

Deccan Education Society's

Kirti M. Doongursee College of Arts, Science and Commerce (AUTONOMOUS)



Affiliated to

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

Syllabus for
Program: Bachelor of Arts
Course: S.Y.B.A. Philosophy
Subject: Philosophy

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) with
effect from
Academic Year 2025-2026

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

PO	Description
A student completing Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy Program will be able to	
P01	Disciplinary Knowledge: Demonstrate a blend of conventional discipline knowledge and its applications to the modern world. Execute strong theoretical and practical understanding generated from the chosen program.
P02	Critical Thinking and Problem solving: Exhibit the skill of critical thinking and use higher order cognitive skills to approach problems situated in their social environment, propose feasible solutions and help in its implementation.
P03	Social competence: Express oneself clearly and precisely to build good interpersonal relationships in personal and professional life. Make effective use of linguistic competencies to express themselves effectively in real and virtual media. Demonstrate multicultural sensitivity in group settings.
P04	Research-Related Skills: Seeks opportunity for research and higher academic achievements in the chosen field and allied subjects and is aware about research ethics, intellectual property rights and issues of plagiarism. Demonstrate a sense of inquiry and capability for asking relevant/appropriate questions; ability to plan, execute and report the results of a research project be it in field or otherwise under supervision.
P05	Personal and professional competence: Equip with strong work attitudes and professional skills that will enable them to work independently as well as collaboratively in a team environment.
P06	Effective Citizenship and Ethics: Demonstrate empathetic social concern and equity centered national development; ability to act with an informed awareness of moral and ethical issues and commit to professional ethics and responsibility.
P07	Environment and Sustainability: Understand the impact of the scientific solutions in societal and environmental contexts and demonstrate the knowledge of and need for sustainable development.
P08	Self-directed and Life-long learning: Acquire the ability to engage in independent and life-long learning in the broadest context of socio-technological changes.

PHILOSOPHY for 2025-26

Sem	Course Code	Course Title	Vertical	Credit
III	24PHIMJ311	Social Philosophy	Major	4
	24PHIMJ312	Indian Philosophy	Major	4
	24PHIMR321	Living Ethical Issues I	Minor	4
	24PHIVC341	Applied Ethics	Vocational Evaluative Course	2
IV	24PHIMJ411	Political Philosophy	Major	4
	24PHIMJ412	Western Philosophy	Major	4
	24PHIMR421	Living Ethical Issues II	Minor	4
	24PHIVC441	Philosophy of Film	Vocational Evaluative Course	2

Course Code	SEM – III – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMJ311	Social Philosophy	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To acquaint students with the basic philosophical questions that philosophers in India and the west have addressed • CO-2: To equip students with argumentative and analytical skills involved in philosophical reasoning.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Status of Women i) Aristotle: a case for inferiority of women ii) J.S. Mill: a case of perfect equality between men and women iii) Feminism: strands of feminism- liberal, social, radical; core themes: patriarchy, public private, sex and gender	15	
II	Social Obligations to the Poor/Needy i) Vision of Sarvodaya: Gandhi (also with reference to Vinoba Bhave) ii) Moral obligation towards the Needy: Peter Singer. iii) Critique: critique on views of Gandhi & Peter Singer	15	
III	War and Pacifism i) Principal of Justice of war (just in bellum) ii) Principal of Justice of war (just in bello) iii) Pacifism	15	

IV	Multiculturalism and Tolerance i) Clash of Civilization: Samuel Huntington. ii) Multiculturalism: Bikhu Parekh and Wil Kymlicka.	15
Topics for Internal Assessment: (a) Philosophical perspectives on family and marriage (i) Plato (ii) Bertrand Russell (b) Modern challenges to marriage (i) Live-in relations (ii) Same sex relations/marriages		

