to enhance the knowledge of the Indian philosophical tradition and to provide deeper understanding into diverse philosophical systems. Upon completion students will be able to identify and describe major schools like Cārvāka, Buddhism, Jainism, Nyāya- Vaiśeṣika etc.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will apprehend the distinctions between orthodox (Āstika) and heterodox (Nāstika) schools of thought.
- Students will be able to analyse, compare and synthesise the major doctrines of Indian philosophical schools which will further develop their argumentative style.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills by examining different philosophical systems and evaluating arguments.

## **Western Logic-I**

### **Course Objective:**

The course is designed to develop sound reasoning and argumentation skills of a learner. It will guide students to think correctly and reasonably.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to evaluate arguments, identify logical fallacies and distinguish valid reasoning from invalid ones.
- Students will gain the ability to analyse complex ideas and problems into simpler components or more manageable parts, and also to apply principles of logic to practical problems and in decision making.
- They will be able to foster the analytical skill and resolve difficult issues in practical life.

## **History of Western Philosophy-I**

### **Course Objective:**

The objective of this course is to provide a comprehensive understanding of major philosophical thoughts and ideas of great philosophers and thinkers of the Western tradition from ancient to modern period.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- By studying this course, students will be able to critically assess the historical development of Western Philosophical tradition.
- They will explore how the original philosophers and thinkers address the various philosophical issues such as nature of knowledge, the role of reason in understanding the world, debates between faith and reason and the mind body problem.
- The course will foster critical thinking skills by encouraging them to engage with philosophical questions and evaluate different perspectives.

## **Indian Philosophy-II**

### **Course Objective:**

The course attempts to acquaint the students with a comprehensive knowledge of different philosophical theories proposed by Sāṃkhya, Yoga, Mīmāṃsā and Vedānta. It is an extended investigation into the question of knowledge, its grounds, possibility and domain. It attempts to re-examine the past and appropriate whatever the thinker believes to be still relevant and of universal value.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- The course makes the students aware of the rich fare of Indian thought in a panoramic way.
- The students will be able to compare and analyse Indian philosophical systems which will further develop their debating skills.
- They will develop the ability to evaluate different philosophical perspectives and form their own informed opinions.

## **Western Logic-II**

### **Course Objective:**

This course is designed mainly to introduce rules and techniques for distinguishing valid from invalid arguments. It will also train the students to use inductive reasoning to formulate hypotheses-based observations and experiments.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will explore advanced topics in logic, including formal proofs, resolution methods, and predicate logic.
- Students will apply modern logic principles and techniques to analyze logical structures.
- Students will evaluate and demonstrate the validity or invalidity of arguments using a variety of logical methods.
- Students will enhance their critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills.

## **Social and Political Philosophy**

### **Course Objective:**

The main objective of this course is to introduce the students to the basic concepts of society, community, institution, association etc. It will make the students engage in the discussion of global solidarity, cultural identity and autonomy.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- The students will be able to analyze the relation between individuals and society, social change and various forms of social organization.
- They will be able to explore different political ideals and thereby be able to identify and analyze how societies and governments are formed.
- Students will be able to apply philosophical principles and theories to real-world social issues, demonstrating an ability to analyze complex social problems and propose solutions.

## **Nyaya Logic and Epistemology-I**

### **Course Objective:**

The aim of this course is to acquaint the students with the work of Annambhaṭṭa an eminent scholar of the Indian thought. The book meticulously introduces the students into the fundamental concepts of knowledge, its sources and they undergo a rigorous training in analyzing these notions. More attention is given to the Nyāya school of Philosophy, which is known for its argumentative style, which helps the students in developing a clarity in their thoughts.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will explore the breadth of the Nyāya school of thought and investigate its foundational concepts in depth.
- Students will analyze the Nyāya tradition's argumentative methods to strengthen their reasoning and interpretive skills.
- Students will examine the Nyāya theory of valid knowledge and distinguish it from forms of invalid cognition such as memory, doubt, and error.

## **History of Western Philosophy-II**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims at providing a bird's eye view of the general features and problems of Western Philosophy. The students get acquainted with the views of some prominent philosophers of the western tradition like Locke, Berkeley, Hume and Kant and their ideas regarding knowledge and the world. The course aims at familiarizing the students with the broad outlines of the chief issues dealt with by these great thinkers.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will explore key ideas in Western philosophy and critically compare them with concepts from the Indian philosophical tradition.
- Students will expand their intellectual horizons and construct their own perspectives on human nature and the world.
- Students will develop the ability to appreciate, analyze, and engage with diverse philosophical viewpoints.

## **Psychology and Philosophy of Mind**

### **Course Objective:**

The main aim of this course is to make the students aware of the dominant trend in both Psychology and the Philosophy of mind. Philosophy of the mind lies close to the heart of any philosophical enterprise and the course ensures that the students are acquainted with the issues of mind-body relation.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will examine central issues in the philosophy of mind, including consciousness, mental causation, and the mind-body problem.
- Students will analyze key psychological theories, principles, and research methods to interpret human behaviour and mental processes.
- Students will cultivate interpersonal skills that promote empathy, compassion, effective communication, and conflict resolution.

