

**University of Mumbai**  
**Sophia College for Women (Autonomous)**  
**Syllabus for TYBA PHILOSOPHY PAPER 4**  
**w.e.f.: June 2020**

**Paper 4: Indian Philosophy: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI501**

**Unit 1 Introduction to Indian Philosophy**

Classifications of Schools of Indian Philosophy; its general features and themes. Vedic Cosmology: *Rta* and *Rna*. Cosmological Accounts in *Naasadiya Sukta* and *Purusha Sukta*. Upanishadic Cosmology: Creation as Threefold (from Brahman through Cosmic Egg to the primary evolutes) Cosmogogenesis as Sacrifice.

**Unit 2 Indian Epistemology (Pramanasastra)**

Basic concepts: Pramana, Prameya, Pramiti (definition, meaning and types). Perception: The Nyaya - Buddhist Debate. Truth: Svatah and Paratah Pramanyavada. Theories of Error: Satkhyati, Asatkhyati and Anirvacaniyakhyati. Scepticism: Nagarjuna and Jayarasi's critique of pramanvada.

**Unit 3 Indian Ethics**

The concept of Purusharthas: its relevance and critique. Dharma: varna dharma, ashrama Dharma, sadharana dharma and Vishesha dharma. The notion of nishkamakarma yoga in Gita. B.G.Tilak's interpretation of nishkamakarma yoga. B R Ambedkar's interpretation of Gita

**Unit 4 Goal of Life**

Karma and rebirth: Vedic darsanas, Buddhism and Jainism. Notion of self-realization: Vedic Darsanas, Buddhism and Jainism

**Paper 4: Indian Philosophy: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI601**

**Unit 1 Perspectives on Self**

Upanishadic perspective on self: Katha Upanishad: Self-Knowledge Taittiriya Upanishad's Pancakosha theory of human existence. Buddhist view of the self (Anatmavada and the Pancaskandha theory). Jain Classification of Reality: their view on plurality of jivas. Advaita view of self: the three planes of existence (sattatraya) and four levels consciousness.

**Unit 2 Metaphysics**

Causation I: Satkaryavada and Asatkaryavada. Causation II: Vivartavada and Pratitya samutpada. Perspectives on Reality I: Samkhya Dualism and Vaisesika Pluralism. Perspectives on Reality II: Carvaka Materialism and Jaina theories of Syadavad and Anekantavad.

**Unit 3: Vedanta Philosophy**

Sankara's non-dualism: Mayavada; the relation between Atman, Brahman and the world. Ramanuja's qualified non-dualism: the critique of Sankara's Mayavada; relation between Atman, Brahman and the world. Madhva's dualism: the theory of Pancabhedas; relation between Jagat, Jiva, and Ishvara.

**Unity 4 Philosophy in Praxis**

Yoga as Cittavrttinirodha; ashtanga yoga: God and Pranava. Buddhism: Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold path & Vipassana. Jainism: Triratnas, Mahavratas and Anuvratas

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**Paper 5: Western Philosophy: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI502**

**Unit 1: Philosophical Scepticism**

Traditional tripartite analysis of knowledge in terms of Justified True Belief (JTB). The Gettier challenge to JTB. Scepticism: Cartesian scepticism.

**Unit 2 Foundations of Knowledge**

Foundationalism: Cartesian foundationalism. *Cogito ergo sum*. Empirical foundations of knowledge: John Locke's account: 'the way of ideas. Analysis of 'perception'; indirect realism. George Berkeley's rejection of 'abstract' ideas; *Esse Est Percipi*: subjective idealism.

**Unit 3: Philosophy of Mind**

Descartes 'mentalist' account of mind. Substance dualism and critique. Analytical behaviourism: Gilbert Ryle. Functionalism: computational theory of mind.

**Unit 4: Alternative Epistemologies**

Pragmatism: C S Pierce and William James

Feminist theory of knowledge: Sandra Harding and Helen Longino

**Paper 5: Western Philosophy: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI602**

**Unit 1: Hume's Empiricism:** impression and ideas, association of ideas; Hume's analysis of 'self' and personal identity; causal relation and the problem of induction. Karl Popper's response to the problem of induction.

**Unit 2: Kant's Constructivism:** Kant's relation to rationalism and empiricism; the problem of the possibility of synthetic-apriori knowledge; contribution of the faculty of sensibility and understanding to knowledge, Kant's reply to Hume on causation.

