

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN**

**Syllabus for the Degree of**

**Master of Arts in Philosophy**

**(Effective from the academic session 2011—2013)**

**PART - I : Full Marks : 400**

**CORE PAPERS**

**FIRST PAPER**

**Philosophical Classics**

**F.M. 100**

**Half-1 : Indian**

*Prasastapada: Padarthad-harmasamgraha* (Up to the end of  
*Prthivisadharmya prakarana*)

**Half-II : Western**

**Kant : *Critique of Pure Reason*** (N.K.Smith's abridged edition) (Up  
to the end of the Transcendental, Analytic)

**SECOND PAPER :**

**Ethics**

**F.M. 100**

**Half-I : Indian**

- i) **LougaksiBhaskara** : *Arthasamgraha* (Dharma,  
Bhavan, Vidhi and its varieties, Nisedha and Arthavada)
- ii) *Bhagavadgita* : (Chapters II & III)

**Half-II : Western**

- (i) **Normative Ethics** : Utilitarianism and Deontology
- (ii) **Mataethics** : Cognitivism: Naturalism and Intuitionism,  
Non-cognitivism : Emotivism and Prescriptivism.
- (iii) **Applied Ethics** : Life and Death issues, Issues in Environmental Ethics.

### **Suggested Readings:**

- (i) **J.S. Mill** : *Utilitarianism*, in *Collected Works*, Vol.10, University of Toronto Press.
- (ii) **Amartya Sen** : *On Ethics and Economics*, Blackwell.
- (iii) **I. Kant** : *Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals*, Macmillan.
- (iv) **W.D.Hudson** : *Modern Moral Philosophy*, Macmillan.
- (v) **Peter Singer** : *Practical Ethics*, Cambridge University Press.
- (vi) **H.La Follette (ed)**: *Ethics in Practice : An Anthology*, Blackwell.
- (vii) **James P. Sterba (ed)**: *Contemporary Ethics*, Prentice-Hall.
- (viii) **Robert Elliot** : *Environmental Ethics*, Oxford University Press.

### **THIRD PAPER:**

#### **Epistemology**

**F.M. 100**

**Half - I** : **Indian** ( Marks: 50)

- i) Gangesa : *Tattvacintamani* (Pramanyavada up to the end of Jnaptipaksa)
- ii) Dharmakirti : *Nyayabindu* (Up to the end of svarthanumana)

**Half-II** : **Western** (Marks: 50)

- i) Scepticism and the possibility of knowledge
- ii) Nature and definition of knowledge: belief and knowledge
- iii) Gettier-problem and responses to it
- iv) Justification of knowledge-claims and epistemic decision :  
foundationalism, coherentism, causal theory and reliabilism
- v) Knowledge of other minds.

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. **Keith Lehrer** : *Knowledge*, Clarendon Press

2. **R.M.Chisholm** : *Theory of Knowledge*, Prentice-Hall
3. **A.J.Ayer** : *The Problem of Knowledge*, Penguin Books
4. **J. Dancy** : *Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*, Blackwell
5. **J.L.Pollock** : *Contemporary Theories of Knowledge*, Rowman and Littlefield
6. **A. Stroll (ed.)** : *Epistemology: New Essays in Theory of Knowledge*, Harper & Row

## FOURTH PAPER : SPECIAL GROUPS

### OPTIONAL PAPERS (F.M. 100)

*Special Note : As study material and PCP classes will be provided by the directorate on Group A and Group C, students are advice to choose Group A or Group C.*

### GROUP-A

#### *NYAYA-VAISESIKA*

- Half - I** : **Gotama**: *Nyayasutra* with *Vastisyayanabhasya* (Adhyay-I,Anhik-I) (Marks: 50)
- Half-II** : **Visvanatha** : *Bhasaparincheda* with *Siddhantamuktavali* (Karikas- 51-65 & 125-137) (Marks:50)

### GROUP-B

#### *VEDANTA*

- Half - I** : **Badarayana** : *Brahmasutra* with *Sanhara-bhasya* (*Catuhstutri*) (Marks: 50)
- Half-II** : **Vidyaranya** : *Vivaranapr-ameyasamgraha* (*Adhyasa*) (Marks:50)

## GROUP C

### *APPLIED ETHICS*

#### **Half - I : Biomedical Ethics (50 Marks)**

1. A brief history of Biomedical Ethics and some moral theories
2. The Patient-Doctor Relationship
3. Medical Research on human
4. Reproductive Rights and Technologies
5. Genetics
6. Allocating scarce Medical Resources

#### **Recommended Text :**

1. *Walter Glannon: Biomedical Ethics*, Oxford University Press, 2005

#### **References :**

2. *Tom L Beauchamp & James F. Childress: Principle of Biomedical Ethics*, Oxford
3. *Helga Kushe & Peter Singer : Bioethics: An Anthology*, Blackwell, 1999
3. *Anthony Dyson and John Harris: Experiments on Embryos*, Routledge, 1990, (Chap.V).

