

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Category I

Philosophy Courses for Undergraduate Programme of study with Philosophy as a Single Core Discipline (B.A. Honours in Philosophy in three years)

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE -4 (DSC-4) – Fundamentals of Philosophy

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Fundamentals of Philosophy DSC 4	4	3	1	0	Class XII	NIL

Learning Objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- The course is designed for the grasp of the fundamental problems of the subject from the writings of original philosophers.
- The course will analyse problems like the problem of existence, like what is there, and why is anything there, what is justice; the origin of ideas, how we think about the world, what is the self, etc.
- A broad and deep approach to the subject is envisaged, learning from sources spread across centuries and continents.

Learning outcomes

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

- The student will learn how original philosophers express themselves about the great problems of philosophy
- The student will acquire the skill of argumentation and the ability to find flaws in the arguments of the philosophers
- The student will improve the grasp in the subject matter
- The student's curiosity will be aroused to explore the subject further in a meaningful way

SYLLABUS OF DSC-4

UNIT 1: Being

(12 Hours)

1. What is Being?
2. Why does anything exist?

Essential/ Recommended Readings

Derek Parfit (1998) Why Anything? Why this? <https://www.lrb.co.uk/the-paper/v20/n02/derek-parfit/why-anything-why-this>

Selection from Aristotle's Metaphysics "The Process of Change" in Moore, Brooke Noel and Bruder, Kenneth (2011). *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*. (Indian Edition) McGraw-Hill, pg. 71-72

UNIT 2: Ideas, Thought and World

(12 Hours)

1. The Origin of Ideas
2. What is thought?
3. Social Construction

Essential/Recommended Readings

Moore, Brooke Noel and Bruder, Kenneth (2011). *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*. (Indian Edition) McGraw-Hill, pg. 143 – 145 (Section on Hume and Kant)

Donald Davidson's "The Problem of Objectivity" in Moore, Brooke Noel and Bruder, Kenneth (2011). *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*. (Indian Edition) McGraw-Hill, pg. 243-245

Paul Boghossian's "What is Social Construction" in Moore, Brooke Noel and Bruder, Kenneth (2011). *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*. (Indian Edition) McGraw-Hill, pg. 245-248

UNIT 3: Consciousness, Knowledge and Self

(12 Hours)

1. Perspectives on Consciousness and Knowledge
2. Perspectives on the Perception of Self

Essential/Recommended Readings

Mohanty, J. N. (1979). Consciousness and knowledge in Indian philosophy. *Philosophy East and West* 29 (1):3-10.

Matilal, Bimal Krishna (2002) The perception of Self in the Indian tradition. In J. Ganeri (ed.) *Mind, Language and World: The Collected Essays of Bimal Krishna Matilal*, OUP, pp. 299-314

UNIT 4: Justice

(9 Hours)

1. What is Justice?
2. Might is Right or Right is Might?

Essential/ Recommended Readings

Plato's *Republic*, Book 1, 327a – 345a. In Christopher Rowe's translation, Penguin Books, 2012

Suggestive Readings

Blackburn, Simon (1999). *Think: A Compelling Introduction to Philosophy*. Oxford University Press.

Moore, Brooke Noel and Bruder, Kenneth (2011). *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*. McGraw-Hill
Indian edition

Perry, John, Bratman, Michael & Fischer, John Martin (2009). *Introduction to Philosophy: Classical and Contemporary Readings, Fourth Edition, International Edition*. OUP, USA

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 5 (DSC-5): Greek Philosophy

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Greek Philosophy DSC 5	4	3	1	0	Class XII	NIL

Learning Objectives

- This course traces the origins of philosophy in the Western tradition in the thinkers of Ancient Greece.
- It begins with the Pre-Socratic natural philosophers like Thales and Anaximander. Then it moves on to Heraclitus and Parmenides of Elea.
- Then, it discusses the counter position of Sophists and Socrates. Finally, there is discussion on Plato's theory of virtue and Forms.