**Unit 3: Analytic philosophy**

What is analytic philosophy. The New Logic – symbolic logic. Bertrand Russell's theory of descriptions. Vienna Circle: logical positivism. A J Ayer's version of the elimination of metaphysics; critical appraisal

**Unit 4: Existentialism**

Soren Kierkegaard: Truth and subjectivity, stages of existence, faith and paradox

Jean Paul Sartre: Ontology, Existence precedes essence; authentic existence and bad faith.

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**Paper 6:Philosophy of Religion: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI503**

**Unit 1: Introducing Philosophy of Religion.**

What is religion? Philosophy of religion: method and scope. Does morality require religion? Divine Command Theory (Euthyphro's dilemma) and Natural law Theory (Thomas Aquinas). Relation between religion and science: independent or confrontational or integrated? The nature of God.

**Unit 2: Does God exist? (traditional justifications)**

Ontological argument: Anselm's view and criticisms; Descartes's version of the ontological argument, and criticisms; Kant's criticisms of the ontological argument.

Cosmological argument: Aquinas' version, Leibniz's version (Principle of Sufficient Reason), critical appraisal. Teleological: Aquinas and William Paley's view; critical appraisal.

**Unit 3: Faith and Reason (pragmatic justifications of religious belief)**

Blaise Pascal's Wager argument, critical appraisal William James' Will to Believe' argument, critical appraisal. W.K. Clifford's Evidentialist argument against faith, critical appraisal.

**Unit 4: World Religions Part 1**

A comparative study of a sample of religions, viz. Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam based on the following selected themes: doctrines, ethics, human destiny, sacraments, scriptures, festivals, literature and art.

**Paper 6: Philosophy of Religion: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI603**

**Unit 1: The Existence of Evil**

The problem of evil: Logical problem and evidential problem. Augustine's response: evil is not real; Leibniz's response: best of all possible worlds, Alvin Plantinga's response: evil is a result of freewill

**Unit 2: Death and Afterlife**

Varieties of immortality (i) disembodied existence - Platonic conception of immortality in *Phaedo*; (ii) the problem of transmigration of souls (iii) the problem of resurrection of the dead.

**Unit 3: Critique of religion**

Frederick Nietzsche's critique: religion as resentment; Karl Marx's critique: religion the opium of the masses; Sigmund Freud's critique: religion is an illusion

**Unit 4: World Religions Part 2**

A comparative study of a sample of religions, viz. Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism based on the following selected themes: doctrines, ethics, human destiny, sacraments, scriptures, festivals, literature and art.

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**Paper 7: Plato's Republic: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI504**

**Unit 1: Debating Justice**

Book 1 Conventional understanding of justice: Cephalus and Polemarchus (327-335) Thrasymachus: Justice as the interest of the stronger (336-347) and is injustice more profitable than justice? (348-354) Book 2: A pragmatic approach to the problem of justice: Glaucon and Adeimantus restate the case for injustice (357-367)

**Unit 2 Social organization and philosophy of Education**

Book 2 The principles of the emergence of society: city-soul analogy; two societies: primitive and luxurious (368-374) Book 4: Plato's analysis of human psyche (435-441) Book 2: Guardians: The temperament of guardians (375-376) Book 2: Early Education of the guardians (376 to 412 of Book 3) Book 10: Critique of poetry through art (595-608)

**Unit 3: Construction of the ideal state**

Book 3-4: Selection, lifestyle and duties of the guardians (412-427). The virtues of the state (427-434) Book 4: The virtues in the individual (441-445) Book 5: The Three Waves: the equality of women (449-457); abolition of family for the guardians (457-471); the paradox: philosophers must be rulers (472-474)

**Unit 4: Background to the Republic**

The intellectual, moral and political background to Plato's *Republic*

**Paper 7: Plato's Republic: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI604**

**Unit 1: The Notion of Philosophy and Philosopher King**

Book 5: philosophers and non-philosophers: episteme and doxa (474- 480) Book 6: The philosophers' fitness to rule (484-487) Prejudice against philosophy and philosophers in democratic society (487-497) Optimism about the possibility of philosopher-ruler. (497-502)

**Unit 2 Epistemology and metaphysics**

Book 6: The Good as highest object of knowledge and simile of the Sun (502- 509) the simile of the Divided Line. (509- 511) Book 7: Allegory of the Cave (514-521) Book 7: The notion of 'dialectic (531-535)

**Unit 3: Political Philosophy**

Book 8-9. Decline of the ideal state: timarchy, oligarchy, democracy and tyranny (543- 576). Comparison of justice and injustice (i.e. just and unjust person) and why justice is better off than injustice. (576-592) Book 10: Virtue and immortality: Myth of Er. (608-613)

**Unit 4: Critical Appraisal of Plato's Republic**

Aristotle's critique and Karl Popper's critique

**Main Text**

Plato, *Republic* Translation by Desmond Lee with an Introduction by Melissa Lane  
2nd edition.

