M.A. Examination 2024
Semester–IV
Philosophy
Paper–MAPHILCP401 (Compulsory)
Hermeneutics and Post-modernism

Time: 3 Hours   **Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of value as indicated on the right margin.

Answer *any four* of the following questions:

1. Why did F.D. Schleiermacher and W. Dilthey think of the Cartesian separation of the mind from the world as fundamentally flawed? How did they set about proving this?   7+8=10

2. What do you understand by "Heidegger's hammer"? How does Heidegger use this thought experiment to develop the existential hermeneutic circle?   5+10=10

3. Why did Gadamer privilege "hearing" over "seeing" in philosophical hermeneutics? How does this relate to his methodological imperatives of mediation and application?   5+10=10

4. Give an account of E.D. Hirsch and Paul Ricœur's debate over hermeneutic objectivism. Take sides and justify your choice.   15

5. What does Derrida mean by "double science/gesture"? How does he employ the "non-dialectical third term" to subvert and destabilise logocentrism? Explain.   10+5=15

6. *The Postmodern Condition* is largely compatible with hermeneutics while *The Differend* makes hermeneutics impossible. Elaborate and evaluate.   15

M.A. Examination, 2024

Semester-IV

Philosophy

Course: MAPHILOP411

Feminist Perspectives (Indian)

(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours   **Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of equal value as indicated in the margin.
Answer **any four** questions

1. Briefly analyze the status of women in the oldest book of *Ṛgveda.*   15

2. In Sikhism do you find equal status of the two sexes? Discuss   15

3. Critically examine how the eight strict rules for the nuns established   15
    gender practices in Buddhist.

4. How does Gandhi address the issue of gender equality? Discuss   15

5.   Briefly describe Swami Vivekanand's vision of modern Indian   15
     women.

6. Do you think Rabindranath Tagore was a feminist? Justify your   15
    answer citing examples from his writings.

Time: 3 Hours   Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer any four questions from the following.

1. Explain in some detail the *maṇgalaśloka* of *Nyāyakusumāñjali* interpreting the verse both in *nyāyapakṣa* and *kusumpakṣa*.   15

2. What is a *vipratipatti*? State the *vipratipatti*-s considered by Udayana in *Nyāyakusumāñjali*. Explain the first *vipratipatti* in some detail.   3+3+9=15

3. Discuss the Nyāya theory of causality following the *Haridāsītīkā*.   15

4. How does Udayanācārya refute the following objections in his *Nyāyakusumāñjali*:   7.5+7.5=15

    a. The Vedic rites are performed to cheat others.

    b. The Vedic rites are performed to gain worldly pleasure.

5. How does Udayanācārya refute the Mīmāṁsā notion of *ādheyaśakti*? Discuss following *Haridāsītīkā*.   15

6. Can the momentary self be the locus of *adṛṣṭa*? Discuss after the *Udayanācārya*.   15

Time: 3 Hours   **Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

*Answer **any four** questions*

1. How do the philosophical discourses of the re-presentation of reality are mired in subject-privileging of the narrating subject? Exemplify Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's theoretical stance through her explication of the case of Bhuvaneswari Bhaduri.   8+7

2. Critically evaluate Tagore's juxtaposition of the Eastern and Western political civilisations.
                                                                                                                         15

3. What are the problems faced by the 'intellectual', as opposed to the 'learned man', towards the enquiry of the origin and growth of untouchability in India? Elucidate it after Ambedkar.   15

4. How does Ambedkar relate the hatred and contempt towards the Buddhists with the origin of untouchability in India? Elaborate.   15

5. Write an essay on Vivekananda's formulation of the notions associated with 'practical vedanta' in the context of anti-colonialism in India.   15

6. "The teacher talks about reality as if it were motionless, static, compartmentalized, and predictable. Or else he expounds on a topic completely alien to the existential experience of the students. His task is to "fill" the students with the contents of his narration — contents which are detached from reality, disconnected from the totality that engendered them and could give them significance. Words are emptied of their concreteness and become a hollow, alienated, and alienating verbosity" – Annotate.   15

