

SEMESTER 2nd
MAJOR COURSE

PHL222J: PHILOSOPHY (MEDIEVAL AND MODERN PHILOSOPHY)

CREDITS: THEORY - 04, TUTORIALS: 02

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- a. *This course offers an overview of the key developments in the history of philosophical thought from 3rd to 19th CE.*
- b. *It introduces us to various ways in which philosophers engaged with, debated, contested the established ways of thinking about universe, reality, knowledge, mind, body, society, freedom, God.*
- c. *It maps the philosophers' response to some of the greatest intellectual challenges in history: reconciling traditional Greek philosophy and religion with the radical scientific developments of modernity.*
- d. *Exposure to the paradigmatic philosophical texts and major figures in the history of Medieval and Modern Western Philosophy.*

THEORY (04 CREDITS)

UNIT I

Neo-Platonist Legacy
Augustine: Reason-Faith Divide and Reconciliation
Aquinas: Philosophical Theology

UNIT II

Descartes: Radical Skepticism and Method of Doubt
Spinoza: Theory of Substance
Leibniz: Monadology

UNIT III

Locke: Theory of Knowledge
Berkeley: Subjective Idealism
Hume: Empiricism and Skepticism

UNIT IV

Kant: Transcendental Idealism
Hegel: Absolute Idealism
Marx: Critique of Idealism

TUTORIALS / MINI PROJECTS (02 CREDITS)

UNIT V

Comparative study of premodern and modern modes of philosophizing
Metaphysics as Ethics in Spinoza

UNIT VI

The Significance of Humean Skepticism in Empiricist Epistemology
Marxist Ontology of Human Existence: A Critical Analysis

RECOMMENDED READINGS

1. Pauliina Remes - Neoplatonism
2. David Farley - Routledge History of Philosophy Routledge History of Philosophy. From Aristotle to Augustine
3. Henry Chadwick - Augustine: A Very Short Introduction
4. Fergus Kerr Thomas Aquinas: A Very Short Introduction
5. Anthony Kenny- Philosophy in the Modern World: A New History of Western Philosophy
6. Frederick Copleston - Modern Philosophy: From Descartes to Leibniz
7. Alexandre Kojève, Introduction to the Reading of Hegel
8. Georges Dicker, Kant's Theory of Knowledge: An Analytical Introduction
9. Jon Elster, An Introduction to Karl Marx