

Department of Philosophy
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Syllabus

Entrance Test - 2011

Paper I & II for Ph.D. Programme in Philosophy

Unit-1. Classical Indian Philosophy

Essential concepts of the Vedas and the Upanisads: (i) Rta, Yajna, Rna. (ii) Atman and Brahman; Doctrine of Karma.

Carvaka: Pratyaksa as the only means of Valid Knowledge; Critique of anumana (inference) and Sabda (verbal-testimony)

Jainism: Dravya. Guna. Paryaya: Jiva and Ajiva; Anekantavada; Syadvada.

Buddhism: Madhyam Pratipad: Pratityasamutpada (Doctrine of Dependent Origination); Four Noble truths; Astangamarga; Kasantbhavavada; Anatmavada.

Nyaya: Prama & Aprama, Pramana: Pratyaksa and its Classification; Anumana: Definition, terms and ayayavas; Different classifications; Sabda: Akansa, Yogyata, Sannidhi and Tatparya, Concept of God; Arguments for the existence of God.

Vaisesika: Classification of Padartha: Dravya, Guna, Karma, Samanya, Samavaya, Visesa, Abhava.

Samkhya: Prakrti and its Vikara (evolutes); Arguments for the existence of Prakrti, Nature of Purusa; Arguments for the existence and plurality of Purusa, Distinction between Purusa and Prakrti.

Yoga: Patanjali's Concept of Citta and Citta-Vrtti. Eightfold path of Yoga. The Role of God in Yoga.

Advaita Vedanta: Vivartavada; Maya: Three grades of Satta; Jiva; Brahman and Moksha.

Unit-2. Modern Indian Thinkers.

Vivekananda: Universal religion; Nature of God; Nature of man; Ways of realisation: Jnana-yoga, Bhakti-Yoga, Karma Yoga and Raja yoga.

**Aurobindo: Nature of Creation: The World Process – Involution and Evolution;
Mind and Supermind: the triple status of Supermind and the triple
transformation; Integral Yoga.**

Gandhi: God & Truth: Non-violence; Satyagraha: Ideal State and Sarvodaya.

**Tagore: God; Nature of man; Nature of religion; Ways of Realisation;
Humanism.**

Radhakrishnan: Absolute & God; Nature of man; Religious Experience.

Unit-3. Traditional Western Philosophy

**Early Greek Philosophers (Pre-Socratic Philosophers): Problem of Substance:
Ionians; Problem of Change & Permanence: Heraclitus and
Parmenides (Eleatic School), Atomism of Democritus.**

Plato: Theory of Ideas or Forms; Knowledge and Belief.

**Aristotle: Theory of Substance. Matter & Form (Potentiality and Actuality),
Theory of Causation.**

Rationalism:

- i) **Descartes, Method of Doubt and *Cogito ergo sum*; Criterion of Truth;
Innate ideas; Descartes Concept of Substance & his dualism;
Interactionism (Doctrine of the relation between mind & body).**
- ii) **Spinoza: Substance (God); Attributes & Modes; the mind-body
relation (Parallelism)**
- iii) **Leibniz: Doctrine of Monads; Truth of reason and Truth of facts.
Principles of non-contradiction & sufficient reason; Doctrine of Pre-
established Harmony.**

Empiricism:

- i) **Locke: Refutation of Innate Ideas; Origin & Classification of Ideas;
Distinction between Primary & Secondary Ideas; Concept of
Substance.**
- ii) **Berkeley: Refutation of Locke's Materialism; esse est percipi
(subjective idealism); The Problem of Solipsism.**
- iii) **Hume: Impressions & Ideas; Rejection of Metaphysics: Rejection of
self, matter and God.**
- iv) **Kant: Classification of judgements: Analytic & Synthetic: Possibility
of Synthetic a priori judgements; Theory of sense-perception (time &**

space as a priori forms of sensibility); Theory of Understanding (twelve categories of Understanding).

v) **Hegel: Absolute Idealism: Dialectical Method.**

Unit-4. Contemporary Western Philosophy

Moore: Refutation of Idealism. Defence of Common Sense.

Russell: Logical atomism; Knowledge by Acquaintance & Knowledge by Description.

Wittgenstein: Meaning as reference (picture theory of meaning): Facts and objects, names & Proposition; meaning as use (use theory of meaning): family-resemblance, language-games.

A.J.Ayer: Verifiability as Criterion of Meaning; Rejection of Metaphysics.

G.Ryle: Systematically Misleading Expressions; Refutation of Cartesian Dogma (Descartes' Myth): Category Mistake.

