

SEMESTER IV

F.M. 300 (Credit=24)

PHIPCOR15T

Democratic Socialism in India

The course includes one of the most fascinating areas of philosophical enquiry, scholarly debates and discussions on Socialism in contemporary India. This study is significant in the sense that it highlights the shift or excessive reliance on Eurocentric views, methods and concepts to study and interpret Indian society and its politics.

Course Outcome

The major objective of this course is to familiarize the students with the socialist views of key modern Indian thinkers and their ideas which actually shaped the society and politics of modern India. Thus they will gain a hold on the different debates and discussions generated by these contemporary Indian socio-political leaders.

Course content:

Origin of Democratic socialism, definition and meaning of Democratic socialism, difference between Democratic socialism and Social democracy.

Democratic socialism and socialists in India – central points of Indian Democratic Socialism, its difference with Communism.

Nehru, Jayaprakash Narayan and D.D. Upadhyay on Democratic Socialism

Suggested Readings

A Dictionary of Marxist Thought, Tom Bottomore

Political Ideals and Movements in India, Sankar Ghosh, Allied Publishers, Bombay

Bharatbarsha: Rastrabhabana, Satyabrata Chakraborty [ed.], Ekushe, Kolkata

দার্শনিক পরিক্রমায় সমাজ, রাষ্ট্র, ভারতের সামাজিক ধর্মনীতি, অদিতি দাশগুপ্ত, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ রাজ্যপুস্তক পর্ষৎ, কলকাতা

Towards Total Evolution, Jayaprakash Narayan

India After Gandhi, Ramchandra Guha

Gandhi Uttar Bharatbarsha [Translation of the Above Book]

Integral Humanism: An Analysis of Some Basic Elements, D.D. Upadhyay

PHIPCOR16T

Phenomenology and Existentialism

Husserl's philosophy, though best known for its method is primarily focused on the application of his method to issues that are almost exclusively epistemological. His doctrine of essence was geared to answering his chief epistemological queries viz.

(a) How can one know objects as opposed to contents of consciousness and

(b) How one can know a priori and necessary truths.

20th century's existentialism is heavily influenced by the philosophy of Husserl. While both Heidegger and Husserl consider themselves as phenomenologists, there is a significant difference. Husserl's phenomenology is primarily concerned with the foundation of logical mathematics and theory of knowledge, having little to say about freedom, morality, individual choice and responsibility. These themes came to dominate existentialism particularly with reference to Heidegger and Sartre.

Course Outcome

Students are expected to be familiarized with the main lines of thought in the phenomenological tradition. In this process they will also gain a good knowledge of the different phenomenological and existentialist approaches to perception, meaning, language, intersubjectivity and culture in general but an expertise on Husserlian, Sartre's and Heidegger's thoughts in particular.

Phenomenology

Introduction

Phenomenology as Presuppositionless philosophy

Phenomenology as Rigorous Science

Husserl's Philosophy: Intentionality, Essence, Method of Reduction

Philosophy and Life-World

Existentialism

Existentialism: An Introduction

Heidegger's Thought: The Problem of Being and
World as equipment

Sartre's thought: Being for itself and being in-itself

Freedom and Humanism

Suggested Readings:

Cartesian Meditations—Edmund Husserl (tr) Dorion Cairns, Martinus Nijhoff).

From Rationalism to Existentialism—R.C. Solomon (selected chapters).

Being and Nothingness—J.P. Sartre.

Being and Time—M. Heidegger.

Further Readings:

Phenomenology—E. Husserl, (Tr) C.V. Solomon, in *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1927, Vol XVII, pp.699 – 702

The Idea of Phenomenology – E. Husserl, (tr) Alston and Nakhlikian

Edmund Husserl's Theory of Meaning, J.N. Mohanty

Phenomenology and Linguistic Analysis – A.J. Ayer and Charles Taylor, in *PAS, Supp.* Vol 33, 1959

Critical Study of Phenomenology and Existentialism, M.K. Bhadra

PHIPCOR17T

Perspectives on Research and Research-Methodologies in Philosophy: A Pointer

This course serves as a prerequisite for the PG students who would formally be introduced to writing dissertation. As the title suggests they are clarified about the very concept of research and the tools they would use for penning down a dissertation.

Course Outcome

Research is a process which must be mastered with time following correct research methodology. But prior to this selection of methodology, is selection of a research-problem. Introducing dissertation-writing at P.G. level would hence remain incomplete without formally introducing them to the primary techniques of research. The course also takes care to bring to focus the differences in research in any social-science discipline (which is a first-order enquiry) and meta-level enquiry in philosophy. Along with techniques of carrying out research, the present course also enlightens the budding researchers with the plethora of methodologies undertaken in doing philosophical research.

