

**Department of Philosophy  
Jahangirnagar University**

**Courses for M.Phil-Ph.D Program**

**Syllabus for two years 1<sup>st</sup> Part M.Phil-Ph.D Degree program for the students enrolled in the sessions of 2019-2020, 2020-2021 leading to the M.Phil Degree of 2020, 2021, 2022**

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1<sup>st</sup> Part M.Phil-Ph.D degree program in Philosophy is of 200 marks. Students will have to undertake Two courses from group A and two courses prescribed by the concerned supervisor from group B

**Group A**

Course no	Course Title	Unit	Marks
MPhil 601	Philosophical Research Methodology	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 602	Contemporary Epistemology	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 603	Contemporary Metaphysics	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 604	Classics of Moral Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks

**Group B**

MPhil 604	Basic Writings on Russell	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 605	Basic Writings on Wittgenstein	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 606	Readings in Philosophy of Language	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 607	Mathematical Logic and Set Theory	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 608	Critical Studies of the Theories of Hume and Kant	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 609	Applied Ethics	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 610	Classics in Islamic Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 611	Asian Environmental Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 612	Islam and Ecology	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 613	Postmodern Philosophy: Foucault and Derrida	½ unit	50 marks

দর্শন বিভাগ  
জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
২০১৬-২০২০ শিক্ষাবর্ষের এম.ফিল-পি.এইচ-ডি শ্রেণির কোর্স বন্টন নিম্নরূপ: (পরীক্ষা ২০২০)

**Group A (Compulsory Course)**

Course no	Course Title	Unit	Full Unit-100 Marks
MPhil 601	Philosophical Research Methodology	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 602	Contemporary Epistemology	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 603	Contemporary Metaphysics	½ unit	50 marks
MPhil 604	Classics of Moral Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks

**Group B (Alternative Courses-Any two)**

Course no	Course Title	½ unit	Half Unit-50 Marks
Phil 604	Basic Writings on Wittgenstein	½ unit	50 marks
Phil 605	Readings in Philosophy of Language	½ unit	50 marks
Phil 610	Applied Ethics	½ unit	50 marks
Phil 611	Classics in Muslim Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks
Phil 612	Asian Environmental Philosophy	½ unit	50 marks
Phil 613	Islam and Ecology	½ unit	50 marks

**Course Outlines**

**Phil 601: Philosophical Research Methodology**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and Out Comes :**

**Phil 602: Contemporary Epistemology**

**½ unit 50 mark**

**Course Goals and Out Comes :**

- The aim of the course is to introduce students a well-organized presentation of material relating to scepticism, to various philosophical accounts of knowledge and justification, to theories of perception, and more.
- Upon completion of the course, students should be able to understand contemporary issues and problems of epistemology.
- **Course Description:**

**Knowledge:** Skepticism, Knowledge, The Conditional Theory of Knowledge.

**Justification:** Foundationalism, Foundationalism and Other Minds, Empiricism and Theories of Meaning, Holism and Indeterminacy, Coherence Theories, 9. Coherence, Justification and Knowledge.

**Forms of Knowledge:** Theories of Perception, Perception: A Choice of a Theory, Memory, Induction

**Recommended Reading:**

1. Dancy, J., 1985, *An Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology*.
2. Wright, C., 1987, *Realism, Meaning and Truth*, Oxford, Blackwell.
3. Devitt, M., 1984, *Realism and Truth*, Oxford, Blackwell.
4. Putnam, H., 1981, *Reason, Truth and History*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**M.Phil. 603 : Contemporary Metaphysics**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and Outcomes:**

- The aim of the course is to introduce students various account of contemporary issues in metaphysics.
- Upon completion of the course, students should be able to understand contemporary issues and problems of metaphysics.
- Also it will build the research skills necessary to produce an original paper on contemporary metaphysical issues.

