

Category II

BA (Prog.) with Philosophy as Major

(Courses for Undergraduate Programme of study with Philosophy discipline as one of the Core Disciplines)

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE (DSC-9) Modern Western 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		
DSC 9 Modern Western Philosophy	4	3	1	NIL	12th Passed	"Introduction to Western Philosophy" DSC 4

Learning Objectives

- This course aims at introducing the students to fundamental issues that have been raised in modern western philosophy.
- This course will provide an overview of the problems which led to the development of empiricist and rationalist philosophical views in the field of modern western philosophy.
- This course will also discuss a wide range of philosophical theories such as metaphysical monism, pluralism, dualism, immaterialism, and transcendentalism.

Learning Outcomes

- The student will learn about the philosophical origins of many current debated concepts.
- The students will acquire the ability to think outside of the box in terms of prevalent philosophical orthodoxies.
- The students will learn how to think differently about philosophy's fundamental problems in alternative ways.

Unit 1: Introduction to Modern Western Philosophy (12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. Key Themes of Rationalism
2. Key Themes of Empiricism

Essential/recommended reading

Scruton, Roger, *From Descartes to Wittgenstein- A Short History of Modern Philosophy*, London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1981, Ch.1&2

Unit 2: Rationalism

(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. Descartes- Methodic Doubt, Cogito Ergo Sum
2. Spinoza- Concept of Substance
3. Leibnitz- Theory of Monads

Essential/recommended reading

Descartes, R.(1647), *Meditations on the First Philosophy*, Harper Perennial Classics, 2013, Meditation 1&2

Spinoza, B. (1677), *Ethics*, Penguin classics, 1996, BK-1

Leibniz, G.W. (1714), *Monadology: An Edition for Students*, University of Pittsburgh Press; 1st edition (1991)

Unit 3: Empiricism

(12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. Locke- Critique of Innate Ideas
2. Berkeley- Critique of Locke's Theory of Material Substance
3. Hume- Theory of Causation

Essential/recommended reading

Locke, J. (1690) *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Penguin Classics, 1996, BK-1

Berkeley, G. (1710) *The Principles of Human Knowledge*, Warnock, G.J. ed. UK, Fontana Press, 1985, Part 1- section 1-24.

Hume, David. (1748), *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Oxford World Classics, ed. Peter Millican, 2008, Part II- Section VII

Unit 4: Critical Philosophy

(9 Hours, 3 Weeks)

1. Kant's- Classification of propositions- Analytic, Synthetic, Synthetic a priori

Essential/recommended reading

Kant, Immanuel, *Critique of Pure Reason*, (Cambridge Edition of The Works of Immanuel Kant) : ed. Guyer, Paul and Wood, Allen 1999. Introduction, pp. 127-152.

Suggestive Readings

- Copleston, F.J. *History of Philosophy*, USA, Image Books, 1993
- Falkenberg, R. *History of Modern Philosophy*, USA, Jefferson Publications, 2015
- Moore, Bruder, *Philosophy: The Power of Ideas*, New Delhi, Tata McGraw Hill, 2011
- O'Connor, D.J. *A Critical History of western Philosophy*, USA, MacMillan, 1964
- Steg Muller, W. *Main Currents in Contemporary German, British and American Philosophy*, Dordrecht; D. Riedel Publishing, 1969
- Garrett, Thomson, *An Introduction to Modern Philosophy*, California: Wadsworth Publishing, 1993

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 10 (DSC-10) Contemporary Indian Philosophy

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Prerequisites 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		
Contemporary Indian Philosophy DSC 10	4	3	1	NIL	12th Passed	"Introduction to Indian Philosophy" DSC 3

Learning Objectives

- The objective of this course is to make students familiar with Contemporary Indian Philosophers and their philosophical thinking.
- Philosophers like Swami Vivekananda, Aurobindo, Gandhi, B R Ambedkar, Jyotiba Phule, M N Roy, amongst others will be covered.
- In this course, various issues of contemporary relevance such as freedom, self-respect, Integral Yoga, Universalism etc. Will be discussed

Learning outcomes

On completion of this course, the student can be expected to

- Have a comprehensive understanding of the conceptual roots of the Contemporary Indian Philosophy
- Understand how various social and contemporary issues have been addressed in this discipline
- Understand how one can have multiple perspectives to address various social issues like Caste, Religion, Yoga etc.

