

M.A. Examination 2025
Semester - III
Philosophy
Paper –MAPHILCP301
Western Analytic Philosophy

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

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

1. Critically explain Wittgenstein's view that the meaning of a word is its use in language. 15
2. What is semantical rule? Is it possible to clarify the notion of analyticity in terms of semantical rule? Explain Quine's view in this regard. 5+5+5=15
3. Explain Quine's view that no individual statement taken in isolation from its fellows can be confirmed or disconfirmed by observation. 15
4. Explain Russell's theory of descriptions. How does it solve the problem of non-existent objects? Evaluate its philosophical importance. 5+7+3=15
5. Explain Strawson's distinction between sentences and their uses. How does this distinction form the basis of his criticism of Russell's theory of descriptions? 10+5=15
6. Explain Frege's distinction between *sense* and *reference*. How does this distinction account for the informativeness of identity statements? Discuss critically. 7+8=15

MA Sem-I Examination, 2025
Subject: Philosophy
Paper / Course: MAPHILCP302 (Phenomenology and Existentialism)

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Answer *any four* questions.

1. What is the aim of phenomenology? Discuss. 15
2. What are the contingent presuppositions involved in our natural thinking? Explain. 15
3. How does Husserl distinguish between *noesis* and *noema*? Is noema object or general essence? Discuss. 8+7
4. Give an account of Sartre's notion of consciousness as nothingness. 15
5. What is freedom? Explain how freedom is related to responsibility and anxiety. Further explain why anxiety is different from fear. 4+8+3
6. How is the development ethics possible within the framework of Sartre's existentialism? Discuss. 15

M.A. Examination-2025
Philosophy

Semester-III
Time: 3 Hours

Paper: [MAPHILOP301] Nyaya: Unit-I
Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer any **four** questions from the following.

1. a). "*pramāṇataḥ arthopratipottou pravṛttisāmārthyādarthavat pramāṇam*"- Explain the Vātsyāyana Bhāṣya.
b). Define *pramāṇa* and *artha* following Nyāya. 10+5=15
2. a). Explain the significance of each term occurred in the *lakṣaṇa* of *pratyakṣa* given by Gautama.
b). Is *ātmamaṇaḥsaṃyoga* incorporated in the *lakṣaṇa* of *pratyakṣa*? Answer following Vātsyāyana. 12+3=15
3. Explain the *lakṣaṇa* of *śābdapramāṇa* following Vātsyāyana. Illustrate the different kinds of *śābdapramāṇa* with examples. 10+5=15
4. Give an account of the proofs for the existence of *ātmān*, presented in the Nyayasūtra, following Vātsyāyana. 15
5. Elucidate the *lakṣaṇa* of *siddhānta* stated in the Nyayasūtra, following Vātsyāyana. Discuss the different kinds of *siddhānta* with examples. 12+3=15
6. What is *kathā*? Discuss the nature of *vāda kathā*. Distinguish between *vāda kathā* and *jalpa kathā*. 2+8+5=15

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M.A. Examination 2025
Semester - III
Philosophy
Paper –MAPHILOP305
Buddhist Epistemology

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

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

1. Explain Dharmakīrti's definition of *pramāṇa* as given in *Nyāyabindu*. How does he distinguish valid cognition from error? 10+5=15
2. What is a *hetu* according to Dharmakīrti? Discuss the conditions required for a *saddhetu* (valid reason). 3+12=15
3. Discuss the three kinds of *hetu* recognised by Dharmakīrti. Illustrate each of them with suitable examples. 15
4. Explain the concept of *vyāpti* according to Dharmakīrti. Explain how *vyāpti* is apprehended. 7+8=15
5. Give a detailed account of *kalpanā*, following the text *Nyāyabindu*. 15
6. Discuss whether *pramāṇa* and *pramāṇaphala* are identical. Examine this issue with reference to the text *Nyāyabindu*. 15

M. A. Examination – 2025

Semester – III

Philosophy

MAPHILOP311 – Social and Political Philosophy: Theoretical Approaches (Part-I)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer **any four** questions

1. How does Marx establish new materialism as practical-critical activity, differentiating it from contemplative materialism? Elaborate. 15
2. What does Marx mean by labour, by criticising the explanations provided by Fourier and Adam Smith? Explain how Marx conceives labourers as 'all-round man' and as 'social individual'. 9+6
3. What is class, according to Marx? What are the two chief criteria that define a class, according to him? Briefly illustrate Marx's description of intellectual class. 3+6+6
4. Briefly outline how Nietzsche conceives Overman as the 'meaning of earth'. 15
5. Write an essay on Foucault's analytics of knowledge/power. 15
6. How does colonialism produce dual narcissism among the Blacks and the Whites? Explain it after Frantz Fanon. 15

Final Examination - 2025

M. A. - Philosophy

Semester - III

MAPHILOP 317 – Ethical Perspectives of Religions

Duration: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions;

1. What is *Dharma*? Describe briefly the nature of *Dharma* in Hinduism? Critically analyze the issue of *Varnāshrama Dharma* of Hinduism. 3 + 5 + 7
2. What are the five pillars of Islam? How are they important to promote spirituality and social upliftment? 7.5 + 7.5
3. What is *Pañcāśīla*? How does *Astāngika Mārga* of Buddhism support the self-discipline and common good of all? 5 + 10
4. Elucidate the *Mahāvratā* of Jainism. What are the difficulties of following these practices? Bring out its relevance in the contemporary society. 5 + 5 + 5
5. Describe the relationship between ethics and religion. How are the ethical perspectives of religions important to promote peace and harmony in the society? 7.5 + 7.5
6. Write a short note on **ANY THREE** of the followings; 5 X 3 = 15
 - i. *Guna-vratas*
 - ii. The Holy Bible
 - iii. Ten Commandments
 - iv. Sabbatical year
 - v. Vertical and horizontal relationships