Learning Outcomes:

- The student will comprehend the foundations and origins of philosophy through the lens of early Greek philosophy
- The student will broaden the grasp of the subject and understand how philosophy arose from a close tie with cosmological and logical thinking
- The student will appreciate the role of reason in philosophy and the role of law and order in the structure of the world

Unit-1: Naturalism (Cosmos and Arche)

(12 Hours)

1. Thales and Anaximander

Essential/Recommended Reading:

J. Barnes. *Early Greek Philosophy*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1981. p.xi-xxv.

Curd, Patricia. *A Presocratic Reader: Selected Fragments and Testimonia* Second Edition Edited, with Introduction. Translations by Richard D McKirahan and Patricia Curd (Hackett Publishing Company, Inc, 2011) ,p.13-19

Warren, James & Frisbee Sheffield (eds.). *The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy*. Routledge: London and New York, 2014. Part-1., 94-124

Kirk, G.S and Raven, J.E, The Presocratic Philosophers: A Critical History with Selection of Texts (Cambridge; At The University Press, 1957) pp74-99

Unit 2: Change, Being and Becoming

(12 Hours)

1. Heraclitus: Doctrine of Flux.
2. Parmenides of Elea: Doctrine of Being and not-being.

Essential/Recommended Reading:

Curd, Patricia. A Presocratic Reader: Selected Fragments and Testimonia Second Edition Edited, with Introduction. Translations by Richard B. McKirahan and Patricia Curd (Hackett Publishing Company, Inc, 2011), p.39-65,

G.S Kirk and J.E. Raven, The Presocratic Philosophers, Chapters vi and x

Online Source:

Adobe PDF ebook ISBN: [978-1-60384-598-4](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781603845984)/2010019297

Unit 3: Sophists and Socrates

(9 Hours)

1. Sophists (Protagoras): Relativism and Scepticism
2. Socrates: Critical Enquiry and Virtue is Knowledge

Essential/Recommended Reading:

Gill, M. L. A Companion to Ancient Philosophy edited. Pierre Pellegrin: Blackwell Companion Series, 2006. Relevant chapters.

Warren, James & Frisbee Sheffield (eds.),

The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy. Routledge: London and New York, 2014. Part-1., 94-124

Unit 4: Plato

(12 Hours)

Justice as Virtue and Theory of Forms

Essential/Recommended Readings

Lee, Desmond (translated), Plato: The Republic, edited by Betty Radice, (Penguin Classics, 1974), p.196-224 and 300-333. (books 4.5 and 7.6-7.7)

Warren, James & Sheffield Frisbee. (eds). The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy. Routledge: London and New York, 2014. Part-II, chapters 13-16.

Vlastos, G. "Justice and psychic harmony in the Republic" in Journal of Philosophy. 1969. Vol.66. (16): pp 505-521)

Suggestive Readings

Barnes, Jonathan. Early Greek Philosophy. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1987.

Gill, M. L. & Pellegrin, Pierre. Blackwell Companion to Philosophy: A Companion to Ancient Philosophy. Blackwell Series, 2006. Warren, James & Sheffield Frisbee. (eds). The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy. Routledge: London and New York, 2014.

Cohen, M.S. Curd, P. & Reeve, C.D.C.(ed). Readings in Ancient Greek Philosophy. Hackett: Indianapolis, 1995.

Lee, Desmond(translated), Plato: The Republic,edited by Betty Radice, (Penguin Classics,1974)

Curd, Patricia. A Presocratic Reader: Selected Fragments and Testimonia Second Edition Edited, with Introduction. Translations by RichardbDMckirahan and Patricia Curd (Hackett Publishing Company, Inc,2011) ,

Wareen, James & Sheffield Frisbee. (eds). The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy (Routledge: London and New York,2014).

Kirk, G.S. Raven & Schofield , Pre Socratic Philosophy. CUP,1957.

Tankha, V. Ancient Greek Philosophy: Thales to Socrates. India: Pearson, 2012.

