

University of Pune

Department of Philosophy

Syllabus for Ph. D. Course work

(A) Preamble

Ph. D. Course work will consist of four papers to be completed with in one year since the provisional admission by the Ph. D. candidate. Each paper will be a 5-credit course of one semester duration. The four papers are :

- Paper I - Methodology of Science and Philosophy
- Paper II - Recent Trends in Philosophical Reasoning (Indian)
- Paper III - Recent Trends in Philosophical Reasoning (Western)
- Paper IV - Research Training

Paper I is supposed to provide an in-depth knowledge of various methods used in philosophical writings. These philosophical methods are also supposed to be compared with methods in sciences.

Paper II and III aim at acquainting the student with the recent philosophical writings and research (generally produced during last 60 years) with a twofold purpose; a) to give the student an idea of the way philosophical methods are actually used by philosophers and b) to update the student's knowledge on the recent philosophical themes and perspectives on the background of which the student is supposed to produce his\her philosophical research in the form of a dissertation. Paper II deals with philosophers who have worked in Indian philosophy and paper III deals with those who have worked in western philosophy.

In paper IV the candidate will conduct studies in various forms which will support the candidate's Ph. D. research project. The candidate will choose from the alternatives such as study of a text, Preparation of Bibliography, Field work, writing book-reviews or articles attending seminars, special lectures etc. under the supervision of his/her guide.

(B) Outline of the Course

An outline of the papers I to IV is given below;

Paper I : Methodology of Science and Philosophy.

This course is expected to have advanced level discussion on various conceptual issues concerning methods of philosophy and natural and human sciences. The first three credits deal with the methodology of Natural and social sciences and the last two credits with methodology of philosophy. In case the university makes separate provision for a course on methodology for the faculty of mental, moral and social sciences, the first three credits of this course will be replaced by the corresponding credits of the common course for the faculty.

1. **Methodology of Natural Sciences (1)**
Problem of Induction; Hypothesis-verification v/s confirmation; confirmation by observed instances v/s predicative confirmation; Paradox of confirmation; observation and theory.
2. **Methodology of Natural Sciences (2)**
The Positivist, the Realist and the Instrumentalist debate about theory and theory choice and growth of scientific knowledge. (Hempel, Popper, Lakatos, Kuhn, Feyerabend)
3. **Methodology of Social Sciences.**
The positivist conception of unity of scientific method and its critics: Hermeneutics, Critical Theory, phenomenology and postmodernism (Ricoeur, Husserl, Habermas, Derrida, Dilthey, Schutz)
4. **Methodology of Philosophy (1)**
Metaphysics- The problem of sense and non-sense in metaphysics (Ayer, Wittgenstein). Descriptive metaphysics and Revisionary metaphysics (Strawson);
5. **Methodology of Philosophy (2)**
Method of Analysis, (Moore, Wittgenstein) and the **Phenomenological method** (Husserl).

References:

Methodology of Natural and Social Sciences.

1. N. Rescher; *Induction*, Pittsburg University Press, Pittsburg, 1980.
2. Richard Swinburn; *Justification of Induction*, Oxford University Press, 1974.
3. C.G. Hempel; *Aspect of Scientific Explanation*, Free Press, New York, 1965.
4. Richard Rudner; *Philosophy of Social Science*, Englewood Cliffs, N. J. Prentice-Hall, 1966.
5. Alan Ryan; *Philosophy of Social Science*, Mac-Millan Publication, London, 1970.
6. E. Nagel; *The Structure of Science: Problems in Logic Of Scientific Explanation*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1961.
7. G. H. Von Wright; *Understanding and Explanation*, Cornell University Press, New York, 1971.
8. Lauden Larry; *Progress and its problems: Towards a theory of scientific growth*, RKP London, 1977.
9. Norman Stockmon; *Anti-positivist Theories of science*, Dordrecht: Reidel, 1983.
10. Popper Karl; *The Structure of scientific Discovery*, Harner Torch Books, New York, 1968.
11. Kuhn Thomas; *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Chicago University Press, 1970.
12. Lakatos I. and Musgraves A.(ed); *Criticism and Growth of knowledge*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1970.
13. Ricoeur Paul; *Hermeneutics and Human Sciences* , Martinus Nijhoff Dordrecht, 1984.