#### **Half-II : Socio-political Issues in Applied Ethics (50 Marks)**

1. *Equality and its applications : the meaning and basis of Equality, Equality and Genetic Diversity, Racism and Equality, Affirmative Action, Equality and Disability* from Peter Singer : *Practical Ethics* (Chapter-2), Cambridge University Press, 2000]
2. *Ethics of Terror and War*  
from Haig Khatchadourian: 'Terrorism and Morality', *Applied Philosophy: Morals and*

*Metaphysics in Contemporary Debates* (eds) Brenda Almond & Donald Hill), Routledge, 1992, and Judith Wagner De Cew: ‘Codes of Warfare’, *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (ed. Ruth Chadwick et al), Academic Press, Vol. IV]

### 3. *Feminist Ethics*

from Rosemarie Tong: *Feminist Ethics*, *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (ed. Ruth Chadwick et al). Academic Press, 1998, Vol. II and *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (internet edition) @ <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-ethhics> Reference : Joan Tronto: ‘An Ethic of Care’, *Feminist Theory: A Philosophical Anthology*, Blackwell, 2007]

### 4. *Media Ethics*

from Andrew Belsey and Ruth Chadwick : ‘Ethics and Politics of the media : the quest for quality’, *Ethical Issues in Journalism and the Media* (eds. Andrew Belsey and Ruth Chadwick), Routledge, 1992]

## GROUP - D

### *ADVANCED LOGIC*

**Half - I** : **Set Theory (Marks : 50)**

1. Intuitive set theory : Definition; basic operations on Sets relations; binary, n-ary, functions
2. Russell’s paradox
3. Axiomatic set theory : Zermelo-Frankel set theory

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. *P. Suppes : Introduction to Logic*, East-West Press
2. *P. Suppes : Axiomatic Set Theory*, D. Van Nostrand
3. *R.R. Stoll : Set Theory and Logic*, Freeman
4. *I.M. Copi : Symbolic Logic* (5<sup>th</sup> edition), Macmillan

**Half-II : Non-deductive Logic**

1. Problem of induction
2. Hypothesis
3. The nature of Evidence-statements
4. Eliminative Induction
5. Justification of Induction
6. Causation as Regular Succession
7. Counterfactuals and Disposition

**Suggested Readings:**

1. S.F.Barker : *Induction and Hypothesis*, Cornell University Press.
2. R.B.Braithwaite : *Scientific Explanation*, Harper and Brothers.
3. Arther Pap: *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science*, Eyre and Spotliswoode.

**PART - II**

**Full Marks : 400**

**CORE PAPERS**

**FIFTH PAPER : Metaphysics F.M. 100**

**Half - I : Indian (Marks : 50)**

- i) Isvarakrsna : *Samkhiyakarika with Tattvakaumudi* (Karikas 1-3,9-22)
- ii) Gaudapada : *Mandukyakarika* (Chapters- 1 & 11)

**Half - II : Western (Marks : 50)**

- i) Appearance and Reality
- ii) Being and Becoming : Essence and Existence

- iii) Substance : The Traditional conception, the individuation of substances, Essentialism
- iv) Space and Time : Nature of Space and Time, Relative and Absolute views of Space and Time, the Infinity of Space and Time.
- v) Self-knowledge and self-identity: Memory-Criterion, Body-Criterion; the primitiveness of the concept of Person.

**Suggested Readings:**

1. *F.H.Bradley : Appearance and Reality*, Oxford University Press.
2. *Richard Wollheim : F.H.Bradley*, Penguin Books.
3. *D.W.Hamlyn : Metaphysics*, Cambridge University Press.
4. *P.F.Strawson : Individuals: An Essay in Descriptive Metaphysics*, Methuen.