Reference and Reading List recommended for the course –

- Aristotle Politics Selections from Book I
- Crossman, Richard Plato Today (Oxford University Press, 1959)
- Fotion, Nicholas War and Ethics: a New Just War Theory (Continuum, 2007)
- Huntington, Samuel Clash of Civilizations (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1996)
- Mariana Szapuová “Mill’s Liberal Feminism: Its Legacy and Current Criticism”
- Prolegomena Vol 5 No.2
- Mckinnon, Catriona (ed) Issues in Political Theory (Oxford University Press, 2008)
- Mulgan R.G. Aristotle’s Political Theory (Clarendon Press, 1977)
- Plato The Republic
- Russell, Bertrand Marriage and Morals
- Singer, Peter “Famine, Affluence and Morality” in Hugh LaFollette (ed) Ethics in
- Practice (Blackwell Publishing, 1997, 2002) Parekh, Bhikhu “Equality of Difference” in
- Colin Farrelly (ed) Contemporary Political Theory: A Reader (Sage Publishers, 2004)

Course Code	SEM – IV – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMJ411	Political Philosophy	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To acquaint students with the basic philosophical questions that philosophers in India and the west have addressed. • CO-2: To equip students with argumentative and analytical skills involved in philosophical reasoning. • CO-3: To encourage a spirit of rationality in philosophising while appreciating and respecting differing philosophical systems and perspectives.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lecture	
I	Political Philosophy- Introduction i) What is political philosophy? (Distinction between descriptive normative approaches; the importance of political philosophy in today's times) ii) Social Contract: Traditional perspective (essential features)	15	
II	Political Ideologies i) Marxism ii) Anarchism iii) Democracy	15	
III	Justice i) Justice as fairness: John Rawls ii) Social justice: B.R. Ambedkar	15	
IV	Liberty i) The Limits of state authority: J.S. Mill ii) Ronald Dworkin: Modified liberty iii) Two Concepts of Liberty: Isaiah Berlin	15	

Topics for Internal Assessment:

- (a) Justification of non-violent civil disobedience: Martin Luther King
- (b) Absolute obedience to the law: Plato from the dialogue Crito
- (c) Gandhi's view of civil disobedience

References and Reading List recommended for the course

- Aristotle Politics Selections from Book I Crossman, Richard Plato Today (OxfordUniversity Press, 1959)
 - Fotion, Nicholas War and Ethics: a New Just War Theory (Continuum, 2007)
 - Huntington, Samuel Clash of Civilizations (New York: Simon and Schuster,1996)
 - Mariana Szapuová "Mill's Liberal Feminism: Its Legacy and Current Criticism"Prolegomena Vol 5 No.2 Mckinnon, Catriona (ed) Issues in Political Theory (Oxford University Press, 2008)
 - Mulgan R.G. Aristotle's Political Theory (Clarendon Press, 1977)
 - Plato The Republic
 - Russell, Bertrand Marriage and Morals
 - Singer, Peter "Famine, Affluence and Morality" in Hugh LaFollette (ed) Ethics in Practice (Blackwell Publishing, 1997, 2002)
 - Parekh, Bhikhu "Equality of Difference" inColin Farrelly (ed) ContemporaryPolitical Theory: A Reader (Sage Publishers, 2004)
 - Baradat, Leon Political Ideologies: their origins and impact (Pearson- PrenticeHall,2008)
 - Bird, Colin An Introduction to Political Philosophy (Cambridge University Press,2006)
 - Deininger, Whitaker T. Problems in Social and Political Thought (Macmillan,1965)
 - Heywood, Andrew Political Theory: An Introduction (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004)
 - Jaffrelot, Christophe "Dr. Ambedkar's Strategies against Untouchability and the Caste System"
 - King, Martin Luther "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
 - Omvedt, Gail Ambedkar: Towards an Enlightened India (Penguin Books, 2004)
 - Rao, K. Ramakrishna "Gandhi and Ambedkar: Their Relevance to 21st century"
- Ailaan Sept 2008 Vol I, Issue: IX
- Roberts, Peri and Sutch, Peter An Introduction to Political Thought (EdinburghUniversity Press, 2004)

