

**M.A. Philosophy (ODL Mode)**  
**M.A. Semester – I**

**PHI111-I      PROBLEMS IN INDIAN METAPHYSICS**

**Unit I: Sat**

- a) Sat as eternal reality, *Kūṭasthanītya* and *Parināmīnītya: Vedānta* and *Sāṃkhya*
- b) Sat as both eternal and non-eternal: Jainism
- c) Sat as non-eternal and momentary: Buddhism
- d) Vaiśeṣika View on the nature and classification of *Padārthas*
- e) Theory of Universals : Nyāya & Buddhism

**Unit II: Ātman, Mind and Person**

Perspectives of the following systems:

- a) Cārvāka
- b) Buddhism Sāṃkhya-Yoga
- c) Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika
- d) Advaita Vedānta

**Unit III: External World**

- a) Sāṃkhya
- b) Nyāya-Vaiśeṣika
- c) Buddhism
- d) Sankar & Rāmānuja

**Unit IV: Causation**

- a) *Satkāryavāda* of Sāṃkhya
- b) *Asatkāryavāda* of Vaiśeṣika
- c) *Pratītyasamutpāda* of Buddhism
- d) *Satkāryavāda* of Vedānta

## **PHI112-I      PROBLEMS IN WESTERN METAPHYSICS**

### **Unit I: Introduction to Metaphysics**

- a) Problem of being and becoming: Parmenides, Heraclites, Aristotle, Hegel, Heidegger
- b) Theories of Reality : Realism & Idealism (Broad Introduction)

### **Unit II: Nature and conception of the External World**

- a) Berkeley's Subjective Idealism
- b) Moore's Common-sense Realism
- c) Ayer's Phenomenalism

### **Unit III: Self and Mind**

- a) Concept of Self : Descartes, Hume, Kant
- b) Mind-Body Dualism : Descartes and Ryle

### **Unit IV**

- a) Categories: Aristotle, Kant
- b) Problems of Substance: Aristotle, Leibniz, Spinoza, Descartes
- c) Theories of Causation: Aristotle, Hume

**Unit I**

- a) Origin of Buddhist thoughts — Continuation of *Vaidic* tradition or revolt against *Vaidic* tradition
- b) Distinction between *Vaidic* and *Śramaṇa* tradition
- c) The Nature of the Buddha's problem and the nature of his inquiry (*Ariyapariyeṣanasutta*)
- d) Buddha's first sermon, Four noble truths and the Middle path (*Dhamma-cakka-ppavattana-sutta* ),

**Unit II: Suffering and its cause**

- a) Three characteristics of Phenomena: Anicca, Anattā and Dukkha: Their interrelation (*anattalakkhaṇa sutta*)
- b) The doctrine of Anattā and five aggregates. The question of compatibility between Anattā and Rebirth (Discussion in *Milindapañho*)
- c) The Buddhist concept of Dukkha, Three kinds of *Dukkhatā*
- d) Moral-psychological causes of suffering: *Sakkāyadiṭṭhi*, *Avijjā* and *Taṇhā*, *Akusalamūla*
- e) *Prañiccaa-samuppāda* and *Dvādaśa-nidāna*

**Unit III: Cessation of Suffering and the Path**

- a) *Nibbāna/Nirvāṇa*— Nature and Kinds — *Sopādiṣeṣa*, *Nirupādiṣeṣa*. Arhat-hood as the ultimate goal. Four stages to Arhattva: *Sotapanna*, *Sakadāgāmi*, *Anāgāmi*, *Arhat*
- b) Way to *Nibbāna* — *Aṭṭhangika-magga*, *Śīla-Samādhi-Prajñā*;
- c) *Samatha-Anupassanā*, Mindfulness Meditation (*Satipaṭṭhānasutta*), Four *Brahma-Vihāras*

**Unit IV: Some Special Features and Issues**

- a) Pragmatic Approach: Silence over 'Unanswerable Questions' ( *Avyākṛta-praśna*) unrelated to the problem of Suffering
- b) Rational Approach: Emphasis on one's own experience and critical examination; Criticism of ritualism
- c) Egalitarian Approach: Criticism of hierarchical system of four Varṇas based on birth and divine origin. (*Brāhmaṇavagga* of *Saṃyutta-nikāya*) , Critique of the concept of *Brāhmaṇa*.
- d) Some Issues: (1) Is Buddhism Pessimistic?  
(2) Is belief in Rebirth and other worlds a necessary part of the Buddha's way.

## PHI115-I PHILOSOPHY OF BHAGVATGITA

### Unit I:

- a) Place and importance of Bhagavadgītā
- b) Bhagavadgītā as *Prastāna* : Historical and Philosophical Development

### Unit II: Ways of Life

- a) *Karmayoga* :
  - i) Classification of *Karma* — *Karma*, *Akarma*, *Vikarma*
  - ii) *Niṣkamakarma*
  - iii) *Jñānottara Karma*
- b) *Bhaktiyoga*
  - i) Types of *Bhakta* — *Arta*, *Arth ārthi*, *Jijñāsu* and
  - ii) Nature of *Bhakti*
  - iii) Relation between *jñāna* and *Karma*
- c) *Jñānayoga*
  - i) Distinction between *Jñāna*, *Ajñāna* and *Vijñāna*
  - ii) *Ātmajñāna*
  - d) *Samanvaya* of *Karmayoga*, *Bhaktiyoga* and *Jñānayoga*, in Bhagavadgītā

### Unit III: Metaphysics of Bhagavadgītā

- a) Concept of *Kṣara*, *Akṣara*
- b) Concept of *Kṣhetra-Kṣhetrajña*
- c) Concept of *Prakṛiti*
- d) Concept of *Puruṣottama*

### Unit IV: Ethical and Social aspects of Bhagavadgītā

- a) *Swadharma*
- b) *Niṣkāma Karma*
- c) *Sthitaprajña*
- d) *Varnādharmā*
- e) *lokasamgraha*