## **Philosophy of Religion**

### **Course Objective:**

Religion has been and continues to be one of the principal forces that have shaped human society and history. This course will help the students to know the definition, scope and the nature of religion and its relation to theology. The students will be made aware of the different concepts like karma, rebirth, liberation and religious pluralism. They will also be introduced to the notion of God and the different arguments for accepting and rejecting the existence of God.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will investigate the diversity and complexity of world religions and critically analyze key issues such as tolerance, conversion, and secularism.
- Students will interpret texts from various traditions and identify core elements of both Western and Indian religious systems.
- Students will compare foundational beliefs across traditions, fostering interreligious understanding and dialogue.

- Students will cultivate religious sensitivity to engage meaningfully with contemporary global issues.

## **Nyaya Logic and Epistemology-II**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to equip students with a deep understanding of Indian logic and epistemology particularly that of the Nyāya school of thought. It will familiarize students with the different sources of knowledge or pramāna like anumāna, upamāna, śabda etc. from the Nyāya perspective.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will delve into the Nyāya system's methodology for reasoning, including its theory of inference.
- Students will strengthen their ability to interpret and critically analyze philosophical texts through close reading.
- Students will learn to compare and contrast different schools of thought within Indian epistemology such as Nyāya and Mīmāṃsā.

## **Epistemology and Metaphysics: Western**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to focus on the fundamental concepts and theories pertaining to knowledge (epistemology) and reality (metaphysics) from western philosophical standpoint. This course will familiarize students with important epistemological theories like realism, idealism and phenomenalism and metaphysical theories concerning substance, cause, universals, mind-body relation etc.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to grasp the core philosophical concepts related to knowledge and reality.
- Students will evaluate and critique epistemological and metaphysical arguments by identifying their strengths and weaknesses.
- Students will enhance their critical thinking skills through the analysis and assessment of philosophical reasoning.
- They will develop the ability to dissect complex philosophical concepts and arguments.

## **Ethics: Indian and Western**

### **Course Objective:**

The course is intended to introduce the students to the moral philosophy of both the Indian and western tradition. This course focuses on a theoretical understanding of the science of morality. Morality fosters or even calls for the use of reason and for a kind of autonomy on the part of the individual, stimulating him to think out the goals in the light of which one has to make one's decisions. It generates ethical awareness that is essential for the overall well-being of human beings and inspires them to become responsible citizens of a society.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will critically examine prevailing moral norms and recognize that societal ethical rules often involve exceptions and contextual nuances.
- Students will be able to compare and contrast western and Indian ethical perspectives and will gain insight into how cultural contexts shape ethical decision-making and philosophical debates.
- Students will be able to inculcate a sense of moral responsibility and to improve their capacity for making ethical decisions.

## **Skill Enhancement Courses Man and Nature**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to explore the philosophical relationship between human being and nature, examining classical and contemporary perspectives on environmental ethics. Students will critically engage with concepts of nature, intrinsic value, respect for nature, and debates surrounding deep ecology.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to explain different interpretations of nature in Indian and Western traditions, including the *Upaniṣadic* worldview, Tagore's understanding of nature, and post-*Upaniṣadic* perspectives.
- Students will critically assess the concept of respect for nature, the bio-centric outlook, and various philosophical arguments for the intrinsic value of nature.

- Students will evaluate the key principles of deep ecology as proposed by Arne Naess and analyze Ramachandra Guha's critique of its relevance to third-world environmental concerns.

## **Recent Issues in Philosophy: Political and Ethical**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to provide an in-depth understanding of recent philosophical issues in political and ethical thought, with a focus on human rights, justice, and feminist ethics. It enables students to critically engage with contemporary debates on justice, equality, discrimination, and feminist perspectives in philosophy.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to explain the historical development, normative justification, and philosophical foundations of human rights, along with key theories of justice by John Rawls and Amartya Sen.
- Students will critically examine concepts such as sexism, patriarchy, and androcentrism while evaluating feminist approaches to ethics, including the ethics of care and feminist critiques of traditional philosophy.
- Students will assess contemporary issues of discrimination based on race, caste, and religion, exploring their ethical and political implications within the framework of justice, equality, and feminist thought.

## **Logical Reasoning and application: Indian and Western**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to develop students' analytical and logical reasoning skills by introducing key concepts of Indian and Western logic. It focuses on inferential structures, fallacies, analogical reasoning, and their applications in scientific and legal contexts.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to define key logical concepts such as *pakṣa*, *sādhya*, *hetu*, *sapakṣa*, and *vipakṣa* and construct different types of inference (*kevalānvayī*, *kevalavyātirekī*, *anvayavyātirekī*).
- Students will critically examine different kinds of *hetvābhāsa* (fallacies) and recognize fallacies in practical reasoning, including fallacies of relevance, ambiguity, and weak induction.

- Students will evaluate scientific explanations, understand the role of causation in legal reasoning, and apply analogical and probabilistic reasoning in legal argumentation.

## **Philosophy of Peace and Conflict Resolution**

### **Course Objective:**

This course aims to provide students with a philosophical understanding of peace and conflict resolution by examining various theories, typologies, and gender perspectives on peace. It also explores significant philosophical approaches, including Kantian, Gandhian, and Tagore's perspectives, to develop a holistic approach to peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to differentiate between positive and negative peace, understand the various typologies of peace, and evaluate sustainable peace strategies in contemporary global contexts.
- Students will critically engage with Realist and Idealist theories of peacebuilding, applying these frameworks to real-world conflict situations and resolution efforts.
- Students will explore Kantian, Gandhian, and Tagore's perspectives on peace, understanding their ethical, spiritual, and practical implications for non-violence, justice, and humanism in conflict resolution.