



**Darrang College
(Autonomous),
Tezpur-784001**

**Syllabus for
FYUGP
Sub: PHILOSOPHY
(MINOR)**

Approved by :
Board of Studies meeting held on 13-06-2026 &
Academic Council vide Resolution no. DC/AC/3/2026/02 dated-29th June, 2026

Syllabus
Department of Philosophy
Darrang College (Autonomous)

□ **Aims of FYUGP in Philosophy:**

To enhance students' critical thinking, logical reasoning, and effective communication skills. It promotes profound reflection on fundamental questions related to existence, knowledge, ethics, and human nature. By engaging with both historical and contemporary philosophical texts and traditions, students acquire analytical tools that enable them to understand complex ideas and evaluate arguments. The course nurtures intellectual independence, ethical awareness, and open-mindedness, equipping graduates with versatile skills that are applicable across various fields and careers, while also laying a strong foundation for further academic pursuits.

□ **Program Outcome:**

After the completion of the Undergraduate Programme in Philosophy, a student will be capable of

- (1) Understanding the world from various perspectives.
- (2) Distinguishing between valid and invalid thinking.
- (3) Thinking independently in a correct way.
- (4) Presenting the total picture of any complex problem of society through synthetic knowledge of philosophy.
- (5) Solving social issues through philosophical counselling.
- (6) Developing a sense of value.
- (7) Understanding moral principles and applying those principles in day-to-day life.
- (8) Developing a moral insight, which is essential for leading a good life.
- (9) Taking up research work in philosophy and issues related to philosophy.

□ **Teaching learning process:**

The approach emphasises active, student-centred learning alongside rigorous academic inquiry. It incorporates a variety of methods, including lectures, seminars, tutorials, debates, group discussions, writing assignments, presentations, dissertations and project work. Additionally, online platforms such as WhatsApp groups and Google Classroom are utilized to enhance learning and communication. The process encourages open questioning, reflective thinking, and active engagement with the material.

□ **Teaching Learning tools:**

Teaching Learning tools includes-

- (1) Whiteboards/Blackboards
- (2) Textbooks
- (3) Projectors
- (4) PowerPoint Presentations

- (5) Google Classroom
- (6) Peer Teaching
- (7) Field Trips / Educational Tour

□ Evaluation/ Assessment:

Assessment methods include oral presentations, Assignments, Practical, project work and written examinations.

□ Course Structure

Detailed syllabus of 1st semester:

Minor 1

Title of the course	ANCIENT INDIAN THOUGHT
Course code	PHI-MN-01014
Total Credit (theory+practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Have a comprehensive idea of different concepts and issues in the field of ancient Indian tradition 2) Understand the characteristics of different Indian philosophical systems and its basic divisions- Astika and Nastika 3) Understand about the four Noble Truths, Pratityasamutpada and No-Soul Theory of Buddhism. They will also come to know about the epistemological and metaphysical concepts of Jaina and Cārvaka 4) Distinguish and analyse between Dharma, Religion and Perfect life of Epics and Smṛiti 5) Understand the meaning and origin of Pūrāṇa along with its philosophical content and ethics

Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
Unit I: Vedic Thought	Saṃhita: Meaning, Theology, Cosmology, Ethics Brāhmaṇas: Meaning, General Character, Theory of Sacrifice, Ethics Āraṇyakas and Upanisads: Meaning, Doctrines of Upanisads	13	2	NA	15

Unit II: Non-Vedic Thought	Characteristics of Indian Philosophy, Astika and Nastika dichotomy Bauddha: Four Noble Truths, Pratityasamutpada, No-soul Theory Jaina: Anekāntavāda, Syādvāda Cārvaka: Theory of Knowledge, Metaphysics	13	2	NA	15
Unit III: Smriti and Epics	Manusamhita: Dharma Mahābhārata: Religion, Dharma Rāmāyaṇa: Idea of Perfect Life	13	2	NA	15
Unit IV: Pūrāṇas	Pūrāṇa: Meaning, Origin Pūrāṇa: Content Pūrāṇa: Ethics	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Chatterjee, S. and Dutta, D. An Introduction to Indian Philosophy
Dasgupta, S. A History of Indian Philosophy. Volume I
De, S.K., U. N. Ghosal, A. D. Pusalker, R.C. Hazra (eds). The Cultural Heritage of India. Volume III
Keith, A. B. The Religion and Philosophy of the Veda and Upanisads. Volume II
Radhakrishnan, S. Indian Philosophy. Volume I
Sinha, Jadunath. Indian Philosophy. Volume I
Winternitz, M. A History of Indian Literature. Volume I