Course Code	SEM – III – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMJ312	Indian Philosophy	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To acquaint students with the basic philosophical questions that philosophers in India and the west have addressed • CO-2: To equip students with argumentative and analytical skills involved in philosophical reasoning.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Introduction to Indian Philosophy i) Vedic School and A Vedic school of thought. (Astika darshana / Nastika darshana) ii) Concept of Pramanas with its various type in various darshanas. iii) Views of A vedic darshana about nature of Brahman and Atman concepts.	15	
II	Philosophy of Charvaka i) View of Charvaka about Pramana Concept. ii) Theory of Materialism of Charvaka iii) Ethical Philosophy of Charvaka.	15	
III	Jaina Philosophy i) Metaphysics: classification of reality ii) Syadavada and Anekantavada	15	
IV	Buddhist Philosophy i) Three signs of reality: impermanence, suffering and non-substantialism ii) Theory of No-Self (anatmavada) iii) School of Buddhism: Sautrantika, Vaibhasika, Vjnanavada and Sunyavada	15	

Topics for Internal Assessment:**1. Carvaka philosophy**

Epistemology

Metaphysics

Concept of Nirvana in Buddhist Philosophy.

Explain Samlekhana in Jain Philosophy.

References and Reading List for the Course.

- Bishop, Donald (ed.) Indian Thought: An Introduction (New Delhi: Wiley Eastern Private Ltd., 1975)
- Deussen, Paul Outlines of Indian Philosophy (New Delhi: Crest Publishing House, 1996)
- Gethin, Rupert The Foundations of Buddhism (Oxford University Press, 1998)
- Glasenapp, Helmuth Von Jainism: An Indian Religion of Salvation (Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas Publishers, 1998)
- Gopal, R. Outlines of Jainism
- Hiriyana, M. Outlines of Indian Philosophy (Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas, 1993)
- Humphreys, Christmas The Buddhist Way of Life (New Delhi: Indus Publishers, 1993)
- Raju, T. The Philosophical Traditions of India (London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd., 1971)
- Sangharakshita The Essential Teachings of the Buddha (New Delhi: New Age Books, 2000)
- Shah, Nathubhai Jainism: The World of Conquerors (Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas Publishers, 1999)
- Srinivaschari, P.N. Ethical Philosophy of the Gita (Madras: SriRamakrishna Matt, 2001)

Course Code	SEM – IV – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMJ412	Western Philosophy	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To acquaint students with the basic philosophical questions that philosophers in India and the west have addressed. • CO-2: To equip students with argumentative and analytical skills involved in philosophical reasoning. • CO-3: To encourage a spirit of rationality in philosophising while appreciating and respecting differing philosophical systems and perspectives.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Socratic Philosophy i) Divinity according to Socrates ii) The general view of Socrates iii) Socrates Epistemology	15	
II	Plato i) Theory of Knowledge ii) Theory of Forms	15	
III	Aristotle i) Causation: four causes (reference to the notion of teleology) ii) Form and Matter; actuality and potentiality iii) Theory of Soul	15	
IV	Epicurus i) Metaphysics ii) Theory of Hedonism iii) Criticisms to Hedonism	15	

Topics for Internal Assessment:

Socrates: methods and ethics

Plato: Theory of tripartite soul

Explain in regards to Epicurus - Theory of Pain and Pleasure. (Why think

about afterlife and destroy today's gains)

References and Reading List recommended for the course

- A Critical History of Western Philosophy (Y. Masih)
- Grube, G. M. Plato's Thought (London: Methuen, 1935)
- Jones, W.T. A History of Western Philosophy: The Medieval Mind (Harcourt, Brace and World, Inc. 1969)
- Stace, W.T. A Critical History of Greek Philosophy (Macmillan, 1985, 1992)
Stumpf, S.E. & Fieser, J. Philosophy: History and Problems (McGraw-Hill, 1971)
- Walsh, Martin A History of Philosophy (London: Geoffrey Chapman, 1985)