1. Basics of Research

Philosophical Enquiry and Social-science Enquiry
Critical Thinking
Locating the Problematic
Meaning of a “perspective”
Methodology Selection in Research
Literature Review
Ethics of Plagiarism and Intellectual Property Rights
Techniques of Referencing

2. Philosophical Methods

Analytical Method
Logical Method
Indian-philosophical Method
Hermeneutical Method: Indian and Western Approach
Feminist Methodology
Postmodern methodology
Historicism
Phenomenological and Heterophenomenological Method

References

Richard Veit, Chistopher Gould, and John Clifford: *Writing, Reading and Research* (2nded), Macmillian, New York, 1985
T. P. Ramachandran: *The Methodology of Research in Philosophy*, University of Madrass Press
George Shelton Hubbel :*Writing Term Papers and Reports*, Barnes and Noble Books, New York, 1962
Norman Blaike :*Approaches to Social Enquiry*, Polity Press, Cambridge, 1993
Chris Daly: *An Introduction to Philosophical Methods*, Broadview Press
C. Norris: *Deconstruction: Theory and Practice*, Methuen

A. Spirkin : 'Philosophy as a World View and a Methodology', *Dialectical Materialism* (Chapter I), Progress Pub. , Moscow

K.C. Bhattacharya : 'Concept of Philosophy'; *Studies in Philosophy*, MotilalBanarsidas, Delhi.

Research Methodology, C.K. Kothari

Mukherjee Atreyee, Feminist Research: Beyond 'add woman and stir' Methodology, *Philosophy and the Life-world*, Volume 24, 2021-2022, Vidyasagar University, pp- 23-35.

MaharsiGautam, Nyayasutra with VatsayanaBhasya, ed. by Pt. PhanibhusanTarkabagish (Selected portions)

B. K. Motilal, Epistemology, Logic and Grammar in Indian Philosophical Analysis, edited by JonardonGaneri, Oxford

Nigrahasthan, RatnaDuttasharma

The Philosophy of the Social Sciences, Alan Ryan, Macmillan

The Philosophy of Social Science: An Introduction, Martin Hollis, Cambridge University Press.

Manifesto of the Communist Party, Marx and Engels

Origin of the Family, Private Property and State, Fredric Engels.

Fundamentals of Historical Materialism: The Marxist View of History and Politics, DongLorimer, Aakar Books.

Dialectical Materialism, Morris Conforth

Poverty of Historicism, Karl Popper

Logic of Scientific Discovery, Karl Popper

Objective Knowledge Karl Popper.

Contingency, Irony and Solidarity, Richard Rorty.

Post Modern Representations Truth, Power and Mimesis in the human sciences, Richard Harvey Brown (ed), University of Illinois Press.

Post Modernism, Mats Alvesson, Critical Quest

Uttar Adhunikata O Marxbad RatanKhasnabis, Rupali.

PHIPDSE02T

Students will opt any one of the optional courses offered. Optional courses are designed by the individual teacher so that their research interest can be directly reflected.

Indian Philosophical Text: Reading and Critical Appreciation

In this course students are expected to study critically a certain **Philosophical Text**. A student is expected to critically read the text with a view to able to present the arguments in his/her own words and to formulate his/her appraisal of arguments of the text with proper justifications. Again it is also expected that the student will critically evaluate opponent's appraisals of the argument of the text. He/she will also be able to point out the interrelation between or among the arguments presented in the text.

Course Outcome

The intended outcome of this course is to gain an appreciation for the richness and diversity of Indian Philosophical traditions and also to engage the students philosophically with some of the prominent concerns and strategies of Indian Philosophy.

Nyaya- Sutra of Maharsi Gautama with Vatsyanabhasya: Pramana-Pariksa – Prakarana(Selected Portions)

OR

Yoga-Sutra – Samadhipad

This course is primarily text-based. It discusses in details the seminal text of Yoga philosophy namely Yoga-Sutra with Vyasa-Bhasya by MaharsiPatanjali.

Course Outcome

Students who will opt this course learn in details about the essential tenets of Yoga philosophy through this text.

Text:

Yogasutra with Vyasabhasyaby MaharsiPatanjali.

Suggested Readings:

PatanjaliYogdarshan with Sutra, Vyasbhasya, Bhasyanubad, Bhasyatika, Tr. by SreemadHariharananda, Sankhayogacharya.

Sadadarsan : Yoga, Sri Dineshchandra Bhattacharya Shastri

OR

Logic of Identity and Modal Logic: Western Perspective

After completion of first in-depth course on Meta-logic in Western Logic in the third semester, the student gradually proceeds to deal with the deeper issues like Modal Logic, the concept of Identity and Definite Description and Modal Inferences.