Detailed syllabus of 2nd Semester:

Minor 2

Title of the course	GREEK PHILOSOPHY
Course code	PHI-MN-02014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Understand the origin and historical development of Greek philosophy, with emphasis on the transition from mythological interpretations to rational inquiry. 2) Identify and explain the key contributions of Pre-Socratic philosophers, including Thales, Anaximander, Heraclitus, Parmenides, and Zeno, in the realms of metaphysics and cosmology. 3) Understand Socratic philosophy, especially his method of dialectical inquiry and ethical focus on virtue and self-knowledge.

	4) Analyse Plato's philosophical framework, focusing on his theory of Forms and Justice. 5) Assess Aristotle's advancements in metaphysics, ethics, and natural philosophy, and compare his ideas with those of earlier philosophers. 6) Evaluate the lasting influence of Greek philosophical thought on later Western and Indian philosophical traditions.
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Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
UNIT I: Pre-Socratics	The Origin and Development of Greek Philosophy The Milesians: Thales, Anaximander, The Eleatics: Parmenides, Zeno The Physicists: Heraclitus	13	2	NA	15
UNIT II: Sophists and Socrates	Protagoras Socrates' Method and Virtue	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III: Plato	Knowledge and Opinion Theory of Forms Justice	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV: Aristotle	Forms and Matter Causation Actuality and Potentiality	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Stace W.T: A Critical History of Greek Philosophy
Barnet J: Early Greek Philosophy
B.A.G. Fuller: History of Philosophy
F. Copleston (vol 1) History of Philosophy
Zeller: Outlines of Greek Philosophy
Gomperz: The Greek Thinkers
W.K.C.Guthrie: History of Greek Philosophy
B.N. Moore: Philosophy, The Power of Ideas

Detailed syllabus of 3rd Semester:

Minor 3

Title of the course	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
Course code	PHI-MN-03014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4

Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1. Understand the meaning, nature, scope, and major branches of Philosophy and understand their relevance in human life and intellectual inquiry. 2. Analyze and compare the major theories of the origin of knowledge, namely Rationalism, Empiricism, and Kant's Critical Theory. 3. Examine the theories of the object of knowledge, including Realism (Naïve Realism and Scientific Realism) and Idealism (Subjective Idealism and Objective Idealism). 4. Understand & analyze the fundamental categories of knowledge such as Space, Time, Substance, and Causality in philosophical discourse. 5. Analyze and articulate the foundational arguments presented by proponents of Realism and Idealism regarding the nature of reality. 6. Apply philosophical concepts and theories to understand knowledge, reality, and human experience from a critical and analytical perspective.

Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
UNIT I:	Definition, Nature and Scope of Philosophy Branches of Philosophy	13	2	NA	15
UNIT II:	Theories of the origin of knowledge: Rationalism, Empiricism and Kant's Critical Theory	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III:	Theories of Object of Knowledge: Realism- Naive Realism and Scientific Realism Idealism- Subjective Idealism and Objective Idealism	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV:	Categories of Knowledge: Space, Time, Substance and Causality	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Sinha, J.N.:	Introduction to Philosophy
Chakraborty, S.P.:	An Introduction to Philosophy
Patrick, G.T.W.:	Introduction to Philosophy
Cunningham, G.W.:	Problems of Philosophy
Russell, Bertrand.:	Problems of Philosophy

Bhattacharyya, Hari Mohan: The Principles of Philosophy

Chatterjee, Phanibhushan: Outlines of General Philosophy

Bhattacharjya, Jyotshna: Darshanar Porichay

Detailed syllabus of 4th Semester:

Minor 4

Title of the course	Indian Philosophy
Course code	PHI-MN-04014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Understand the basic concepts and problems relating to knowledge, reality etc of the traditional Indian systems. 2) Develop the ability to critically evaluate and differentiate between major schools of Indian Philosophy based on their metaphysics and epistemology.

Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
UNIT I:	Sankhya: Purusa, Prakriti and Evolution Yoga: Psychology	13	2	NA	15
UNIT II:	Nyaya: Perception, Inference Vaisheshika: Category, Atomism	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III:	Mimamsa: Knowledge, Svatahpramanay, Pratahpramanay	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV:	Vedanta: Sankaracharya Brahman, Maya, Jagat Ramanujacharya: Brahman, Jiva, Jagat, Refutation of Maya	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Chatterjee, S.C. and Dutta, D.M. : An Introduction to Indian Philosophy

Sharma, C.D. : Critical Survey of Indian Philosophy

Hirriyana, M. : Outlines of Indian Philosophy

Sinha, J.N. : History of Indian Philosophy

Radhakrishnan, S. : Indian Philosophy (Vol I & Vol II)

Dasgupta, S.N. : History of Indian Philosophy (Vol I)

Bhattacharya, Jyotsna : Bharatiya Darshan (Assamese)

Baruah, G. : Bharatiya Darshanat Ebhumuki (Assamese)

Guwahati Biswavidyalaya Pathyaputhi Prastuti Samannvaya Samiti : Bharatiya Darshan (Assamese)

Detailed syllabus of 5th Semester:
Minor 5

Title of the course	Ethics
Course code	PHI-MN-05014
Total Credit (theory + practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) To ignite learning capacity in key philosophical concepts like good and bad, virtue and vice and right and wrong through a framework that fosters self-awareness, interpersonal skills, and leadership. 2) To engage the students with concepts of 'good', 'being good' and 'doing good' through a framework that fosters self-awareness, interpersonal skills, and leadership. 3) To assess major theories of punishment and analyse how freedom and responsibility shape ethical choices 4) To compare and contrast classical ethical frameworks including Aristotle's Virtue Ethics, Kant's Categorical Imperative, Mill's Utilitarianism and apply them to ethical issues.

Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
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UNIT I: Introduction to Ethics	• Meaning, Nature, Scope and Utility of Ethics • Classification of Ethics: Meta-Ethics, Normative Ethics and Applied Ethics • Teleological Ethics • Deontological Ethics.	13	2	NA	15
UNIT II: Moral Actions and Moral Judgment	• Moral and Non-Moral Actions • Voluntary and Non-Voluntary Actions • Nature of Moral Judgment • Object of Moral Judgment • Postulates of Morality	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III: Crime, Punishment, Freedom and Responsibility	• Definition and Nature of Crime • Meaning and Purpose of Punishment • Theories of Punishment • Freedom and Freedom of Will • Responsibility and Moral Responsibility • Relation between Freedom and Responsibility	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV: Major Ethical Thinkers and Theories	• Aristotle: Virtue Ethics • Kant: Categorical Imperative • Mill: Utilitarianism	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Plato: Republic

Aristotle: Nicomachean Ethics

Dasgupta, S.N : A History of Indian Philosophy

Lillie, William. : An Introduction to Ethics

Mackenzie, J.N.: Manual of Ethics

Kant: Groundwork for the Metaphysic of Morals

Guwahati Biswavidyalaya Pathyaputhi Prastuti Samannvaya Samiti : Nitisastra(Assamese)

Detailed syllabus of 6th Semester:

Minor 6

Title of the course	History of Modern Western Philosophy
Course code	PHI-MN-06014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4

Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Accurately define and explain the core doctrines of the major philosophers, including Cartesian Dualism, the Theory of Monads, Locke's distinction between primary and secondary qualities, and Kant's Categories. 2) Map the historical and conceptual progression of the Rationalist (Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz) and Empiricist (Locke & Hume) traditions, articulating the central tenets that distinguish each school. 3) Break down complex philosophical problems (e.g., the mind-body problem, the nature of substance,) and describe how each philosopher addressed them uniquely. 4) Assess the success of Kant in his attempt to reconcile the seemingly opposed projects of Rationalism and Empiricism through the doctrine of the synthetic <i>a priori</i> judgment.

Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
UNIT I:	Descartes: Cartesian Method Cogito ergo Sum mind-body dualism	13	2	NA	15
UNIT II:	Spinoza : Substance, Attributes, Modes Leibnitz: Theory of monads, pre-established harmony	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III:	Empiricism Locke: critique of innate ideas, substance and qualities Hume: Impression and ideas, concept of self	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV:	Kant Possibility of synthetic a priori judgement Space and time Categories	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

F.Thilly:	A History of Philosophy
Barlingay and Kulkarni:	Critical History of Western Philosophy
Y. Masih:	A Critical History Of Modern Philosophy
Anthony Kenny:	A New History of Philosophy
F. Copleston:	History of Philosophy
D.W. Hamlyn:	A History of Western Philosophy Routledge History of Philosophy

Detailed syllabus of 7th Semester:**Minor 7**

Title of the course	Social & Political Philosophy
Course code	PHI-MN- 07014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Define the nature and scope of Social and Political Philosophy, differentiating its core concerns from other philosophical disciplines. 2) Analyze the foundational concepts of the individual (as a moral and political agent) and society and also evaluate different theories regarding the relationship between the individual and society by identifying their strengths and weaknesses. 3) Compare and contrast the three ideologies (Anarchism, Socialism, and Marxism) based on their views regarding private property, the role of the state, and achieving social change. 4) Critically assess the strengths, weaknesses, and potential pitfalls of Monarchy, Theocracy, and Democracy as political systems. 5) Apply the principles of Humanism, Secularism, and Multiculturalism to analyze contemporary political issues and debates regarding governance, identity, and justice.

Unit	Content	Lecture	
UNIT I:	Nature and scope of Social & Political Philosophy Concept of Individual and society Different theories regarding the relation between Individual and Society	13	
UNIT II:	Political Ideologies Anarchism Socialism Marxism	13	
UNIT III:	Forms of Government Monarchy Theocracy Democracy	13	
UNIT IV:	Political Philosophy Humanism Secularism Multiculturalism	13	

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

Benjamin, M.(ed): Science and Sensibility, Gender and Scientific Enquiry, 1780-1945
 Durkheim, E.: Sociology and Philosophy
 Joshi, N. V.: Social and Political Philosophy
 Mackenzie, J.S.: Outlines of Social Philosophy
 Raphael, D.D.: Problems of Political Philosophy
 Rout, B.C.: Political Theory and Ideology
 Roy & Bhattacharya.: Political Theory
 Sinha, A.K.: Outlines of Social Philosophy

Detailed syllabus of 8th Semester:

Minor 8

Title of the course	Phenomenology & Existentialism
Course code	PHI-MN-08014
Total Credit (theory +practical)	4
Contact hours	60
Distribution of Marks	End Semester: 15+15+15+15=60 In Semester: 20 Sessional Examination 10 Home Assignment 6 Class Test 4 Attendance
Course outcomes	By the completion of the course, the students will be able to: 1) Describe the core nature, major characteristics, and key approaches of phenomenology, and outline the main features of existentialism, including both its theistic and atheistic strands. 2) Explain and utilize Husserl's central ideas, such as the

	phenomenological method, the notion of essence, intentionality, and the technique of bracketing. 3) Examine Heidegger's existential thought, especially the concepts of Dasein, the analysis in Being and Time, and the idea of living an authentic life. 4) Interpret and assess Sartre's philosophical themes, including existence versus essence, insights from Being and Nothingness, and the concept of bad faith.
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Unit	Content	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Total Hours
UNIT I:	Phenomenology : Nature, Important Features, Main Approaches Existentialism: Salient features, Theistic and Atheistic Existentialism	013	2	NA	15
UNIT II:	Husserl: Phenomenological Method, Theory of Essence, Intentionality and Bracketing	13	2	NA	15
UNIT III:	Heidegger: Dasein, Being and Time, and Authentic existence	13	2	NA	15
UNIT IV:	Sartre: Existence and Essence, Being and Nothingness , Bad Faith	13	2	NA	15

Suggested reference books or textbooks:

M.K. Bhadra: Existentialism and Phenomenology

Sartre: Basic Writings; Existentialism and Humanism; Being and Nothingness

Heidegger : Being and Time

Margaret Chatterjee: Existentialist Outlook

E. Husserl: Logical Investigations