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**Paper 8: Logic: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI505**

**Unit 1: Basic Concepts in Logic**

Defining of logic, propositions and sentences, argument: valid argument and sound argument, recognizing arguments (premise indicators and conclusion indicators); relation between truth and validity of an argument; inductive versus deductive arguments (theory and exercise).

**Unit 2: Categorical Propositions**

Traditional analysis of categorical propositions based on quality, copula and quantity (four-fold classification); distribution of terms. Existential Import (Aristotelian and Boolean interpretation). Traditional (Aristotelian) Square of opposition: contradictories, contraries, subcontraries and subaltern (theory and exercises) Modern (Boolean) Square of Opposition (theory)

**Unit 3: Categorical Syllogisms and Venn Diagrams**

Structure of syllogism: major, minor and middle terms; mood and figure: special rules of the four Figures and valid Moods. Testing validity of syllogisms by rules of syllogistic reasoning; Venn diagram technique for testing syllogisms.

**Unit 4: Logic and Language**

**Paper 8: Logic: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI605**

**Unit 1: Propositional Logic**

Simple and compound (formed through logical operators); truth functional compound propositions (truth conditions); testing validity of propositions and arguments by shorter truth table method.

**Unit 2: Deductive Logic**

Justification and construction of formal proofs as per both rules of inference and rules of replacement; methods of Conditional Proof (CP) and Indirect Proof (IP)

**Unit 3: Predicate Logic**

Basic Concepts in predicate logic: individual constant, individual variable, propositional function, existential quantifier, universal quantifier, instantiation, generalization. Symbolizing/quantification of propositions (singular and general).

**Unit 4: Informal Fallacies**

What is a fallacy? Classification of fallacies: (A) Fallacies of relevance (B) Fallacies of defective Induction (C) Fallacies of presumption (D) Fallacies of ambiguity.

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**Paper 9: Living Ethical Issues: Semester 5: Code: SBAPHI506**

**Unit 1 Bioethics**

The abortion debate: pro-choice versus pro-life. Surrogacy debate: empowerment or exploitation; redefining the notion of 'mother' – genetic, biological and social; advantages and critique of surrogate arrangements.

**Unit 2 Sexual ethics**

Pornography and Censorship: arguments for and against and critical appraisal.

Homosexuality: arguments for and against and critical appraisal.

**Unit 3 Cloning and Euthanasia**

**Cloning:** Ethics of human cloning: what is human cloning? Issues that make human cloning attractive; ethical dangers involved in human cloning. **Euthanasia:** 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.

**Unit 4 Media & Medical ethics**

Journalist ethics: principles of objectivity and truthfulness. Cyber ethics and case studies on issues under media ethics. Patient doctor relationship; Informed consent. Principles of medical ethics: autonomy, beneficence and Justice

**Paper 9: Living Ethical Issues: Semester 6: Code: SBAPHI606**

**Unit 1 Environmental Ethics**

- (a) Land ethics
- (b) Deep Ecology
- (c) Eco-feminism

**Unit 2 Hunger and Poverty**

- (a) A Case in favour of assisting the needy: Peter Singer
- (b) A case against assisting the needy: Garrett Hardin
- (c) Human obligations to future generations

**Unit 3: Corporate Ethics**

- (a) Business ethics: can there be ethics in business? Models of business ethics.
- (b) Do business corporate houses have social responsibility: arguments for and against CSR.
- (c) Affirmative action: arguments for and against affirmative action.

**Unit 4 Religious attitudes toward the environment**

- (a) Vedic-Hindu perspective on the environment: reverence and sanctity of nature?
- (b) Judeo-Christian attitude towards the environment: dominion or stewardship?
- (c) Buddhist view on environmental ethics.

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