Course Outcome

The student on completing this course will be able to demonstrate knowledge of formal systems of modal logic (proof theory and semantics), understand the relationships between these formal

systems and questions, e.g., about the nature of modality, identity, or conditionals and use and define concepts with precision, both within formal and discursive context.

Identity and Definite descriptions

Modal Logic (System T,S4,S5), upto proof of Invalidity (pg 116).(G. Hughes &M.Creswell, *An Introduction to Modal Logic*).

Suggested Readings:

Symbolic Logic, Copi, I.M., Chapter-5, Section on Identity and Definite descriptions (for 1)

G. Hughes &M.Creswell, *An Introduction to Modal Logic*, (Chapters 2 and 3) Methune, 1968.(for 2)

Introduction to Metamathematics –S.C.Kleene,

‘Metatheory of Logics and Characterisation-Problem’ in *A Companion to Philosophical Logic*- DaleJacquette, Blackwell Publishing, 2002

Metalogic – G.Hunter, Macmillan, London, 1971, Parts One, Two and Three (Selections).

Further Readings:

A Companion to Philosophical Logic- DaleJacquette, Blackwell Publishing, 2002

(Selected papers)

Strawson, P.F. (ed), *Philosophical Logic*, OUP, 1967 (Selected papers)

Indian Logic-A Reader, (ed) JonardonGaneri, Curzon

OR

Socio-political Thought:Contemporary Indian Thinkers

The course is based on views of some personalities of contemporary India and their roles in attempting to eradicate social evils like untouchability arising due to discrimination over caste, religion etc.,

Course outcome

This course will sensitize the students with social evils like Untouchability arising due to discrimination over caste, religion etc.

Criticism of Caste System: JyotibaPhule,

SabitribaiPhule’s contribution for the social uplift of women and for the eradication of social dogmatism

B.R. Ambedkar : On Religion and Dharmma, Democracy, Untouchability, Caste and Class, Democracy,A debate between M.K.Gandhi and B.R.Ambedkar on the concept of Untouchability and of *Varna System*

Suggested Readings: Phule, J. (1873) *Gulamgiri*. Roy, P.K. (2020). *GulamGiri*. Trans. Bodhisatta Publisher Kolkata.

Ambedkar, B. R. (!936). *Annihilation Of Caste*. Sikder, R. K. (2017). *JatbybastharBilupti*, Published by ChaitanyaMondal, Palta, North-24 Pargona,

M.G. Archana “JyotibaPhule: Global Philosopher and Maker of Modern India”, Journal of East-West Thought

Valerian Rodrigus (ed.) *The Essential Writings of B.R. Ambedkar*

C.D. Naik: *Social and Political Thought of B.R.Ambedkar* by C.D. Naik

ChristoferTaffreLOT: *Dr.Ambedkar and Untouchability*

B.R. Ambedkar: *Annihilation of caste*

B.R. Ambedkar: *Buddha and his Dhamma*

OR

Feminist Philosophy

Students will be introduced to the different terms found in the feminist literature with aid of which they will understand the significance of the whole range of feminist agendas.

Course Outcome

The course aims to introduce the rapid development of feminist movement over the past few decades. Understanding this development will remain incomplete without students being familiarized with the different jargons used in feminist literature, so notions of sex, gender, sexism, patriarchy et al are taught in the course. Apart from this wide range of feminist critiques of the different branches of philosophy is also included in the course.

Women’s Liberation: Origin and Development
Sex/Gender Divide
Three Levels of Gender Discrimination
Feminist Critique of Mainstream Logic
Heterogeneity of the Feminist Movement
Introduction to Feminist Epistemology

Suggested Readings:

Feminism and Science-(ed) Keller and Longino
Taking Subjectivity into Account by Lorraine Code
Naitikata O Naribad:Darshanikprekhsiter Nana Matra- ShefaliMoitra
Feminist Thought: Androcentrism, Communication and Objectivity- ShefaliMoitra

OR

Individual, Society and System: Marx and Tagore

The main focus of this course is on the meaning and value of individual autonomy and its co-existence and conflicts with society and system.

Course Outcome

A nation or a welfare state, for example, promises an individual multidimensional security and provisions for self-development. On the other hand, the authoritarian face of that nation or state often challenges her freedom of thought, freedom of speech and even the right to express her potentialities. Similarly, an individual may develop a sense of solidarity with her fellow people through the spirit of nationalism, but the extreme version of nationalism, as history shows, comes out as fascism which not only challenges individual autonomy but also human solidarity as a whole! This age old dialectics between individual freedom and authoritarian vigilance, either in conceptual form or in actual praxis, has been lucidly analyzed by two stalwart philosophers --- Marx and Rabindranath. In spite of their manifold differences, they had a common concern and that is the freedom of human soul. Both of them had the firm belief that a complete man must be a free man. The course intends to provoke an analytical attitude towards the issue.