**Course Description:** An attempt will be made here to analyse some contemporary issues in metaphysics. The list of topics involves some contemporary reflections regarding the nature of metaphysics, properties, the problem of universals, metaphysical realism and nominalism, individuals, concrete particulars, substrate bundles, substances, personal identity, modality, causation, concrete particulars, identity through time, the necessary and the possible, theories regarding the nature of reality.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Kim, Jaegwon, Korman, Daniel Z., and Sosa, Ernest (eds), 2011, *Metaphysics: An Anthology*, 2nd. ed., Wiley Blackwell.
2. Koons, Robert, and Pickavance, Timothy, 2015, *Metaphysics: The Fundamentals*, Wiley Blackwell.
3. Loux, M.J., 1998, *Metaphysics: A Contemporary Introduction*, Routledge.
4. Chisholm, R., 1979, *On Metaphysics*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
5. Quine, W.V., 1969, *Ontological Relativity and Other Essays*, Columbia University Press.
6. Rorty, R., 1979, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature*, Princeton University Press.
7. Van Inwagen, P., (ed.), 1993, *Metaphysics*, Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

**Phil 604 : Classics of Moral Philosophy**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and out Comes :**

- The aim of the course is to introduce students advanced issues in moral philosophy, in particular, virtue, liberty, moral law, duty, good will and justice through a critical reading of some classical texts.
- Upon completion of the course, students should be able to understand more advanced issues and arguments in moral philosophy, and reflect on the relative advantages and also the limitations of some classical moral philosophers' ways of thinking.

**Course Description :** In this advanced level course, students will analyze and reflect some of the influential theories based on the classical texts in moral philosophy. They will critically discuss how these theories could be helpful to shape the concept of good human being and good life. How these theories could govern our ethical decisions and what kind of ethical relationship we should maintain toward other fellow human beings. Apart from normative ethical discussions, the course will focus Rawls's theory of justice. In brief, it will analyze and reflect on some major moral concepts such as, utility, freedom, reason, humanity, virtue and justice.

**Required Texts :**

1. Aristotle (2000), Crisp, Roger, trans. and ed. *Nicomachean Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2. Mill, John Stuart (1998), Crisp, Roger, ed. *Utilitarianism*. Oxford University Press.
3. Kant, Immanuel (2012). Gregor, Mary & Timmermann, Jens, eds. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*. Cambridge University Press.
4. Rawls, John A. (1971), *A Theory of Justice*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

## Gouup B

### MPhil. 605 : Basic Writings on Russell

½ unit 50 marks

#### Course Goals and Outcomes:

- The aim of the course is to give an overview Russell's philosophy.
- Upon completion the course, students will be able to understand Russell's philosophical views on various problems of philosophy.

#### Course Description

On denoting, Mathematical logic as based on the theory of types, On the relations of universals and particulars, On the nature of acquaintance, The philosophy of logical atomism, what is a Word? Sentences, Syntax, and Parts of Speech, Sentences Describing Experiences, the Object-Language, Logical Words, Proper Names, Egocentric Particulars, Perception and Knowledge, Epistemological Premises.

#### Required Texts:

1. Russell, B., 1940, *An Inquiry into Meaning and Truth*, New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc.
2. Russell, B., 1959, *Mysticism and Logic and Other Essays*, London: George Allen and Unwin.
3. Russell, B., 1959, *My Philosophical Development*, London: George Allen and Unwin.

#### Recommended Readings:

1. Abbott, Barbara, 2010, *Reference*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2. Miller, Alexander, 2007, *Philosophy of Language*, Routledge.
3. R. M. Sainsbury 2005, *Reference without Referent*, Oxford: Clarendon Press
4. Margareimer and Bezuidenhout, Anne, (eds.) 2004, *Descriptions and Beyond*, Oxford: Clarendon. Press
5. Griffin, Nicholas, (ed.), 2003, *The Cambridge Companion to Bertrand Russell*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
6. Stroll, Avrum, 2000, *Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy*, Columbia University Press.

### MPhil. 606 : Basic Writings on Wittgenstein

½ unit 50 marks

#### Course Goals and Outcomes:

- The aim of the course is to orient students to some of the primary literature of Wittgenstein's philosophy.
- Upon completion of the course, students should have a clear conception of the structure, style, topics, problems, and methods of the major works of Wittgenstein.

#### Required Texts:

1. Wittgenstein, L., 2009, *Philosophical Investigations*, 4th edition (trans. Anscombe, Hacker and Schulte). Chichester, West Sussex, U.K.; Malden, USA: Wiley-Blackwell. 2009.
2. Wittgenstein, L., 1969, *On Certainty*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
3. Wittgenstein, L., 1961, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*. D F Pears & B F Mc Guinness (Trans).

#### Recommended Readings:

5. McGinn, M., 2013, *The Routledge Guidebook to Wittgenstein's Philosophical Investigations*. London etc.: Routledge.
3. Kuusela, O., 2009, *The struggle against dogmatism: Wittgenstein and the concept of philosophy*. Harvard University Press.
4. Kahane, G., Kanterian, E., & Kuusela, O., 2007, *Wittgenstein and his interpreters: essays in memory of Gordon Baker*.
6. Moyal-Sharrock, D., 2004, *Understanding Wittgenstein's On Certainty*. Basingstoke etc.: Palgrave Macmillan.
1. Crary, A., & Read, R. (Eds.), 2000, *The New Wittgenstein*. Routledge.
2. Glock, H.-J., 1996, *A Wittgenstein Dictionary*. Oxford: Blackwell.