Course Code	SEM – III – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMR321	Living Ethical Issues	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to - To reflect on real world ethical questions and the issues they raise, and to discuss those issues in an informed way. - To demonstrate an ability to recognize, articulate, and apply ethical principles in various academic, professional, social, or personal contexts.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Unit I: Bioethical Issues - I Abortion: the abortion debate: is the foetus a person? Arguments from pro-choice (abortionists) versus pro-life (anti-abortionists) arguments. Euthanasia: the moral issue: conflict between duty to prolong life versus duty to relieve pain; forms of euthanasia: voluntary/non-voluntary and active/passive; moral and legal justification of euthanasia: pros and cons. Surrogate motherhood: empowerment or exploitation; redefining the notion of 'mother' – genetic, biological and social; advantages and critique of surrogate arrangements.	15	
II	Bioethical Issues - II Ethical issues in experimentation on human subjects: the principles of respect for autonomy of persons, beneficence and justice. Moral status of animals: views of Peter Singer and Tom Reagan. Ethics of human cloning: what is human cloning? issues that make human cloning attractive; ethical dangers involved in human cloning	15	
III	Professional Ethics Medical ethics: informed consent and confidentiality. Journalistic ethics: truthfulness and objectivity. Advertising ethics:	15	
IV	Contemporary Debates - 1 Pornography and censorship: arguments for and against pornography; is censorship of pornographic material justified? Homosexuality: arguments for and against homosexuality; is State interference in individuals' sexual preferences justified? Sexual harassment: what counts as sexual harassment?	15	

Reference list recommended for the course:

- Tom Beauchamp and LeRoy Walters (ed.) *Contemporary Issues in Bioethics* 5th edn. -----
R.G. Frey and C.H. Wellman (ed.) *A Companion to Applied Ethics* Deborah Bowman, John
Spicer, Rehana Iqbal, *Informed Consent* Tom Beauchamp and James Childress. *Principles of
Biomedical Ethics*.
- R.F. Smith. *Ethics in Journalism* 6th edn. (Blackwell, 2008)
- Margaret Crouch, *Thinking About Sexual Harassment: A Guide for the Perplexed* -----
Vincent Barry (ed.) *Applying Ethics* 2nd edn.
- Hugh LaFollette (ed.) *Ethics in Practice: An Anthology*.
 - David Linton. "Why is Pornography Offensive?"
 - Louis Pojman, *Philosophy: The Quest for Truth* (see section 'Philosophy in Action')
 - Tamara Roleff (ed.) *Biomedical Ethics*
 - Andrew Cohen and C H Wellman, *Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics*
 - Jon Nuttall, *Moral Questions: An Introduction to Ethics*
- Manuel Velasquez and Cynthia Rostankowski (ed.) *Ethics: Theory and Practice* -----
Nussbaum, M. & Sunstein, C. (ed.) *Clones and Clones*. Part III.
- Andrea Dworkin, *Pornography: Men Possessing Women* Catherine Mackinnon
"Sexuality, Pornography, and Method: 'Pleasure Under Patriarchy'", *Ethics* 99: 314–346 (1989)

Course Code	SEM – IV – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIMR421	Living Ethical Issues	04	04
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to - To reflect on real world ethical questions and the issues they raise, and to discuss those issues in an informed way. - To demonstrate an ability to recognize, articulate, and apply ethical principles in various academic, professional, social, or personal contexts			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Environmental ethics Land ethics with special reference to Aldo Leopold. Shallow and deep ecology models of sustainable development: Arne Naess. The claims of ecofeminism: is it an environmental ethic?	15	
II	Religious attitudes towards the environment Vedic-Hindu perspective on the environment: reverence and sanctity of nature? Judeo-Christian attitude towards the environment: dominion or stewardship? Buddhist view on environmental ethics.	15	
III	Corporate ethics Business ethics: can there be ethics in business? Models of business ethics. Do business corporate houses have social responsibility: arguments for and against CSR. Affirmative action: arguments for and against affirmative action	15	
IV	Contemporary Debates – 2 Hunger and poverty: Peter Singer. The case against assisting the poor: Garrett Hardin. Do we have obligations to future (human and non-human) generations?	15	

