



CURRICULUM FOR THE FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME UNDER THE NEW EDUCATION POLICY

Suggested Readings :

1. The Fundamentals of Hinduism – A Philosophical Study : S. C. Chatterjee.
2. The Ethics of the Hindus : S. K. Maitra.
3. An Outline of Hinduism : T. M. P, Mahadevan.
4. Classical Indian Ethical Thought : K. N. Tewari.
5. Development of Moral Philosophy in India : Surama Dasgupta.
6. Ethical Philosophies of India : I. C. Sharma.
7. Studies on the Purusarthas : P. K. Mahapatra.
8. A Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy : C. D. Sharma.
9. Indian Philosophy (Vol. 1) : J. N. Sinha.

SEMESTER-II

PHIDSC152T

ETHICS II (WESTERN)

Contact Hours: 45

Full Marks = 100 [ESE (70)/CCA (30)]

Course Objectives: The Course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the Western ethical theories, their historical development, and their application to contemporary moral issues. The core objectives of this course are:

- i. To provide a solid foundational knowledge of the major ethical theories that have emerged within the Western philosophical tradition, such as, Teleology, Deontology, Virtue Ethics, etc., as well as to acquaint them with the modern ethical perspectives.
- ii. To encourage students to develop critical thinking skills that will help them to identify the underlying assumptions, logical fallacies, and ethical implications in the different ethical theories.
- iii. To apply ethical frameworks to real-world problems, and develop the ability to evaluate complex ethical situations considering multiple perspectives and constructing well-reasoned arguments.
- iv. To cultivate students' ethical awareness by encouraging them to reflect on their own values, beliefs, and ethical responsibilities.

Unit I

Ethics : Its nature and concern; Normative Ethics and Meta-Ethics

Fundamental Concepts : Rights and Duties; Good and Virtue; Object of Moral Judgement



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Unit II

Teleological Ethics : Hedonism and its types; Utilitarianism (Bentham and Mill)

Virtue Ethics : Aristotle – nature and kinds of Virtue, theory of Golden Mean

Unit III

Deontological Ethics : Kant – Good Will, Categorical Imperative, Duty for Duty's sake

W. D. Ross : Deontological Pluralism

Unit IV

G. E. Moore : Indefinibility of Good, Naturalistic Fallacy

Ayer and Stevenson : Emotivism

Unit V

Definition and scope of Applied Ethics

Environmental Ethics : Anthropocentrism and Eco-centrism

Theories of Punishment

Course Outcome: Students completing this course will have a solid foundation in Western ethical theories, develop critical thinking skills, and gain practical tools for ethical decision-making. They will be equipped to engage in ethical discussions, analyze complex moral issues, and apply ethical principles in their personal and professional lives.

Suggested Readings :

1. Frankena, W., Ethics, Prentice Hall, India.
2. Lillie, W., An Introduction to Ethics, Allied Publishers
3. Hursthouse, R., Virtue Ethics, OUP, 1999.
4. Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics.
5. Iyer, Raghavan, The Moral and Political Thought of M.K. Gandhi, OUP
6. Benn. Piers, Ethics, UCL, 1998
7. Baron, M.W., Petite, P and Slote, M., Three Methods of Ethics, Blackwell, 1997
8. Singer, Peter, Practical Ethics (Cambridge University Press), Relevant Chapters.