Vlastos, G. “Justice and psychic harmony in the Republic” in Journal of Philosophy.1969. Vol.66. (16)

Additional Resources:

Guthrie,WKC. A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol-. The Earlier Presocratic Tradition and the Pythagoreans. Cambridge,1962. ----A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol-2. The Presocratic Tradition from Parmenides to Democritus. Cambridge,1965. ———A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol-3, The fifth Century Enlightenment. Cambridge,1969. ———A History of Greek Philosophy, Vol-4, Plato, the Man and his Dialogues: Earlier Period Cambridge,1975.

Kirk,G.S and Raven, J.E, The Presocratic Philosophers: A Critical History with Selection of Texts(Cambridge; At The University Press,1957)

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 6 (DSC-6): Ethics

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Ethics DSC 6	4	3	1	0	Class XII	NIL

Learning Objectives

- The course is designed to acquaint the students with basic concepts of ethics, the nature and development of morality, cultural relativism and to familiarize them with the western and Indiantraditional ethical theories.

- Various philosophical concepts of ethical behaviour and normative principles of human conduct will be emphasized in this course.

Learning Outcomes

- The students after being introduced to basic ethical theories will acquire the ability to understand ethical perspective and ethical issues.
- The students will be equipped with the ethical sensitivity and moral understanding required to recognize and overcome ethical dilemmas
- The students will be able to differentiate normative statements from other kinds of statements.
- By reading the Indian ethical theories they will learn about the value system and culture of ancient India.

Unit 1: Introduction to Ethics

(15 Hours)

1. Nature and development of morality (from Convention to Reflection)
2. Cultural Relativism

Essential/Recommended Readings:

- Lillie, W., (1948), *An Introduction to Ethics*, Methuen & Co. Ltd. London.
- Rachel, J., (2003), *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*, Mc Graw-Hill.

Unit 2: Western theories

(15 Hours)

1. Virtue Ethics with respect to Aristotle's Eudaimonia
2. Teleological ethics with respect to J.S. Mill's Utilitarianism.
3. Deontological ethics with respect to Immanuel Kant's Categorical Imperative

Essential/Recommended Readings:

- Mill, J.S., (1863), *Utilitarianism*, London, in Mary Warnock *Utilitarianism and On Liberty*, Ed.1962, Wiley Blackwell.
- Aristotle, (1926) *Nicomachean Ethics*, Harvard University Press.
- Kant, Immanuel: *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, in Trans. H J Paton, The Moral Law, Hutchinsons University Library.

Unit 3: Indian Ethics

(15 hours)

1. Four Purusarthas: Artha, Kama, Dharma, Moksa
2. Bhagvadgita: Nishkamakarma

3. Karuna, Maitri and Nonviolence (with respect to Indian Value System)

Essential/Recommended Readings:

- Bilimoria, Purushottama ed., (2007), Indian Ethics: Classical traditions and contemporary challenges, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Sharma, I.C., (1967), Ethical Philosophies of India, New York, U.S.A Johnson Publishing Company.

Suggestive Readings

- Louis P. Pojman, and P. Tramel, Ed., (1998), Moral Philosophy: A Reader (Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Co.
- Frankena W.K, (1973), Ethics, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., Prentice-Hall.
- Lillie, W., (1948), An Introduction to Ethics, Methuen & Co. Ltd. London.
- Sinha, Jadunath, (2004), A Manual of Ethics, New Central Book Agency
- Kaveeshwar, G.W. (1971), The Ethics of Gita, Motilal Banarasi Dass Publications, Delhi.
- Mackenzie, J.S., (1977), A Manual of Ethics, Oxford University Press Bombay,
- Taylor, Paul. W., (1978), "Problems of moral philosophy: an introduction to ethics", Dickenson publishing company, Inc. Belmont, California.
- Satyanarayana, Y.V., (2010), Ethics: Theory and Practice, Pearson.
- Thiroux, Jacques, (1998), Ethics: Theory and Practice (6th Ed.), Pearson.

Additional Resources:

- Hartmann, N., (1950), *Moral Phenomena*, New Macmillan.
- Taylor, P.W., Problems of Moral Philosophy: An Introduction to Ethics, Dickenson Publishing Co. Inc. Belmont, California.
- Shelly Kagan, (1998), Normative Ethics, Westview Press.