



DRAVIDIAN UNIVERSITY
Centre for Off-Campus Education & Research
Syllabus for M.Phil/Ph.D Philosophy
Paper II: Broad Field

Section – 1 Metaphysics

- a) What is Philosophy – Indian and Western? Relevance of Philosophy to Life and Society.
- b) Western – Plato’s Theory of Ideas; Descartes Proofs for the existence of God; Berkeley’s To Exist is to be Perceived; Kant’s Rejection of Metaphysics; Existentialism of Sartre – Existence precedes Essence; Wittgenstein’s Metaphysics of Transcendence.
- c) Indian – Teachings of Vedas and Upanishads; Sankhya theory of Satkaryavada; Nyaya Theory of Asatkaryavada; Buddhist Theory of Pratitya Samutpada; Jaina Theory of Anekantavada (Syadvada).

Section – 2 Epistemology

- a) Western: Aristotle’s Theory of Knowledge; Descartes’ theory of Innate Ideas; Locke’s Refutation of Innate Ideas; Hume’s Theory of Skepticism (impossibility of certain knowledge) Kant’s Arguments for Possibility of Synthetic Apriori judgments. Logical Positivism: AJ Ayer’s Principle of Verification; Wittgenstein’s Picture & Use theory of Meaning; Moore’s proofs for the external world (refutation of subjective Idealism)
- b) Sankhya theory of knowledge; Nyaya theory of knowledge; Vaisesika theory of knowledge; Theories of Perception: Satkaryavada, Asatkaryavada, Nayavada (Jainism) and Anatmavada (Buddhism)

Section – 3 Ethics

- a) Western – Aristotle’s Nichomachean (Virtue ethics) theory of Ethics; Kant’s Deontological Theory (Categorical Imperative); Utilitarian Theory of Ethics of J.S. Mill; Moore’s Emotive Theory; A.J. Ayer’s Emotive Theory.
- b) Indian – Rta, Dharma, Varnadharmas, Ashrama Dharmas, Nishkama karma, Buddhist Eight fold Path, Jaina Theory of Ethics; Concept of Ahimsa
- c) Applied Ethics: Environmental Ethics, Medical Ethics, Media Ethics, Human Rights

Section – 4 Logic

- a) Western: Aristotelian Deductive Logic; Propositions: Traditional and Modern; Syllogism; Symbolic Logic; Basic truth tables; Tautologies, Contingent and Contradictory arguments and their proofs.
- b) Indian: Nyaya theory of Inference.

Section – 5 Contemporary Philosophy

- a) Western – Post Modernism: M. Foucault & Derrida (Deconstruction); Hermeneutics of Dilthey; Theory of Communicative Praxis of Habermas; Multi- Culturalism (Sub-altern theories); Derrida, Foucault & Leotard; Structuralism Ferdinand Saussure, Levinas
- b) Indian – Aurobindo, Tagore, Gandhi, Vivekananda, Jiddu Krishnamurty, Ambedkar and Narayana Guru.



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Model WQuestion Paper for M.Phil/Ph.D Philosophy
Paper II: Broad Field

Time: 3 Hours

Max marks: 100

Answer Any **Five** Questions
All Questions Carry Equal Marks

5x20=100

Instructions to the Paper Setters

- TEN questions are to be given choosing at least TWO question from Each Section.
- The Student has to answer FIVE out of 10 questions.
- Each Question carries 20 marks.