Reading list (selected) recommended for project based work:

- R.G. Frey and C.H. Wellman (ed.) *A Companion to Applied Ethics*.
- Tom Beauchamp and James Childress. *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*.
- Dale Jamieson (ed.) *A Companion to Environmental Philosophy*
- Michael Zimmerman (ed.) *Environmental Philosophy*
- Peter Singer, *Practical Ethics*
- O.P. Dwivedi (ed.) *World Religions and the Environment*
- Christopher K. Chappell and Mary E. Tucker (ed.) *Hinduism and Ecology*
- Christopher Framarin "Hinduism and Environmental Ethics: An Analysis and Defense of Basic Assumption" in *Asian Philosophy* Vol. 22 No. 1 (2012)
- Louis Pojman (ed.) *Environmental Ethics: Readings in Theory and Application*.
- R.F. Smith. *Ethics in Journalism* 6th edn. (Blackwell, 2008)
- Nicholas Bunnin (ed.) *The Blackwell Companion to Philosophy*, see "Business Ethics" -----
- Vincent Barry (ed.) *Applying Ethics* 2nd edn.
- Hugh LaFollette (ed.) *Ethics in Practice: An Anthology*.
- Louis Pojman, *Philosophy: The Quest for Truth* (see section 'Philosophy in Action')
- Andrew Cohen and C H Wellman, *Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics*
- Jon Nuttall, *Moral Questions: An Introduction to Ethics*
- Manuel Velasquez and Cynthia Rostankowski (ed.) *Ethics: Theory and Practice*
- Andrew Kernohan, *Environmental Ethics: An Interactive Introduction*

Course Code	SEM – III – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIVC341	Applied Ethics	02	02
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To reflect on real world ethical questions and the issues they raise, and to discuss those issues in an informed way. • CO-2: To demonstrate an ability to recognize, articulate, and apply ethical principles in various academic, professional, social, or personal contexts. • CO-3: Through this understanding to lay the foundations for inter-faith dialogue, necessary for peace and harmony in the society.			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	Code of Conduct in Professions - Medical ethics: informed consent and confidentiality. Journalistic ethics: truthfulness and objectivity. Advertising ethics.	15	
II	Bioethical Issues i) Ethical issues in experimentation on human subjects: the principles of respect for autonomy of persons, beneficence, and justice. ii) Moral status of animals: views of Peter Singer and Tom Reagan. Ethics of human cloning: what is human cloning? issues that make human cloning attractive; ethical dangers involved in human cloning.	15	
Topics for Internal Assessment: a) Ethics of organ donation b) Patient doctor relationship c) Legal ethics (Indian context)			

References and Reading List recommended for the course

- Tom Beauchamp and LeRoy Walters (ed.) Contemporary Issues in Bioethics 5th edn.
- R.G. Frey and C.H. Wellman (ed.) A Companion to Applied Ethics.
- Deborah Bowman, John Spicer, Rehana Iqbal, Informed Consent
- Tom Beauchamp and James Childress. Principles of Biomedical Ethics.
- R.F. Smith. Ethics in Journalism 6th edn. (Blackwell, 2008)
- Margaret Crouch, Thinking About Sexual Harassment: A Guide for the Perplexed
- Vincent Barry (ed.) Applying Ethics 2nd edn.
- Hugh LaFollette (ed.) Ethics in Practice: An Anthology.
- David Linton. "Why is Pornography Offensive?"
- Louis Pojman, Philosophy: The Quest for Truth (see section 'Philosophy in Action')
- Tamara Roleff (ed.) Biomedical Ethics
- Andrew Cohen and C H Wellman, Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics
- Jon Nuttall, Moral Questions: An Introduction to Ethics
- Manuel Velasquez and Cynthia Rostankowski (ed.) Ethics: Theory and Practice
- Nussbaum, M. & Sunstein, C. (ed.) Clones and Clones. Part III.
- Andrea Dworkin, Pornography: Men Possessing Women
- Catherine Mackinnon "Sexuality, Pornography, and Method: 'Pleasure Under Patriarchy'", Ethics 99: 314–346 (1989)