- I. Rabindranath on Nationalism: Patriotism, the spirit of nationalism, nationalism in Europe, nationalism in India, alienation of the ruled, human freedom, human solidarity.
- II. Marx on Human Freedom:
Individual, human consciousness, problem of alienation, concept of freedom and complete man, State, Class, Cast and question of human solidarity.
- III. A comparative analysis.

Suggested Readings:

- 1. Rabindranath Tagore, 'Nationalism'
- 2. Rabindranath Tagore, 'The Nation'[1917]
- 3. Rabindranath Tagore, 'Man' (1937): published in Sisir Kumar Das (ed.), The English Writings of Rabindranath Tagore: Volume 3, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi 1996

4. AshishNandy, *The Illegitimacy Of Nationalism: Rabindranath Tagore And The Politics Of Self*, Oxford India Paperbacks,1994
5. ParthaChatterjee,*Praja o Tantra* [Subjects and System] (in Bengali),Anustup, Calcutta, 2005
6. Karl Marx, *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts*, in *Karl Marx: Early Writings*, translated and edited by T.B. Bottomore, C.A. Watts, London, 1963
7. Marx, *Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right* in *ibid*.
8. Marx, *Capital*, Vol.1 [Selected part]
9. David Riazanov [ed.],*The Communist Karl Marx and Frederick Engels*, Radical,Kolkata
10. F. Engels, *The Origin of the Family, Private property and the State*
11. V. I. Lenin, 'The State'
12. Lenin, *State and Revolution*.
13. Ernst Fisher, *How to Read Karl Marx*, translated by Anna Bostok with an introduction and historical note of John Bellamy Foster, commentary by Paul M. Sweezy.
14. Marx and Engels:*Individual and Society*, Progress Publishers,Moscow
15. IrfanHabib, 'Role of Marxist Intellectuals in India Today', *Social Scientist*, vol.1, number, 5, December, 1972
16. SudiptaKaviraj, 'Marx's Truth: A Historical Reading of his Thought', Ashoke Kumar Sarkar and AbdusSamadGayen (ed) *Karl Marks Bicentennial (1818-2018) Lectures, Seriban, 2020*
17. SobhanlalDuttaGupta, 'Exploring Marx in Post-Soviet Era: New Frontiers, New Perspectives', *ibid*, p. 9
18. AditiDasgupta, 'A Contextual Negotiation Between Ambedkar and The Indian Marxists', *Philosophical Papers*, Vol. XIV, March, 2018

Further Readings:

1. Rabindranath Tagore, 'The Future of India' (1911)
2. Rabindranath Tagore, 'My Interpretation of India's History' (1913)
3. Rabindranath Tagore, 'The Small and the Great' (1917);
4. Rabindranath Tagore, 'Thou Shalt Obey' (1917).
5. Rabindranath Tagore, 'The Home and the World'
6. Rabindranath Tagore, 'Gora'.
7. NepalMajumdar, *Bharate Jatiyatabad, Antarjatikata ORabindranath*. Deys, Kolkata.
8. David McLellan, 'Marx and the Whole Man' in Bhiku Parekh [ed.] *The Concept of Socialism*, Ambika, New Delhi.
9. Adam Scaff, *Marxism and the Human Individual*, McGraw-Hill, New York.
10. IrfanHabib, 'Marxism and History'
11. SobhanlalDuttagupta, *Political Thoughts of Marx*, West Bengal State Book Board, Kolkata.
12. Jyoti Bhattacharya, *Sramiker Darshan* [Philosophy of The Working People], National Book Agency, Kolkata.
13. Amiya Kumar Bagchi and AmitaChatterjee (ed.) *Marxism: With and Beyond Marx*. Routledge, 2014
14. Himani Banerjee, 'Beyond the Binaries: Notes on Karl Marx's and Rabindranath Tagore's Ideas on Human Capacities and Alienation', *ibid*, p. 25

15. SobhanlalDutta Gupta, *Samaj, Marxtatta O Samakal:NirbachitaPrabandha*, Seriban, 2013.
16.EricHobsbawm, The History of Marxism :Marxism in Marx's Day

PHIPCOR18M
(PROJECT/DISSERTATION)

Students have to write one dissertation on any topic related with the core courses offered by the department. A supervisor will be assigned to each student under whose guidance she/he will write her/his dissertation.

For the dissertation paper, 70 marks will be allotted to written and rest 30 for viva-voce. Written projects will be evaluated by the Internal Supervisors and the external subject experts will evaluate in the form of viva-voce out of 30 marks. Each dissertation paper should be written within 6000 words.