### MPhil 607: Readings in Philosophy of Language

½ unit 50 marks

#### Course Goals and Outcomes: The aims of this course are

- 1 to provide students an opportunity to interpret in their own ways some of the topics prevailing in the field of the Philosophy of Language in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century;
2. to provide students an opportunity to show their ability of thinking critically and

develop their own ideas as well as express these ideas clearly and persuasively in writing.

Upon successful completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able

1. to identify, describe and explain the major issues in the field of the Philosophy of Language;
2. to formulate objections to a theory or to form counterarguments of their own against a theory;
3. to form arguments of their own to support a theory they prefer;
4. to apply critical thinking and reasoning skills in a wide range of career paths and courses of study.

**Course Description:**

This is an advanced course in the field of philosophy of language. The main focus of the course will be on a number of recent issues in philosophy of language such as Truth, Meaning, Speech Acts, Reference, Descriptions, Name Demonstratives, Propositional Attitudes, Metaphor, Interpretation, Translation and the nature of language.

**Required Text:**

Martinich, A. P. (ed.), 2001, *The Philosophy of Language*, Oxford University Press. (Selected papers).

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Juhl, Cory and Loomis, Eric, 2010, *Analyticity*, NY: Routledge.
2. Soames, Scott, 2010, *Philosophy of Language*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
3. Morris, Michael, 2007, *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Language*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
4. Dummett, Michael, 2006, *Thought and Reality*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.
5. Soames, Scott, 2003, *Philosophical Analysis in the Twentieth Century, Vol. 2 (The Age of Meaning)*, Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.
6. Stroll, Avrum, 2000, *Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy*, NY: Columbia University Press.
7. Devitt, Michael and Sterelny, Kim, 1999, *Language and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Language*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
8. George Yule, George, 1996, *Pragmatics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
9. J. R. Searle, J. R., 1971, *The Philosophy of Language*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
10. John I. Saeed, John I, 1997/2003, *Semantics*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
11. Alexander Miller, Alexander, 1998/2007, *Philosophy of Language*, London and New York: Routledge

**MPhil 608: Mathematical Logic and Set Theory**

**½ Unit 50 Marks**

**Course Goals and Outcomes :**

- The goal of the course is to introduce students advanced topics and problems of mathematical logic and set theory.
- Upon completion the course students are expected to understand essential concepts such as first-order logic, consistency, recursivity and so on.

**Course Descriptions :** The main focus of the course will be on a number of central topics in mathematical logic and set theory. Elements of discrete mathematics, group, ring and abstract algebras; Boolean algebras.

**Required Texts:**

1. Heijenoort, J. V., 1967, *From Frege to Gödel*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, (selected articles).
2. Suppes, P., *Axiomatic Set Theory*

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Copi, I.M., *Symbolic Logic*.
2. Lipschutz, S., *Set Theory and Its Related Topics*.
3. Rogers, H., *Discrete Mathematics and its applications*.

**MPhil. 609 : Critical Studies of the Theorise of Hume and Kant****½ unit 50 marks****Course Goals and Outcomes:**

- The goal of this course is to understand the breadth and depth of Hume and Kant's thoughts on knowledge and morality by means of a selective but close reading of primary texts, conjoined with an examination of more recent classics that inherit the Humean and the Kantian ideas.
- The study of Hume and Kant's epistemological and moral theories will help the students understand the contemporary debates in epistemology and ethics.

**Course Description:** This course is designed for advanced postgraduates who are already familiar with major philosophical doctrines and will explore the theories provided by the two important philosophers (Hume and Kant) from the modern period of western philosophy. Both original and supporting texts will be used in this course. Willingness and patience to work with such philosophical writings, as well as active participation and collaborative spirit in examining them, are required. In this course the following issues will be discussed in details:

- Hume's epistemological and moral theories
- Kant's epistemological and moral theories

**Required Texts (Selected Parts):**

1. Hume, D. 1999, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*. Edited by Tom L. Beauchamp. Oxford University Press.
2. \_\_\_\_\_. 1998, *Enquiry Concerning Principles of Morals*. Edited by Tom L. Beauchamp. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
3. Kant, I. 2011, *Groundworks of Metaphysics of Morals*. Edited and translated by Mary Gregor and Jens Timmermann. Cambridge University Press.
4. \_\_\_\_\_. 1998, *Critique of Pure Reason*. Edited and translated by Paul Guyer and Allen W. Wood. Cambridge University Press.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Chadwick, R. 1990. *Immanuel Kant: Critical Assessments*. Routledge.
2. Tweyman, S. 1995. *David Hume: Critical Assessments*. Routledge.

