

**MINUTES OF THE 03<sup>rd</sup> BOARD OF STUDIES MEETING  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY,  
SOPHIA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), MUMBAI**

The Board of Studies in Philosophy of Sophia College (Autonomous) held its Third meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 at 9.30 am in Counselling Centre in the Sophia Annexe.

The following members were present

- Dr. Trevor Allis – Chairperson
- Dr. Geeta Ramana – V.C. Nominee
- Dr. Keith D'Souza
- Dr. Tarun Menon
- Dr. Arun Iyer
- Ms. Rudabeh Navdar
- Dr. T C Roy – Faculty
- Dr. Irfaan Engineer

Minutes of the previous BoS meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 was approved and passed.

Agenda 1: SYBA Philosophy Syllabus – semester 3 and 4

- 1 With respect to Paper 2 semester three: Dr Arun Iyer suggested the following additional topics to be incorporated in Paper 2
- 2 Phenomenology of spirit to be added in Unit 1
- 3 Harbermas' account of multiculturalism
- 4 Marx can be included in economic and social philosophy
- 5 Dr Tarun Menon suggested in response to Dr Irfaan Engineer that the role of religion in engaging diversity is critical to philosophical understanding of social and political issues
- 6 He also suggested, in continuation with Dr Arun Iyer, that Charles Taylor's view should be included along with Will Kymlicka.
- 7 With respect to Paper 2 Semester 4: Dr Arun Iyer suggested that philosophers representing ideologies beyond that of liberalism should be included in the syllabus.
- 8 Dr Arun recommended that J S Mill and Gerald MacCallum's critique can be deleted as they were outdated.

- 9 Dr Tarun suggested that Rousseau's idea of positive freedom can be included in the topic of liberty. He also recommended Ronald Dworkin's view on Equality be replaced by Elizabeth Anderson.
- 10 Dr Arun suggested that Harbermas' critique of Rawls' and Nozick's view of Justice should be incorporated in the topic of justice . The addition of feminist critique of justice should also be included.
- 11 Dr Trevor reminded the members that the course on political philosophy was for undergraduates and the level of difficulty had to kept in mind before incorporating contemporary thinkers into the syllabus.
- 12 With respect to Paper 3 Semester 3
- 13 Dr Arun commented that the reading list of the syllabus needed to be more balanced and suggested references relating to Gadamer, Socrates and Plato
- 14 Dr Tarun suggested that the topic on Aristotle's critique of the theory of forms through the categories ought to be omitted as it would be very heavy for the students.

#### Agenda 2: Add-On Courses

- 1 Dr Irfaan Engineer agreed to offer and develop an add-on course on Peace and Harmony to be introduced as 2 credit course
- 2 Dr Tarun suggested that the department should consider starting a course on well-being.
- 3 Dr Geeta Ramana suggested that a course on critical thinking is the need of the hour.

The meeting was declared closed by Dr Trevor Allis

#### **Chairperson BoS Philosophy**



**Dr Trevor Allis**

**Associate Professor**

**Sophia College (Autonomous)**