- An in-depth understating of various approaches to the study of Contemporary Philosophy in a comparative framework.

Unit- 1: Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurobindo (9 Hours, 3 Weeks)

1. Swami Vivekananda: Universal Religion and Neo Vedanta
2. Sri Aurobindo: Integral Yoga

Essential/recommended readings

Swami Vivekananda , 'The way of realisation of a Universal Religion', The ideal of a Universal Religion *The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda Vol.II*, Kolkata: Advaita Ashrama, pp.359-396

Integral Yoga: Sri Aurobindo's Teaching & Method of Practice , Compiled by Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Archives and Research Library, Lotus Press, USA

Unit- 2: Jyotiba Phule, B R Ambedkar and E V Ramaswamy Periyar (12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. JyotibaoPhule: Critical understanding of the slavery and Caste system
2. B.R.Ambedkar:Annihilation of Caste
3. E V RamaswamyPeriyar: Self Respect

Essential/Recommended Readings

G.P. Deshpande (Ed.) 'Excerpts from Gulamgiri', *Selected Writings of JotiraoPhule*New Delhi: Leftword, 2002, PP.36-63

G.Aloysious, Periyar and Modernity, New Delhi: Critical Quest, 2019, pp.22-51

Unit- 3: K.C.Bhattacharya and M K Gandhi (12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. K.C.Bhattacharyya-Swaraj in Ideas
2. M.K. Gandhi: Civilization and Swaraj

Essential/recommended readings

K.C. Bhattacharyya, 'Swaraj in Ideas', *Indian Philosophical Quarterly*11:1984, pp385-393

'What is Swaraj?' 'Pp26-28, 'Civilization,'pp 34-38, 'What is true civilization?', pp.66-71) extracts fromAnthony J Parel .*Gandhi: Hind swaraj and other Essays* , Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,2009

Unit 4: M.N.Roy and J.Krishnamurti (12 Hours, 4 Weeks)

1. M.N. Roy: Radical Humanism
2. J.Krishnamurti: Knowledge and Freedom
3. D D Upadhyaya: Integral Humanism

Essential/Recommended Readings

M.N. Roy: *Radical Humanist: Selected Writings*, by M.N.Roy, 2004

Radical Democracy pp.38-51, *Principles of Radical Democracy* 22 Theses, p.5262, M.N.Roy
New Humanism- A Manifesto, New Delhi: Ajanta Publications, 1981

J.Krishnamurti. 'Freedom from the Known,' *Total Freedom-The Essential Krishnamurti*,

Chennai: KFI, 2018, pp.109-132

Upadhyaya, D. D (2020) Lecture II: *Western vs. Bharatiya View*, in *Integral Humanism*,
Prabhhat Prakashan Pvt Ltd.

Suggestive Readings

- T.M.P. Mahadevan & C.V. Saroja: *Contemporary Indian Philosophy*, Madras, 1985.
- Basant Kumar Lal: *Contemporary Indian Philosophy*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas, 1999.
- Benay Gopal Ray: *Contemporary Indian Philosophers*, Allahabad, 1957.
- V.S. Naravane : *Modern Indian Thought*, Bombay, 1964
- *What Religion Is in the Words of Swami Vivekananda*, John Yale, Kessinger Publishing, ISBN 978-1-4254-8880-2
- A Reading of Jyotiba Phule's *Gulamgiri: A Seminal Text on Caste*, Pradnya Waghule, 1885, 2017,
- Gavaskar, Mahesh (1999). "Phule's Critique of Brahmin Power". In Michael, S. M. (ed.). *Untouchable, Dalits in Modern India*. Lynne Rienner Publishers. Pp. 43-56. ISBN 978-1-55587-697-5.
- B. R. Ambedkar: *Annihilation of Caste*
- A. Parel, *The Political theory of Gandhi's Hind Swaraj*
- <https://www.asj.upd.edu.ph/mediabox/archive/ASJ-07-03-1969/parel-political%20theory%20gandhi%20hind%20swaraj.pdf>
- V. Geetha, 'Graded Inequality and Untouchability; Towards the Annihilation of Caste,' *Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar and the Question of Socialism in India*, New Delhi: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022, pp.147-190