

M.A. Examination 2025
Semester-IV
Philosophy
Paper-MAPHILCP401 (Compulsory)
Hermeneutics and Post-modernism

Duration: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Value of questions as indicated on the right margin
Answer *any four* of the following questions

1. Critically discuss the three central claims essentially shared by all hermeneutic thinkers. 15
2. How is twentieth-century hermeneutics indebted to the concept of knowledge in ancient Greek philosophy? Explain. 15
3. Martin Heidegger expanded upon Edmund Husserl's phenomenology to provide new directions to philosophical hermeneutics. Explain. 15
4. Why did Hans-Georg Gadamer call "mediation" the heart of hermeneutic experience? How does mediation further relate to the "fusion of horizons"? 8+7
5. Is postmodernism compatible with religious faith? Explore the three possible responses to the question. 15
6. Why has Gary Gutting argued that Foucault "goes beyond" structuralism and hermeneutics? Discuss. article "The World of Personality". 15

M.A. Examination 2025

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 the difference between theology and philosophy of religion? State and explain the most important approaches to God and religion from history. 5+10 = 15
2. Discuss the main features of an exclusivist approach with respect to plurality of religion. 15
3. What was stated in the theological consultation of the World Council of Churches in 1990? In what ways was it similar to and different from the *Nostra Aetate*? 10+5 = 15
4. Distinguish between the approach of the older apologetics and newer ones with respect to religious experience. Explain the argument of William Alston in this context. 15
5. How does Vivekananda criticise exclusivism through a story in his Chicago Addresses? 15
6. Write short-notes on any 3: 5+5+5 = 15
 - a. "Religion is unbelief"
 - b. Pluralism is not just syncretism
 - c. Importance of Inter-religious dialogue
 - d. Definitions of religion from different perspectives

M.A. Examination, 2025

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

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| 1. | Briefly describe the position of women in Hinduism during the Middle and later Vedic periods. | 15 |
| 2. | Examine and critically evaluate the Jaina perception of women as attachment symbols. | 15 |
| 3. | Critically analyze the eight rigid rules that Buddhist philosophy established to form gender practices. | 15 |
| 4. | Explain critically Gandhi's sociopolitical philosophy, to address gender equality. | 15 |
| 5. | Give a brief explanation of Swami Vivekanand's outlook on contemporary Indian women. | 15 |
| 6. | Was Rabindranath Tagore a feminist? Justify your answer. | 15 |

M. A. Examination, 2025

Semester – IV

Philosophy

MAPHILOP412 – Social and Political Philosophy: Theoretical Approaches (Part-II)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer **any four** questions

1. What does Gayatri Spivak mean by the asymmetrical effect on the ideological formation of sexed subject in the debate on *Sati* during the colonial period? Explain. 15
2. How does Tagore identify the problems of nation as a political economical union of people? Elaborate. 15
3. How does Ambedkar explain the origin of vegetarianism, though Buddhism accepts the consumption of animal flesh through the practice of *San-Ching*? Discuss. 15
4. What does Vivekananda mean by Practical Vedanta? Contextualise it with reference to India's colonial and nationalist period. 7+8
5. Explain Paulo Freire's notion of 'banking method of education' in relation to anti-dialogue and 'narration sickness'. 15
6. What does Paulo Freire mean by *Conscientização*? How does he relate it co-intentional pedagogy? Elaborate. 8+7

M. A. Examination -2025

Subject: Philosophy Semester: IV

Paper: [MAPHILOP401] Nyāya Unit-II

Time: 3 Hours

Marks: 60

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

1. Explain the notion of *vipratipatti* with suitable example. What are the *vipratipatti*-s considered for dialogue to establish the existence of God in Nyāyakusumañjali. Discuss any one *vipratipatti* in detail stating the proper form of *vipratipatti*. 3+3+9=15
2. Explain the following verse following Haridāsītika:
"hetubhūti niṣedha na svānupākṣyavidhīna ca/
Svabhāvavarṇanā naivambadheranīyatattatāh//"
NK 1/5 15
3. Can *abhāva* also be considered as cause like *bhāva padārtha*? Explain after Udayana. Distinguish the notion of *pratibandha* and *pratibandhaka* in this respect. 10+5=15
4. Does the Sāṃkhya notion of doer (*kartā*) acceptable to Udayana? Answer following Haridāsītika on Nyāyakusumañjali. 15
5. Can momentary self be the locus of *adrṣṭa*? Answer following Udayana. 15
6. Elaborate Udayana's concept of God as the controller of *adrṣṭa* following Haridāsītika on Nyāyakusumañjali. 15

M.A. Examination 2025
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. What is meant by *pakṣabhāsa*? Explain the various kinds of *pakṣabhāsa* following *Nyāyabindu*. 15
2. Explain in detail the various kinds of *anaikāntika hetvābhāsa* following *Nyāyabindu*. 15
3. How does Dharmakīrti define *parārthānumāna*? Explain the different applications of *parārthānumāna* with the help of *kārya hetu* following *Nyāyabindu*. 5+10=15
4. Explain in detail any three *dṛṣtantabhāsa* with examples following Dharmakīrti. 5+5+5=15
5. Give a detailed account of the concept of *nigrahasthāna* following Dharmakīrti. 15
6. How does Dharmakīrti prove the interrelation between different applications of *parārthānumāna*? Explain with the help of *anupalabdhi hetu*. 15

M.A. Examination In Philosophy -2025

Semester-IV

Course- MAPHILOP 416 (Sufism)

Time- Three Hours

Full Marks-60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer *any four* questions from the following.

1. What are the causes of the origin of Sufism? Discuss the Sufi notion of *Fanafillah wa Baqabillah*.
7+8=15
2. Why is Sufi Silsilah? Discuss, in short, the contribution of Chishtiya Silsilah of India.
5+10=15
3. Why is Dhikr (remembrance of God) so important in Sufism? State and examine Sufi concept of *Dhikr-e-jali* and *Dhikr-e.khafi*.
5+10=15
4. What is Sama in Sufism? Explain and examine Sufi concept of Sama (Spiritual song).
5+10=15
5. What is Khanqah? What are the structures and functions of Khanqua? Discuss.
15
6. Give an account of the beliefs and practices of Qaderiya Silsilah.
15

M. A. Final Examination – 2025

Semester - IV

Philosophy

MAPHILOP420 – Methodology and Dissertation

Duration: 2 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 20

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer Any FOUR of the following questions:

1. What is research? Explain briefly the importance of research. 2 + 3
2. Enumerate the major types of research and describe briefly any one of them. 2 + 3
3. Explain briefly the review of literature. 5
4. Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative methods of research. 2.5 + 2.5
5. Illustrate a sole authored book Bibliography in both APA and Chicago styles. 2.5 + 2.5
6. Write a short note on ANY TWO of the followings; 2.5 + 2.5
 - i. Planning Research
 - ii. Note-taking
 - iii. Footnote
 - iv. Endnote