Unit -5. Logic, Ethics and Philosophy of Religion

- i) **Truth-functional compound statements & concerned rules in term of truth-tables of various truth functional connectives/ operators, calculating truth-value of truth-functional compound statements.**
- ii) **Determining Statement forms: Tautology, Contradictory, Contingent.**
- iii) **Determining Validity/ Invalidity of arguments by the truth-table method.**
- iv) **Socratic Ethics: Knowledge is Virtue; Unity of virtues; Plato's Ethics: Virtues of the individual and State; Plato's view of good life.**
- v) **Utilitarianism of J. Bentham and J.S.Mill. Kant's Concept of Good-will, Categorical Imperatives. A.J.Ayer's Ethical Emotivism. R.M. Hare's Prescriptivism.**
- vi) **Nature of Religion & Philosophy of Religion; Faith and Revelation; Problems of Religious Language; Religious Experience; Problem of Evil.**

Recommended/ Prescribed Books:

1. **S.S.Barlingay: A Modern Introduction to Indian Ethics.**
2. **Nikunja Vihari Banerjee: The Spirit of Indian Philosophy.**
3. **Chandradhar Sharma: A Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy. (Hindi version available).**
4. **Dr. Radhakrishnan: Indian Philosophy. I & II Vols. (Hindi version available).**
5. **Datta & Chatterjee: Indian Philosophy. (Hindi version available).**
6^प हरेन्द्र प्रसाद सिन्हा : भारतीय-दर्शन
7. **Basant Kumar Lal: Contemporary Indian Philosophy (Hindi version available).**
8. **Frank Thilly: A History of Philosophy.**
9. **Y. Masih: A Critical History of Western Philosophy (Hindi version available).**
10. **B. Russell: History of Philosophy.**
11^प जगदीश सहाय श्रीवास्तव : आधुनिक दर्शन का वैज्ञानिक इतिहास
12. **Basant Kumar Lal: Contemporary Western Philosophy. (Hindi version available).**
13^प डॉ. लक्ष्मी सकसेना : समकालीन पाश्चात्य दर्शन
14. **A.J. Ayer. : Language, Truth and Logic.**
15. **Gilbert Ryle: Concept of Mind.**
16. **G. Pitcher: Philosophy of Wittgenstein.**
17. **I.M. Copi: Introduction to Logic.**
18^प अशोक कुमार वर्मा : सरल निगमनात्मक तर्कशास्त्र
19. **अशोक कुमार वर्मा : प्रतीकात्मक तर्कशास्त्र**
20. **J.N. Sinha: Manual of Ethics. (Hindi version available).**
21. **Mary Warnock: Ethics since 1900**
22. **G.J. Warnock: Contemporary Ethics.**
23. **J.S. Mackenzie: Manual of Ethics.**
24. **William Frankena: Ethics.**
25. **वेद प्रकाश वर्मा : नीतिशास्त्र के मूल सिद्धांत**
26. **वेद प्रकाश वर्मा : अधिनीतिशास्त्र के मूल सिद्धांत**
27. **John Hick: Philosophy of Religion (Hindi version available).**
28. **हरेन्द्र प्रसाद सिन्हा : धर्मदर्शन की रूपरेखा**

Model Question Paper
Ph.D. Entrance Test – 2011
Philosophy
Paper-I: Objective Type Question

Time: 1 Hour

Max. Marks: 100

Note:

- i) This question booklet comprises of 50 questions.**
- ii) Each question has four options (1), (2), (3) and (4) out of which one is correct. The candidate is required to darken completely the correct option in the OMR answer sheet, supplied separately.**
- iii) Each correct answer carries 2 mark.**
- iv) No negative marking.**
- v) Rough work may be done in this question booklet itself.**
- vi) The question booklet alongwith the OMR answer sheet is to be handed over by the candidate to the invigilator at the end of the examination.**

- 1. Anekantavada means _____**
(a) manyness of god (b) manyness of reality
(c) manyness of individuality (d) manyness of judgement.
- 2. Creation, according to Sri Aurobindo, is nothing but an:**
a) Expression of sorrow
b) Expression of Nothingness
c) Expression of Joy
d) None of the above.
- 3. The earth, according to Thales, is a**
a) bowl floating on the water
b) disc floating on the water
c) plate of any metal
d) None of the above
- 4. The article, "Refutation of Idealism", appeared in MIND, London in 1903, was written by.....**
a) Bertrand Russel
b) Whitehead
c) J.S. Mill
d) G.E. Moore
- 5. What, according to Kant, is good-in-itself?**
a) Holy-will b) Good-will c) Duty d) Happiness

Model Question Paper
Ph.D. Entrance Test -2011
Philosophy
Descriptive Type Question

Time: 2 Hour

Max. Marks: 100

Note: Attempt five questions in all (Five Unit) , selecting one question from each unit. All questions carry equal marks.

Unit-I

- 1. Give a critical exposition of Nyaya's argument for the existence of God.**
- 2. Give a comparative estimate of Sankhaya and Vedanta theories of the Soul.**

Unit-II

- 3. Elaborate Vivekananda's Concept of Universal Religion.**
- 4. Discuss Critically the concept of Satyagraha in Gandhian Philosophy.**