

M. Phil and Ph. D. Syllabus
Department of Philosophy
University of North Bengal
India

Course Structure and Division of marks

Ph. D.:

1. Ph.D. Preparatory Course work:

Course I - II: 4 credits each x 2 courses = 8 credits (same as M Phil 1st Semester course work)

2. Thesis

M. Phil:

Full Marks – 32 credits

1st Semester (common to M Phil and PhD students):

M.Phil. Preparatory Course Work:

Course I - II: 4 credits each x 2 courses = 8 credits

2nd Semester:

Course III - IV: 4 credits each x 2 courses = 8 credits

3rd Semester:

Seminar Paper of min. 5000 words (4 credit)

Seminar Presentation (4 credit)

4th Semester:

Dissertation (6 credits)

Viva Voce on Dissertation (2 credits)

Pass marks: 55% in each paper

Details (indicative) of course work (1st and 2nd Semester)

Semester I

(Common to M Phil and PhD students)

Course I – Research Methodology (4 credits = 100 marks)

First Half (2 credits)

Part I: Research Methodology including Research Ethics

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

Part II: Basic Computer Applications

- Internet: How to access web resources, download articles (Google scholar, Infilbnet, JStor, Muse, etc.)
- Communicate using email, Networking for research purpose
- MS Word, Power point

Second Half (2 credits)

Part I: Review of Published Research work

Review to be done of set of articles (three) or a book pre-approved by the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) of min. 3500 words

Part II: Development of a Research Proposal

A research proposal to be submitted by the candidate on any topic of his/her choice following the format given below:

- Introduction of the topic of research
- Statement of the problem
- Brief review of relevant literature
- Objectives of the research project
- Research questions
- Proposed chapterization
- Bibliography

Course II – Philosophical Methodology (4 credits = 100 marks)

First half (2 credits)

Part I

Ancient Greek approaches to philosophy: Socratic Method
Transcendental Method: Kant
Experimental Philosophy
Thought Experiment
Analytical Method

Part II

Dialectic: Hegel and Marx
Phenomenological Method
Hermeneutics and Postmodern Approaches (Structuralism, Post-structuralism, Deconstruction)

Books recommended:

1. Daly, Chris: *An Introduction to Philosophical Methods*
2. Seeskin, Kenneth: *Dialogue and Discovery- A Study in Socratic Method*
3. Moran , Dermot & Timothy Mooney ed.: *The Phenomenology Reader*
4. Collingwood, R.G.: *An Essay on Philosophical Method*
5. Williamson, Timothy: *Philosophy of Philosophy*
6. Lyotard, Jean-François: *The Postmodern Condition*
7. Rorty, Richard ed.: *The Linguistic turn*
8. Gadamer, Hans Georg: *Philosophical Hermeneutics*

Second Half (2 credits)

Part I

Concept of Philosophy in Traditional Indian schools of thought
Concept of Philosophy in Modern Indian Thought (K. C. Bhattacharyya,
S. Radhakrishnan, Kalidas Bhattacharyya, J. N. Mohanty, B. K. Matilal,
Rasvihari Das, Daya Krishna)

Part II

Methods in Philosophy (Tarka, Samśaya, Vāda, Jalpa, Vitaṇḍā, Uddeśa, Lakṣaṇā,
Parīkṣā, Śravaṇa, Manana, Nididhyāsana, Saṁvāda, Paripraśna)

Books recommended:

1. Bhattacharya, Gopinath (ed.): *Studies in K. C. Bhattacharyya*, Vol. I and II,
2. Das, Rasvihary: *Katipay Darshanik Prabandha*
3. Tarkavagish, Phanibhusan: *Nyayadarshan*
4. Matilal, B. K.: *Epistemology, Logic and Grammar in Indian Philosophical Analysis*
5. Matilal, B. K.: *Logic, Language and Reality*
6. Ganeri, Jonardon: *Philosophy in Classical India: The Proper Work of Reason*
7. Mohanty, J.N.: *Reason and Tradition in Indian Thought*

Semester – II

Course III (4 credits = 100 marks)

First Half (2 credits)

Part I: Epistemology I

Selections from:

1. Jayarasi's *Tattvopaplavsingha* Trs. By Eli. Franko
2. Gangesha on *Pramanya* (*Gangesha's Theory of Truth* by J. Mohanty)

Part II: Epistemology II

Selections from:

1. Lehrer, Keith: *Knowledge*
2. Pollock, John; *Knowledge and Justification*
3. Rorty, Richard; *Philosophy and Mirror of Nature*
4. Wittgenstein, Ludwig: *On Certainty*
5. Foucault, Michel: *The Archaeology of Knowledge*

Second Half (2 credits)

Part I: Metaphysics

Selections from:

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

Part II: Ethics and Politics

Selections from:

1. Aristotle: *Nicomachean Ethics*
2. Sen, Amartya: *The Idea of Justice*
3. Nozick, Robert: *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*
4. Badiou, Alain: *Ethics-An Essay on the Understanding of Evil*
5. Hayek, Friedrich: *New Studies in Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and the History of Ideas*
6. Arendt, Hannah: *The Human Condition*
7. Singer, Peter: *Animal Liberation*

Course IV (4 credits = 100 marks)

First half (2 credits)

Part I: Philosophy of Religion

Selections from:

1. Kierkegaard, Soren: *Either/Or*
2. Wittgenstein, Ludwig: *Culture and Value*
3. Phillips, D. Z. : *Recovering Religious Concepts- Closing Epistemic Divides*
4. Swinburne, Richard.: *Faith and Reason*
5. Plantinga, Alvin, and Nicholas Wolterstorff, eds. : *Faith and Rationality: Reason and Belief in God*
6. Alston, William P.: *Perceiving God: The Epistemology of Religious Experience*

Part II: Philosophy of Language

Selections from:

1. Chomsky, Noam: *Language and Mind*
2. Horwich, Paul: *Reflections on Meaning*
3. Grice, Paul: *Studies in the Way of Words*
4. Quine, W. V. O.: *Word and Object*
5. Evans, Gareth. : *The Varieties of Reference*
6. Kripke, Saul: *Naming and Necessity*
7. Eco, Umberto. : *Semiotics and the Philosophy of Language*

Second Half (2 credits)

Part I: Aesthetics I

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*
5. Pollock, Sheldon tr. & ed.: *A Rasa Reader- Classical Indian Aesthetics*

Part II: Aesthetics II

Selections from:

1. Kant, Immanuel: *Critique of Judgement*
2. Croce, Benedetti: *Aesthetics*
3. Tolstoy, Leo: *What is Art?*
4. Sartre, Jean-Paul: *The Psychology of Imagination*
5. Goodman, Nelson: *The Languages of Art*