14. Habermas J; *Theory of communicative Action*, Vol.1 (Relevant parts only)
15. Stephan K.White(ed); *The Cambridge Companion to Habermas* (Relevant articles only) Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1995.
16. Mohanty J. N.; *Phenomenology and the Human Sciences*, Martinus Nijhoff Dordrecht, 1984.
17. Rorty Richard; *Philosophy and Mirror of Nature* (Relevant parts only) Princeton University Press, Princeton N.J. 1979
18. Kearny and Rainwater Mara; *The Continental Philosophy Reader*, Routledge, London, 1996.
19. Feyerabend P; *Against Method*, Cornell University Press, Verso, London, 1975.

Methodology of Philosophy

1. Ayer A.J.; *Central Question of Philosophy*.(relevant parts only).
2. Rorty, Richard; *Linguistic Turn* (Relevant articles only).
3. Husserl E.; *The Idea of phenomenology*(tran.) by W.P.Alston and N.Nakhnikian Martinus Nijhoff Thettague, 1964.
4. Hammond M Howarth, Keat Russell; *Understanding Phenomenology*, (Relevant parts only).Blackwell, Oxford, 1922.
5. Shapiro Jeremy (trans.), *Knowledge and Human Interests*, Beacon Press, Boston 1992.

Paper II: Recent Trends in Philosophical reasoning (Indian)

The course will consist of the study of two to four recent Indian philosophers (i.e. philosophers who have worked within the Indian philosophical tradition) extensively w. r. t their specific writings. The specific authors and their specific writings as specified by the concerned teacher in consultation with the M. Phil committee will constitute the course content of this paper for the respective semester. A provisional list of authors is given below:

K.C. Bhattacharya, Anand Coomaraswamy, J. N. Mohanty, B.K. Matilal, S.S. Barlingay, N.K. Devraja, Daya Krishna, Rajendra Prasad, Debiprasad Chattopadhyay, Vandana Siva.

Paper III: Recent Trends in Philosophical reasoning (Western)

The course will consist of the study of two to four recent western philosophers (i.e. philosophers who themselves may be Indian or Western, but who have worked within western philosophical tradition) extensively w. r. t their specific writings. The specific authors and their specific writings as specified by the concerned teacher in consultation with the M. Phil committee will constitute the course content of this paper for the respective semester. A provisional list of authors is given below:

John Rawls, Karl Popper, Richard Rorty, Habermas, H. Gadamer, Paul Ricouer, R. Sundara Rajan, Peter Singer, Simone De Beauvoir, Amartya Sen

Paper IV: Research Training

In this paper the Ph. D. candidate has to choose from below the adequate number of units the total weightage of which will be equivalent to 5 credits. (Total marks: 100). The performance of the candidate will be evaluated by the guide for the marks assigned for the respective units.

Unit 1: Study of a Text (Weightage: 3 credits; Marks out of: 60)

The candidate will study a text relevant to his/her research topic under the supervision of his/her guide. He/she will submit to the guide an article of at least 2500 words summarizing or critically exposing the text.

Unit 2: Field-work (Weightage: 2 credits; Marks out of: 40)

If the research topic has applied component, then then under this unit the candidate can conduct field-visit, survey etc. under the supervision of the guide and submit the report of at least 2000 words within the semester period.

Unit 3: Detailed Bibliography (Weightage: 2 credits; Marks out of: 40)

In this unit the candidate will prepare a detailed bibliography for his her research project by giving in brief the content of each book /article included in the bibliography.

Unit 4: Attending a relevant post-graduate course (Weightage: 2 credits; Marks out of: 40)

Under this the student will attend regularly a post graduate diploma or degree level course relevant for his/her research project. The course could be from philosophy or any other subject which will be decided in consultation with guide. The candidate will submit an assignment based on he course to the guide.

Unit 5: Attending seminars/special lectures etc. (Weightage: 1 credit; Marks out of: 20)

The candidate in the period of his course-work may attend regional/national/ international seminars or special lectures relevant for his research project and should present a report on the content of the event and candidate's contribution, if any, to the event. [Under this the candidate should attend at least 3 full days of seminar or five special lectures]

Unit 6: Reviewing books (Weightage: 1 credit; Marks out of: 20)

Under this unit the candidate in the course-work period should submit reviews of at least two books. This book review should not be a repetition of the unit 1 above. Each book-review should be of at least 1000 words.

Unit 7: Writing an article (Weightage: 1 credit; Marks out of: 20)

Under this the candidate can submit a research article relevant to his/her theme of doctoral research.

(The guide will confirm that the assignments/ articles/ reviews/ reports/ given under different units do not amount to repetition.)