**MPhil. 610 : Applied Philosophy****½ unit 50 marks****Course Goals and Outcomes:**

The aim of the course is to introduce students the recent issues of social problems such as punishment, war and peace, responsibility and debate on new technologies. This course will also provide students philosophical issues concerning determinism, indeterminism, compatibilism, incompatibilism, freewill and moral responsibility.

**Course Descriptions:** The course will particularly deal with some prominent issues of contemporary interest such as Theory of Punishment, peace and war, responsibility, war and peace, and some bioethical issues involved with new technologies of biosciences.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Acton, H.B. (Ed.), 1963, *The Philosophy of Punishment*, London: Macmillan.
2. Almond, B., 1995, *Introducing Applied Ethics*, Blackwell.
3. Andrew Crane & Dirk Matten, 2010, *Business Ethics: Managing Corporate Citizenship and Sustainability in the Age of Globalization*, 3rd Edition, OUP Oxford.
4. Fischer, John M., 2006, *My Way: Essays on Moral Responsibility*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
5. Fotio, N. and Elfstrom, G, 1986, *Military Ethics: Guidelines for Peace and War*. Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
6. Hart, H.L.A., 1960, *Punishment and Responsibility*, Oxford.
7. Kane, Robert, 2005, *A Contemporary Introduction to Free Will*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
8. Pereboom, Derk, 2002, *Living Without Free Will*, Cambridge: Cambridge University.
9. Robert C. Scharff & Val Dusek (eds.), 2014, *Philosophy of Technology: The Technological Conditions - An Anthology*, Sussex: Wiley Blackwell.
10. Wells, D.A., 1967, *The War Myth*, New York, Pegasus.

**MPhil 611: Classics in Islamic Philosophy****½ unit 50 marks****Course Goals and Outcomes:**

The aim of this course is to provide the basic philosophy of three prominent Islamic Thinkers: Imam Al-Ghazali, IbnRushd& IbnKhalidun. Upon the successful completion of this course, the learners will be able to-

- understand some important interpretations of Islamic Philosophy.
- realize the basic arguments of three distinguished philosophers in the history of Islamic Philosophy.
- know the Islamic Ideology regarding some important theological issues

**Course Description:** The course is divided into two parts. The first part of the course explores the interpretations of Imam Al- Ghazali& IbnRushd regarding the Islamic philosophers who are treated as the member of 'Falsafa' school of thought. Some metaphysical, epistemological & also theological problems are mainly discussed in this part of the course. In the second part of the course, some social, political & ethical thought of Ibn Khalidun are provided.

**Recommended Readings:**

4. Oliver Leaman, 2002, *An Introduction to Classical Islamic Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press.
9. -----, 1996 , *History of Islamic Philosophy*, edited with Oliver Leaman, Routledge.
5. Oliver Leaman, 1985, *An Introduction to Medieval Islamic Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press.
6. E. L. Ormsby, 1984, *Theodicy in Islamic Thought: The Dispute over al-Ghazali's Best of All Possible Worlds*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
7. N.J. Dawood, 1967, *The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History*, Trans. F. Rosenthal.
8. Sayyed Hossein Nasr, 1964, *An Introduction to Islamic Cosmological Doctrines*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
2. Ibn Khalidun, 1967, *The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to the History*, vol: 1-3, Translated by Franz Rosenthal, Bollingen, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
3. Averroes, 1945, *Tahafut al-Tahafut*, Translated by Simon Van Den Bergh, London.
1. Al-Ghazali, 1927, *Tahafut al Falasifah*, Translated by Sabih Ahmed Kamali, Beirut.
১১. দস্তগীর, ড. মো. গোলাম ও হোসেন, ড. মো. শওকত, ২০১১, *ইসলামী দর্শনের রূপরেখা*, ঢাকা, তিথি পাবলিকেশন।
১০. হোসেন, ড. মো. শওকত, ২০০০, *ইমাম আল-গায়ালী ও ইবনেরুশদ এর দর্শন*, ঢাকা, তিথি পাবলিকেশন।

