

Contact Hours: 42  
Total Marks: 100

Course Type: GED  
Credit Value: 03

### Rationale of the Course

This course familiarises students with the discipline of philosophy and its major concerns and themes. It draws from both Eastern and Western philosophy to create a comprehensive understanding of the development of different thoughts and encourages students to engage in meaningful discourse regarding the fundamental questions of human existence. The understanding of philosophical tenets also promotes critical thinking, logical reasoning, and philosophical inquiries.

### Course Objectives

English literature has been profoundly influenced by different philosophical ideas over the ages. This course introduces students to dominant philosophical thoughts formulated in different regions of the world. It offers an eclectic array of philosophical ideas, theories, and writings, ranging from ancient philosophical practices like the Vedas, Buddhism, and Confucianism to pre-Socratic philosophers, the sophists, Socrates, Plato, Locke, Descartes, Marx, and so on. After the completion of this course, the students will be acquainted with philosophical thoughts and, hence they will be able to discern the mutual interdependence of literature and philosophy.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs): Upon the successful completion of the course, the students will be able to-

- CLO 1: Identify the chronological development of philosophical thoughts and discover the overlap among various schools of thought
- CLO 2: Comprehend different philosophical ideas, thoughts, perspectives, arguments, and methods
- CLO 3: Analyse different kinds of philosophical texts
- CLO 4: Understand the importance of philosophical thinking in social and cultural spaces
- CLO 5: Apply philosophical insights and inquiry into their personal life and engage in informed discussions and debates about philosophical issues

### Mapping of Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) with Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

<i>CLOs</i>	<i>PLO 1</i>	<i>PLO 2</i>	<i>PLO 3</i>	<i>PLO 4</i>	<i>PLO 5</i>	<i>PLO 6</i>	<i>PLO 7</i>	<i>PLO 8</i>	<i>PLO 9</i>
<i>CLO 1</i>	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	2	3
<i>CLO 2</i>	1	3	3	1	3	2	2	3	3
<i>CLO 3</i>	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
<i>CLO 4</i>	1	2	3	1	2	3	2	3	3
<i>CLO 5</i>	1	2	3	1	2	3	2	3	3

1: Low

2: Significant

3: High

Course plan specifying content, CLOs, co- curricular activities (if any), teaching learning and assessment strategy mapped with CLOs:

Week	Topic	Teaching-Learning Strategy	Assessment Strategy	Corresponding CLOs
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Eastern Philosophy:</b> 1. The Vedas i) Basic overview of the four Vedas ii) Major concepts such as Karma, Dharma, Atman, etc. iii) The role of the Vedas in Hinduism and their influence on Indian culture and philosophy	Lecture/ Group-Discussion/Group-work/ Presentation/ Multimedia Administration/Use of Realia	FA & SA	1, 3, 4, 5
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1. Contribution of Buddhism i) Key concepts such as samsara, Nirvana, etc. ii) The Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path 2. Ideas related to Confucianism i) The life and teachings of Confucius and his followers Comparative study between the Eastern religious-philosophical ideas	Do	Do	1, 3, 4, 5
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Key Concepts:</b> 1) What is philosophy? 2) A brief overview of the key concepts such as epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, philosophy of religion, existentialism, Reasoning, Logic, etc.	Do	Do	2
4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Early Western Philosophy:</b> 1. Pre-Socratic philosophers i) Overview and historical context ii) Key Figures iii) Influence on later philosophers 2. The sophists i) Overview and historical context ii) Key figures iii) Skepticism 3. Socrates i) Dialectical method ii) Influence on Plato	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Plato</b> 1. Theory of Forms 2. Ideal State 3. Allegory of the Cave	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Rene Descartes:</b> 1. Cartesian Doubt 2. Dualism 3. The Ontological Argument	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4

	4. Rationalism			
8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>John Locke:</b> 1. Theory of knowledge 2. Political theory 3. Empiricism	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
9 <sup>th</sup>	1. Thesis-antithesis-synthesis 2. Dialectical Materialism 3. Historical Materialism 4. Alienation	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
10 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Friedrich Nietzsche:</b> 1) Epistemology 2) The idea of Superman 3) Slave vs Master Morality 4) Nihilism	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sigmund Freud:</b> 1. The Theory of Unconscious 2. ID, ego, superego 3. Psychoanalysis	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Jean-Paul Sartre:</b> 1. Basic Ideas of Existentialism 2. Authenticity 3. being-in-itself versus being-for-itself	Do	Do	1, 2, 3, 4
14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>General Discussion</b> 1. Comparative study of Eastern and Western philosophical ideas 2. Comparative analysis between major Western philosophical schools of thought	Do	Do	1, 5

#### Assessment and Evaluation

- i. Formative Assessment: 40 Marks
- ii. Summative Assessment: 60 Marks

Bloom's Category	Marks (60)
Remember	10
Understand	20
Apply	10
Analyse	10
Evaluate	10
Create	

#### Learning Materials

##### Recommended Readings

1. Billington, R. (2002). *Understanding Eastern Philosophy*. Routledge.
2. Gaarder, J. (1994). *Sophie's World: A Novel about the History of Philosophy*; trans. Paulette Moller. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

3. Gilje, N., & Skirbekk, G. (2013). *A History of Western Thought: From Ancient Greece to the Twentieth Century*. Routledge.
4. Lavine, T. Z. (1989). *The Philosophical Quest: From Socrates to Sartre*.
5. Russell, B. (2004). *History of Western Philosophy*. Routledge.
6. Vesey, G. N. A., & Foulkes, P. (1990). *Dictionary of Philosophy*. Unwin Hyman.