**SIXTH PAPER** : PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE AND ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY,  
F.M. 100

**Half - I** : **Indian** (Marks : 50)

Visvanatha : *Bhasaparincheda* with *Siddhantamuktavali (Sabdakhanda)*

**Half - II** : **Western** (Marks : 50)

1. Issues and problems : sense and reference; concepts and objects; negative existentials, indirect speech, prepositional attitudes, proper names, definite descriptions.
2. Wittgenstein : Language and reality, facts and objects, names and propositions, the picture theory, philosophy and language, meaning and use, forms of life.

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. **G.Frege** : ‘On Sense and Reference’, *Translations from the Philosophical Writings*, P. Geach. & M. Black (eds), Blackwell.
2. ————— : ‘On Concepts and Objects’, P. Geach & M. Black (eds) *Translations from the Philosophical Writings*, Blackwell.
3. **B. Russell** *Logic and Knowledge*, R.C. Marsh (ed.), Allen and Unwin.
4. ————— : *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*, Allen and Unwin.
5. **L.Wittgenstein** : *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, (trans. D.F. Pears and B.F.Mcquinness) Routledge & Kegan Paul.
6. —————; *Philosophical Investigations*, trans. G.E.M.Anscombe, Blackwell.

### **SEVENTH PAPER: WESTERN LOGIC AND CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY (F.M.100)**

#### **Half - I : Western Logic (Marks:50)**

1. Propositional Logic : Rules of Natural Deduction, The Rule of Conditional Proof, Indirect Proof.
2. Quantification Theory : Singular and General Propositions, Multiply-general propositions, Quantificational Rules, Proof Construction, Logical truth.
3. The Logic of Relations : Symbolizing relations, Arguments involving relation, Attributes of relations.

#### **Suggested Readings:**

1. **I.M.Copi** : *Symbolic Logic* (5<sup>th</sup> edition), Macmillan
2. **R. Jeffrey** : *Formal Logic : Its Scope and Limits*, Tata McGraw Hill.

#### **Half - II : Continental Philosophy (Marks: 50)**

1. Phenomenology : Development of Husserl’s phenomenology. The natural world thesis, phenomenological reduction, essence and essential intuition, Pure con-

sciousness and Transcendental subjectivity, Intentionality, Solipsism and inter subjectivity, The Life-world.

2. Existentialism : Sartre's existentialism : Existence precedes essence, Nothingness, structure of Being-for-itself vis-a-vis Being-in-itself, Freedom and Responsibility. Bad faith and Critique of Marxism.

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. *Herbert Spiegelberg : The Phenomenological Movement (Vols. I & II)*, Martinus Nijhoff.
2. *J.J.Kockelmans : A First introduction to Husserl's Phenomenology*, Douquene University Press
3. *Edmund Husserl : Ideas, Book-1*, Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague
4. ————— : *The Crisis of European Sciences and Transcendental Phenomenology*, North-Western, University Press.
5. *M.K.Bhadra : A Critical Survey of Phenomenology and Existentialism*, ICPR Allied
6. *J.N.Mohanty : 'The Development of Husserl's Thought', Cambridge Companion to Husserl*, Cambridge, University Press
7. *Jean-Paul Sartre : Being and Nothingness*, Philosophical Library
8. ————— : *Critique of Dialectical Reason*, Verso.
9. *John Macquarrie : Existentialism*, Penguin

**EIGHTH PAPER**  
**(OPTIONAL PAPERS)**

**F.M. - 100**

***SPECIAL GROUPS***

**(Group As Chosen in Part-I)**

**GROUP-A**

***NYAYA-VAISESIKA***

**Half - I** : Udayana: *Nyayakusumanjali* (1<sup>st</sup> Stavaka) (Marks :50)

**Half - II** : Gangesa : *Vyaptipancaka* with *Mathuri* (1<sup>st</sup> *Vyaptilaksana*) (Marks :50)

**GROUP-B**

***VEDANTA***

**Half - I** : Dharmaraja : *Vedantaparibhasa (Paratyaksapramana)* (50 Marks)

**Half - II** : Badarayana : *Brahmasutra* with *Sribhasya* (1<sup>st</sup> *Sutra*) (50 Marks)

**GROUP-C**

***APPLIED ETHICS***

**Half - I** : **Moral Philosophy in Indian Contexts** (50 Marks)

1. Different Moral Standards of Action : Lokopad- esa, Lokoprasiddhi, Lokosthiti, Lokosiddhi, Sukhavada, Preyas, Sreyas
2. The Jaina view of Panchavrata
3. The Nyaya view of Cikirsa, Dvesa
4. The Doctrine of Moksa : Nyaya View, Sankara's view

