

Islamic University of Science and Technology
Department of Philosophy (Formerly Averroes Centre for Philosophical Studies)
Syllabus for Ph.D. (Entrance Exam for the Subject of Philosophy)

Unit-I: Research Methodology

- Truth and Validity
- Nature of Propositions
- Differences between Deductive and Inductive Logic, decision procedure, modern classification of proposition
- The salient features of the method of dialectic: Contradiction, opposition or antinomies.
- Dialecticians- Zeno, Plato, Kant, Hegel, Marxist Dialectic
- Cartesian Method- Spinoza's Method
- Methodological view of Leibnitz. Critical method of Kant
- Material or Experimental Analysis
- Metaphysical Analysis
- Speculative or Reflective Analysis
- Linguistic Analysis
- Ordinary Language Analysis
- Logical Positivism
- Methodological view of Late Wittgenstein, Thought Experiments
- Phenomenological Reflection- The Aim of Phenomenological Method- Justification of Phenomenological Method
- Vada, Confrontation

Unit-II Traditions/Areas/Schools/ Perspectives in Philosophy

- Jainism : Concept of reality – sat, dravya, guṇa, paryāya, Jiva, ajiva, anekāntavāda, syādvāda and nayavāda; theory of knowledge.
- Buddhism : Four Noble Truths, ĀṣṭāṅgikāMārga, Distinction between Brahmiṇic and Śramiṇic traditions. Pratityasamutpāda, kṣaṇabhāgavāda, anātmavāda. Schools of Buddhism : Vaibhāṣika, Sautrāntika, Yogacāra, Mādhyamika and Tibetan Buddhism.
- Nyāya : Pramā and apramā, Theories of pramāṇa: pratyakṣa, anumāna, upamana, śabda. Hetvabhāsa. Concept of God. Debate between Buddhism and Nyāya about Pramāṇa Vyavasthā and PramāṇaSamplava. Anyathākhyati.
- Yoga: Citta-vrtti, Asthanayoga,
- Purva Mimamsa: Pramanyavada, Sabda, Arthapatti, Anupalabdhi, Akhyati, Viparitakhyati
- Sāṃkhya : Satkāryavāda, prakṛti and its evolutes, arguments for the existence of prakṛti, nature of puruṣa, arguments for the existence and plurality of puruṣa, relationship between puruṣa and prakṛti, atheism.

- Vedānta: Brahman, relation between Brahman and Atman, three grades of satta, Anirvachniya-khyati
- Visistadvaita: Saguna Brahman, refutation of maya, aprthaksiddhi parinamavada, Jiva, Bhakti and prapatti, Sat-khyati.
- Plato – Theory of knowledge, knowledge and opinion, theory of Ideas, the method of dialectic, soul and God.
- Aristotle – Classification of the sciences, the theoretical, the practical and the productive, logic as an organon, critique of Plato’s theory of Ideas, theory of causation, form and matter, potentiality and actuality, soul and God. Modern Western Philosophy:
- Descartes : Conception of method , Criteria of truth, doubt and methodological scepticism, cogito ergo sum, innate ideas, Cartesian dualism: mind and matter, proofs for the existence of God, interactionism.
- Spinoza : Substance, Attribute and Mode, the concept of ‘God or Nature’, Intellectual love of God, parallelism, pantheism, three orders of knowing.
- Leibnitz : Monadology, truths of reason and fact, innateness of ideas, proofs for the existence of God, principles of non – contradiction, sufficient reason and identity of indiscernibles, the doctrine of pre -established harmony, problem of freedom.
- Locke : Ideas and their classification, refutation of innate ideas, theory of substance, distinction between primary and secondary qualities, theory of knowledge, three grades of knowledge.
- Berkeley : Rejection of the distinction between primary and secondary qualities, immaterialism, critique of abstract ideas, esse est percipi, the problem of solipsism; God and self.
- Hume : Impressions and ideas, knowledge concerning relations of ideas and knowledge concerning matters of fact, induction and causality, the external world and the self, personal identity, rejection of metaphysics, scepticism, reason and the passions.
- Kant : The critical philosophy, classification of judgements, possibility of synthetic a priori judgements, the Copernican revolution, forms of sensibility, categories of understanding, the metaphysical and the transcendental deduction of the categories, phenomenon and noumenon, the Ideas of Reason – soul, God and world as a whole, rejection of speculative metaphysics.
- Hegel : The conception of Geist (spirit), the dialectical method, concepts of being, non – being and becoming, absolute idealism, Freedom.
- Muslim Philosophy: ‘Ilm-al-Kalām: Mu‘tazilism, Ash‘arism, Kalam and Falsafa, Concept of Creationism, Wahdat-al-Wujūd, Wahdat-al-Shuhūd, Concept of Justice, Position of Women, Ijtihad, Philosophy of Fiqah, Meezan (balance).
- Al-Kindī: Theory of Intellect, Al-Fārābī: Knowledge and Mysticism, Al-Ghazālī: Causation, Mohammed Arkoun: Revelation, The ideal community

- Concept of Purusārtha, Śreyas and Preyas
- Varṇāshrama, Dharma, Sādhāraṇa Dharma
- Jainism: Samvara-nirjarā, Tri-ratṇa, Panch-vrata.
- History of Kashmir Shaivism, History of Kashmir Sufism
- Concepts of Good, right, justice, duty, obligation, cardinal virtues, Eudaemonism, Intuition as explained in Teleological and Deontological Theories.
 - Utilitarianism: principle of utility, problem of sanction and justification of morality, kinds of utilitarianism, Moral theories of Bentham, J. S. Mill, Sidgwick
 - Contemporary Philosophy: Experimental philosophy, Astroethics, Gender and the History of Philosophy, Human vs Machine, The AI Debate, The North-South dichotomy: multiple modernities, Philosophy of Environment and role of philosophy to cope with climate change

Unit-III Some Significant Thinkers and Philosophers (Modern and Contemporary)

- Vivekananda: Practical Vedanta, Universal Religion, Religious Experience, Religious Rituals
- Sri Aurobindo: Evolution, mind and supermind, Integral Yoga
- J. Krishnamurti: Conception of thought, Freedom from the known, analysis of self, Choiceless awareness
- Gandhi: Truth, Non-violence, satyagraha, swaraj, critique of modern civilization.
- M.N.Roy: Radical Humanism, Materialism
- Frege: Sense and Reference
- Moore: Distinction between Sense and Reference, Refutation of Idealism, Defense of common-sense, Proof of an External World.
- Russell: Logical Atomism, Definite Descriptions, Refutation of Idealism
- Wittgenstein: Language and Reality, Facts and objects, names and propositions, the picture theory, critique of private language, meaning and use, forms of life, notion of philosophy, Wittgensteinian Fideism, On Certainty.
- Husserl: Phenomenological Method, Philosophy as a rigorous science, Intentionality, Phenomenological Reduction, Inter-subjectivity
- Heidegger: The concept of Being (Dasein), Man as being in the world, critique of technological civilization

- Sartre: Concept of Freedom, Bad-faith, Humanism
- Kautilya: State, Society, Social-life, State administration, State economy, law and justice, internal security, welfare and external affairs
- Plato: Ideal State and Justice
- Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau: Social Contract Theory
- Marx: Dialectical Materialism, Alienation, Critique of Capitalism, Doctrine of Class Struggle and Classless Society.
- Charles Taylor: Multiculturalism, Will Kymlicka; conception of Minority Rights
- Feminism: Basic Concepts: Patriarchy, misogyny, Gender, Theories of Feminism; Liberal, Socialist, radical and eco-feminism