Course Code	SEM – III – Course Title	Credits	Lecture/Week
24PHIVC441	Philosophy of Film	02	02
Course Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students would be able to • CO-1: To acquaint students with a new intriguing subject in Philosophy, i.e. Philosophy of Film. • CO-2. To acquaint students with Film as an independent art form. • CO-3. To acquaint students that the most powerful mass media of communication i.e. film has its pragmatic aspect and its own axiology. • CO- 4. To acquaint students with different aspects of Film philosophically			
Unit	Topics	No of Lectures	
I	The Academic Study of Philosophy and Film - i. Academic Engagements with film: Sociological, Political, Historical and Philosophical Perspectives. ii. Learning from Films. iii. Film Criticism	15	
II	Philosophy through Films - i. Knowledge and Truth – The Matrix ii. Mythological Film – Ramayana – The legend of Prince Ram iii. Film and Psychoanalysis – Karthik calling Karthik iv. Caste and Film – Masaan (Neeraj Ghaywan 2015)	15	

- References:** 1. Mary. M. Litch. Philosophy Through Film, 2002, New York : Routledge.
2. Paisly Livingstone and Carl Plantinga (ed) The Routledge Companion of Film and Philosophy. 2009 New York: Routledge
3. Toby Miller and Robert Stam (ed) A Companion of Film Theory. 1999. Blackwell Publishing
4. Carroll, Noël and Choi, Finhee (ed.). Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures – An Anthology. Blackwell Publishing, 2006.
5. Buchanan, Ian. A Dictionary of Critical Theory. Oxford University Press, 2010.
6. Conrad, Mark T. The Philosophy of Film Noir. American University Press (The University Press of Kentucky) 2007.
7. Encyclopedia Britannica. 8. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

Evaluation Scheme for Second Year (UG) under AUTONOMY

SEMESTER III & IV.

I. Internal Evaluation for Theory Courses - 40 Marks

- i) Continuous Internal Assessment 1 (Assignment – 20 Marks)
- ii) Continuous Internal Assessment 2 – 20 Marks (Class Unit Test with Fill in the Blanks, True or False & Answer the following)

II. External Examination for Theory Courses – 60 Marks

Duration: 2 Hours

Theory question paper pattern:

All questions are compulsory.

Question	Options	Marks
Q.1	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15
Q.2	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15
Q.3	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15
Q.4	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15

- All questions shall be compulsory with internal choice within the questions.
- Each Question may be sub-divided into sub questions as a, b, c, etc. & the allocation of Marks depends on the weightage of the topic.

Evaluation Scheme for Second Year (UG) under AUTONOMY

SEMESTER III & IV.

I. Internal Evaluation for Theory Courses – 20 Marks

- i) Continuous Internal Assessment 1 (Assignment – 10 Marks)
- ii) Continuous Internal Assessment 2 – 10 Marks (Class Unit Test with Fill in the Blanks, True or False)

II. External Examination for Theory Courses – 30 Marks

Duration: 1 Hours

Theory question paper pattern:

All questions are compulsory.

Question	Options	Marks
Q.1	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15
Q.2	<i>Any 1 out of 3</i>	15

- All questions shall be compulsory with internal choice within the questions.
- Each Question may be sub-divided into sub questions as a, b, c, etc. & the allocation of Marks depends on the weightage of the topics.

