

GE 7 B Philosophy of B R Ambedkar

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
GE 7 B Philosophy of B R Ambedkar	4	3	1	Nil	None	None

Learning Objectives

- The aim of this course is to introduce the alternative approaches of contemporary Indian philosophical thought with special focus on Philosophy of B R Ambedkar.
- This course is an exploration of democratic and normative philosophical thought in reconstruction of Indian society.
- This course introduces the essential philosophical writings of contemporary Indian thinker B R Ambedkar by discussing the Philosophical method in general and Social-Political philosophy and philosophy of religion of Ambedkar in particular.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Learn Ambedkar's alternative reading of Indian philosophy by interrogating dominant philosophical systems and its texts.
- Critical engagement with social reality conditioned by the caste system.
- Learn the liberative and democratic potential of philosophy of Ambedkar in reconstructing the Indian nation.
- To develop into a good citizen by understudying the indigenous democratic philosophical thought.

Unit 1 Life world of B R Ambedkar

(9 Hours, 3 Weeks)

1. Life and Essential Writings of Ambedkar
2. Concepts and methodology of B.R.Ambedkar

Essential/Recommended Readings

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Introduction', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, p.1- 20.

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). , 'Introduction', Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, p.20-36

Unit 2 Philosophy of Religion

(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

- 1 Philosophy of Religion and Indian Social Order

Essential/Recommended Readings

'The Hindu Social order: Its Essential Principles', *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches Vol.3*, New Delhi: Dr.Ambedkar Foundation, 2014, pp95-115

2. Buddhism and Marxism

Social reforms.

Essential/Recommended Readings

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Religion and Dhamma', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002 Pp.57-59

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Buddha or Karl Marx', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, pp173-189

Unit 3 Social and Political Philosophy

(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. Social Justice and Ideal society
2. Concept of Equality, Justice and Fraternity
3. Economic Philosophy

3. Ambedkar on Woman

Essential/Recommended reading

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Introduction', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, (extracts from *Annihilation of Caste*) pp 267-268, 275-277, 294-304

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Democracy', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, pp 60-64

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'Political safeguards for depressed classes', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, 369-382

Jadhav Narendra, *Neglected Economic Thought of Babasaheb Ambedkar*, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 26, Issue No. 15, 13 Apr, 1991, pp 980-82

Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). 'The Hindu Code Bill', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, 495-516

Unit 4 Contemporary Relevance of Ambedkar (12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. Relevance of Ambedkar
2. Constitutional morality and Democracy

Essential/Recommended Readings

B.R. Ambedkar, 'Introduction', Rodrigues, Valerian (ed). *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, p.36-43

Suggestive Readings:

B.R. Ambedkar, 'Philosophy of Hinduism', Moon, Vasant (Compiled) *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches Vol.3*, Education Department, Government of Maharashtra, 1987.

Rodrigues, Valerian.(Ed.) 'Krishna and His Gita', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, pp.193-204

Rodrigues, Valerian(Ed.). 'Basic Features of Indian constitution', *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*. New Delhi: Oxford Press, New Delhi: Oxford Press, 2002, p.473-495

Jadhav Narendra, *Ambedkar : An Economist Extraordinaire*, New Delhi, Konark Publishers, August 2015, (pages 300)

Jadhav Narendra, *Ambedkar : Awakening India's Social Conscience*, New Delhi, Konark Publishers, 2014, (pages 640)

Omvedt, Gail. 'Ambedkarism : The Theory of Dalit Liberation', *Dalits And The Democratic Revolution: Dr. Ambedkar And The Dalit Movement In Colonial India* (Sage India, 1994) p.225-260 (Ambedkarism)

Omvedt, Gail. *Ambedkar: Towards Enlightened India*, Delhi: Penguin, 2017

Christophe Jaffrelot and Narendra Kumar (Eds), *Dr. Ambedkar and Democracy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2018 (Chapter 16)

V. Geetha, *Bhimrao Ambedkar and the Question of Socialism in India*, Delhi: Palgrave, 2022

Gokhale, Pradeep (Ed.) *The Philosophy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar*, Pune: IPQ Publication, 2008

G. Aloysius, *Nationalism without a nation in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1997. Xii + 265 pp.

P. Kesava Kumar, *Political Philosophy of B.R. Ambedkar- An Inquiry into the Theoretical Foundations of the Dalit Movement*, New Delhi: Kalpaz, 2013

Mungekar, Balachandra. (2022). *The Essential Ambedkar*, New Delhi: Rupa Publications

Roudrigues, Valerian. (2004). *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*, New Delhi: Oxford University Publications

Roudrigues, Valerian. (2024). *Ambedkar's Political Philosophy: A Grammar of Public Life from the Margin*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press

Kuber, W.N. (1992). *Ambedkar: A Critical Study*, New Delhi: People's Publishing House

Moon, Vasant. (2022). *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar*, New Delhi: National Book Trust.

Stroud, Scott. R. (2022) *The evolution of Pragmatism in India (An Intellectual Biography of B.R. Ambedkar)*, New Delhi: Harper Collins

Books and Writings of Ambedkar/ Dr. B.R. Ambedkar mea.gov.in