5. Environmental Ethics in Ancient India
  - i) *Prithivisukta: Atharvaveda* (Selections)
  - ii) *Visnupuran* (2.6&3.11)

### **Recommended Texts:**

1. *Umasvati : Tattvarthasutra* (Ch-VII)
2. *Viswanatha : Bhasaparichhed: Karikas 147-152 with Siddhanta Muktavali*
3. *Gotama : Nyayasutra 1.1.22, Vatsyayanabhasya*
4. *Badarayana : Brahmasutra 4.4.1-4, Sankarbhasya*
5. *Atharvaveda* (XII, 1)
6. *Vedavyasa : Visnupuranam*

### **References:**

1. *S.K.Moitra : The Ethics of the Hindus*
2. *Sinclair Stevenson : The Heart of Jainism*
3. *Kastur Chand Lalwani : Dasavaikalikasutra*
4. *Nathmal Tantia : Umasvati's Tattvarthasutra(Ch-VII)*

### **Half - II : Environmental Ethics: (50 Marks)**

- i) Anthropocentrism and Speciesism

from Tim Hayward : 'Anthropocentrism : A Misunderstood Problem', Part- I, Chapter 3 of his *Political Theory and Ecological Values*, Polity Press, 1988

&

Donald A. Graft: 'Speciesism', *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (ed. Ruth Chadwick et al), Academic Press, 1998, Vol. I

- ii) Biocentrism and Animal Rights

from Paul Taylor: 'The Ethics of Respect for Nature', *Environmental Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical Ecology* (eds. Michael E. Zimmerman et al), Prentice Hall, 1993

&

Tom Regan: 'Animal Rights, Human Wrongs', *Environmental Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical Ecology* (eds. Michael E. Zimmerman et al), Prentice Hall, 1993]

iii) Ecocentrism: The Land Ethic and Deep Ecology

from Aldo Leopold: 'The Land Ethic', *Environmental Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical Ecology* (eds. Michael E. Zimmerman et al), Prentice Hall, 1993

&

Arne Naess: 'The Shallow and the Deep, Long-Range Ecology Movement: A Summary', *Philosophical Dialogues: Arne Naess and the Progress of Ecophilosophy* (eds. Nina Witoszek and Andrew Brennan), Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham, 1999 & Arne Naess: 'The Deep Ecological Movement: Some Philosophical Aspects', *Environmental Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical Ecology* (eds. Michael E. Zimmerman et al), Prentice Hall, 1993]

iv) Ecofeminism

from Karen J Warren: 'Power and Promise of Ecological Feminism', *Environmental Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical Ecology* (eds. Michael E. Zimmerman et al), Prentice Hall, 1993J

## GROUP - D

### *ADVANCED LOGIC*

**Half - I** : **Propositional Logic (PM & Modal) (Marks :50)**

1. Deductive system : formal deductive systems, attributes of Formal deductive systems, the PM system : axioms and theorems, consistency, completeness and independence.

2. Modal propositional logic : The System

#### **Suggested Readings:**

1. G.E. Hughes and D.G. Londey : *The Elements of Formal Logic*, Methuen
2. *Alice Ambrose and Morris Lazerowitz: Fundamentals of Symbolic Logic*, Holt, Rinehart & Winston
3. *I.M. Copi : Symbolic Logic*, Macmillan
4. *Hughes and Cresswell : An Introduction to Modal Logic*, Methuen
5. *Basson and O'Connor : Introduction to Symbolic Logic*, Oxford University Press

**Half - II : Logic of Relations**

(Marks :50)

1. Symbolising Relations
2. Arguments involving relations
3. Some attributes of relation
4. Identity and definite descriptions
5. Predicate Variables and attribute of attributes

#### **Text Reference:**

- I.M. Copi : Symbolic Logic* (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), Macmillan
1. *Richard Jeffrey : Formal Logic: Its Scope and Limit* (1<sup>st</sup> Edition), Tata-MacGraw Hill
  2. *W.V.O. Quine: Methods of Logic*, Routledge.

