

Department of Philosophy
Presidency University
Gen. Ed. Syllabus

Semester 1

Philosophical Psychology

1. Nature of commonsense psychology
2. Arguments for the autonomy of psychology
3. Definition and nature of philosophy of psychology
4. Behaviourism (B. F. Skinner), Reductionism and physicalism, Functionalism
5. Models of psychological explanation: An overview

Suggested Readings:

- Ned Block (1980) ed. Readings in Philosophy of Psychology, Vol –1, London: Methuen and Co.
- Jose Luis Bermudez (2005). Philosophy of Psychology: A contemporary Introduction. New York: Routledge
- Ian Ravenscroft (2005). Philosophy of Mind: A Beginner's Guide. New York: Oxford University Press.

Semester 2

Ethics and Our Environment

1. Environmental Problems
 - Global Warming
 - Species Extinction
2. Inadequacy of Western Tradition in creating a proper/ideal Environmental Ethics
 - Bible –Kant
3. Alternative Environmental Ethics
 - Deep Ecological Ethics of Mass
 - Leopold's Land Ethics
4. Towards a new approach for Environmental Ethics

Suggested Readings:

- Devall, Bill, Sessions, George, Deep Ecology, Gibbs Smith, 1985.
- Diehm, Christian, "Arne Naess, Val Plumwood, and Deep Ecological Subjectivity: A Contribution to the Deep Ecology-Ecofeminism Debate "Ethics and the Environment, Volume 7, No.1, Spring 2002, pp. 24- 38.
- Plumwood, Valerie, Environmental Culture: The Ecological Crisis of Reason, Routledge,

London,2002.

- Singer, Peter, Practical Ethics, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2011.

Semester 3

Philosophy of Language and epistemology [Western]

An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis—John Hospers

Meaning and Definition

1. Word-meaning, Definitions.
2. Sentence-meaning.
3. Testability and Meaning

OR

Knowledge

1. Concepts, Truth, the sources of knowledge.
2. Some principal uses of the verb "To know ", Conditions of propositional knowledge; strong and weak senses of "know "
3. Our knowledge of the Physical World: Realism, Idealism, Phenomenalism.

Suggested Readings:

English:

- The Problem of Knowledge: A.J. Ayer
- Language, Truth and Logic: A.J. Ayer
- Readings in Philosophical Analysis: J. Hospers
- Theory of Knowledge: A.J. Woozley
- Elements of Analytic Philosophy: A. Pap
- Semantics and Necessary Truth: A. Pap
- Readings in Philosophical Analysis: A. Pap
- Readings in Philosophical Analysis : A.Pap (ed.)

Semester 4

Indian Epistemology and Metaphysics

1. Brief introduction-schools of Indian Philosophy
2. Nyaya –A brief introduction of sixteen kinds of padarthas, pratyaksa pramana, anumana pramana.
3. Vaisesika—Seven Padarthas : dravya, guna, karma, samanya, vi esa, samavaya, Abhava; Paramanukaranavada.

Suggested Readings:

English

- Outlines of Indian Philosophy: M. Hiriyanna
- A Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy: C.D. Sharma

- An Introduction to Indian Philosophy: D. M. Dutta & S.C. Chatterjee
- Classical Indian Philosophy: J.N. Mohanty
- History of Indian Philosophy: S.N. Dasgupta
- Indian Philosophy (Vo. I & II): S. Radhakrishnan
- Indian Philosophy (Vo. I & II): J.N. Sinha
- Studies on the Carvaka/Lokayata: Ramakrishna Bhattacharya
- The Central Philosophy of Buddhism: T.R.V. Murti
- Yogacara Idealism: A.K.Chatterjee
- An Introduction to Madhyamika Philosophy: Jaydev Singh
- Reflections on Indian Philosophy: K.P. Sinha
- Philosophy of Jainism: K.P. Sinha
- Six ways of Knowing: D.M. Dutta
- Nyaya-Vaisesika Metaphysics: Sadananda Bhaduri
- Fundamental Questions of Indian Metaphysics & Logic: S.K. Maitra