M. A. Philosophy Examination, 2024
Semester – IV
Paper: Philosophy of Mind (Unit -2)

Time: 3 Hours   Course: MAPHIL OP407

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value or as indicated in the margin

Answer any 4 questions

1. Is it possible for a substance dualist to avoid the 'pairing problem' posed by Jaegwon Kim? Discuss.   **15**

2. State and examine the physical causal closure and exclusion argument of mental causation.   **15**

3. Why do the reductive methods fail to address what Chalmers refer to as 'the hard problem' of consciousness? Discuss.   **15**

4. Explain with examples how the easy problems of consciousness are directly susceptible to the standard methods of cognitive science.   **15**

5. Explain how one can connect the basic idea of explanatory gap with the traditional conceivability argument and use it against physicalism.   **15**

6. Can human cognitive processing literally extend into the environment surrounding the organism? Give reasons for your answer.   **15**

M.A. Examination in Philosophy -2024
Semester-IV
Course- MAPHILOP416
(Sufism)

Time- Three Hours   **Full Marks-60**

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.
Answer *any four* questions from the following.

1. Discuss in a nut-shell on the four stages of Sufism.   15

2. Draw the distinction between *Fanafillah and Baqa*billah stages of Sufism? Why is *Baqa* stage being considered as more important than *Fana* in Sufism? Explain critically.   10+5=15

3. Why *dhikr* is called as *Tazkiyatunnafs?* Do you think that *Dhikr* is the process to obtain spiritual knowledge in Sufism? Discuss.   5+10=15

4. What is Sufi *Silsilah*? Give an account of the *Chistiya Silsilah* of India.   15

5. What is *Khanqah*? Do you think that *Khanqah* has played a pivotal role to establish inter-religious harmony? Discuss critically.   15

6. Discuss critically Sufi concept of *al-insan al kamil* (the perfect human being).   15

M.A. Examination 2024

Semester - IV

Philosophy

Paper –MAPHILOP406

Buddhist Logic

Time: 3 Hours   **Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.
Answer any four questions from the following.

1. Explain with examples of *svavābahetu* the interrelation between different applications of *parārthānumāna* following Dharmakīrti.   15

2. "*svarūpeṇaiba svayamiṣṭa-anirākṛtaḥ pakṣa iti*"— explain following the text *Nyāyabindu*.   15

3. Make a comparative analysis of the concept of *kathā* following Dharmakīrti and Gautam.   15

4. Explain with examples the *asādhanāṅgavacana nigrahasthāna* following the text *Vādanyāya*.   15

5. What, according to Dharmakīrti, is the importance of *dṛṣtantabhāsa*? Explain any three *dṛṣtantabhāsa*s with examples.   5+10=15

6. What is the definition of *hetvābhāsa* given by Dharmakīrti? Explain in some detail the various kinds of *asiddha hetvābhāsa* following *Nyāyabindu*.   15

M.A. Examination 2024
Philosophy
Semester – IV
Paper- MAPHILCP402
Philosophy of Religion

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.
Answer **any four** questions from the following

1. What is philosophy of religion? Explain the definitions of 'religion'   5+10 = 15
    from various perspectives.

2. What is religious pluralism? How is it different from relativism and   3+12 = 15
    syncretism?

3. Give an account of the differences between minority   15
    consciousness and majority consciousness, and discuss how each
    of them contributes in the development of particular religious
    mind-sets.

4. How have the 'perennial philosophers' invoked the transcendent   15
    unity of religions? Explain after John Hick.

5. Elucidate Vivekananda's concept of soul based on his Chicago   15
    Addresses.

6. What is the 'principle of credulity'? Can it be applied in cases of   3+12 = 15
    religious experiences?