**MPhil 612: Asian Environment Philosophy**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and Outcomes:**

**Course Descriptions:** The concept of 'nature' has played a crucial role in Asian people's lifestyles, beliefs, worldviews and ethical thinking. What is the meaning of 'nature' in Asian cultures? How do Asian people perceive their relations to nature? What types of environmental philosophy and ethics Asian traditions exhibit? This advanced level course considers these questions in surveying major Asian traditions namely, Indian, Chinese, Japanese and Arabian with an emphasis on Environmental thoughts in Bangla.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. J. Baird Callicott and James McRae, eds., 2014, *Environmental Philosophy in Asian Traditions of Thought*, Albany: Suny Press.
2. Jamieson, Dale. 2001, *A Companion to Environmental Philosophy*.Malden, Mass: Blackwell.
3. Cooper, David E. and Joy A. Palmer, eds., 1998, *Spirit of the Environment: Religion, Value, and Environmental Concern*. London: Routledge.
4. Callicott, J. Baird, 1994, *Earth's Insights: A Survey of Ecological Ethics from the Mediterranean Basin to the Australian Outback*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
5. Callicott and Ames, eds., 1989, *Nature in Asian Traditions of Thought*. Albany: Suny Press.

**MPhil 613: Islam and Ecology**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and Outcomes:**

- The aim of this course is to introduce students with advanced topics in ecological philosophy, environmental justice, Rights and policies and the debates among them from Islamic perspectives.
- Upon completion of the course, students should be able to understand more advanced issues and arguments in ecological philosophy, environmental justice, rights, and environmental

policy and reflect on the relative advantages of Islamic ecological philosophies and the limitations of recent environmental theories.

**Course Descriptions:** Islamic worldview offers a trusteeship between the Creator and His creations of natural world. The articulation of Islamic environmental philosophy and ethics, understanding interrelation of human and non-human elements of nature from the perspectives of the Holy Qur'an and Islamic traditions (Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (saw)) is the aim of this course.

**Required Text:**

1. Foltz, Richard C., Denny, Federick M. and Baharuddin, Azizan, eds., 2003, *Islam and Ecology: A Bestowed Trust*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. Nasr, Sayyed Hossen, 2007, *Man and Nature: The Spiritual Crisis in Modern Man*, Chicago: Kazi Publications.

**MPhil 614: Postmodern Philosophy: Foucault and Derrida**

**½ unit 50 marks**

**Course Goals and Outcomes:**

The aim of this course is to provide the core philosophical thought of Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida, two distinctive philosophical voices of the second half of the twentieth century. Upon completion the course, students should be able to

1. discuss and critically analyze basic viewpoints and arguments used by postmodern philosopher to refute or rethink some of metaphysical, epistemological, social, political, linguistic issues, which are traditionally taken differently.
2. understand some new interpretation or analysis concerning some epistemological, historical or social, ethical aspects such as knowledge, power, madness, norm, discourse, human science, discipline, punishment, metaphor, etc.
3. distinguish effectively the implications of such new matrix of ideas and deconstructive concepts for the humanities and the arts by identifying and evaluating their influence on complex philosophical issues.
4. critically evaluate Foucault's or Derrida's postmodern critical positions, or deconstructive readings.

**Course Description:** The discussion of their main philosophical insights and conceptions, their influence on contemporary philosophical discourse under the title of postmodernity will be provided. Learner will be able to become familiar with the innovative ideas of Foucault and Derrida and the challenge they present to established ideas and intellectual aspirations, their explanatory views and ways of thinking, regarding life, society, state and institutions, history, knowledge, morality, language, sexuality, which we have inherited from the 'Age of Enlightenment'.

**Recommended Readings :**

1. Foucault, Michel, 2002, *Archaeology of Knowledge*, Translated by A.M. Sheridan Smith, London: Routledge.
2. Foucault, Michel, 1995, *Discipline and Punishment: The Birth of Prison*, New York: Vintage Books, A Division of Random House, Inc,
3. Derrida, Jacques, 1995, *The Gift of Death*, Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press.
4. Foucault, Michel, 1988, *Madness and Civilization: A History of Insanity in the Age of Reason*, New York: Vintage Books.
5. Derrida, Jacques, 1982, *The Margins of Philosophy*, Sussex: The Harvester Press.
6. Derrida, Jacques, 1972. *Dissemination*, Translated by Barbara Johnson, London: The Athlone Press.