

Contemporary Western and Indian Philosophy
Marks theory – 80, Internal Assessment 20 = 100

6Hrs/week = 84 Hrs

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The aim of this course is to help students keep abreast of the most recent trends in philosophy. In the English speaking world, for instance, a logical and linguistic turn in philosophy has come into vogue. Philosophical analysis is a method of inquiry in which one seeks to assess complex systems of thought by ‘analysing’ them into simpler elements whose relationships are thereby brought into focus.

The aim of presenting the contemporary Indian thinkers is to examine the ways in which today’s philosophical thinking in India has remained consistent with past trends, and the ways it has been influenced by western trends and categories of thought. The views of contemporary Indian thinkers will make the students to think critically various philosophical standpoints belonging to different ages and worlds.

Unit 1: Analytic Tradition

Gottlob Frege

Bertrand Russell

Ludwig Wittgenstein

Logical Positivism: Moritz Schlick and A. J. Ayer

Unit 2: Pragmatic Tradition

C. S. Peirce

William James

John Dewey

W.V.O. Quine

Unit 3: Ram Mohan Roy -Brahmo Samaj and Dayanand Saraswati -Aryasamaj

Roy and Monotheism

Method of Interpretation

Moral Teachings and the Precepts of Jesus

Social and Political Thought

Later Development of BS: D. Tagore and K.C. Sen

Foundation and Principles of Aryasamaj and Suddhi Movement

Response to the Caste System and Widow Remarriage

Vedic Revelation and Dayananda’s Interpretation

Philosophy of Man, Ethical Teachings, Social Philosophy

Unit 4: Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Vivekananda

Religious Scriptures and Spiritual Experience

Open Search for God Experience

Vivekananda and Interpretation of Tradition and Advaita

Practical Vedanta and Religion

Unit 5: Radhakrishnan and Approach to Philosophy

Philosophy as a View and a Way of Life

Advaitic Epistemology and Metaphysics

An Intuitionist Ethics of Vedanta

Religion for Integration and Unity

Unit 6: Aurobindo and Integral Vision

Advaita as the Foundation of Integral Vision of Reality

Involution and Evolution: Dynamics of Reality

Social and Political Philosophy

Unit 7: Gandhi and Ambedkar

Knowledge and Truth

Man and the World

Satyam and Ahimsa: New Morality

Political Philosophy: Non-Violent Society and State

Religion as Service to Humanity

Philosophy of Ambedkar

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