

BACHELORS WITH PHILOSOPHY AS MINOR

2nd SEMESTER

PHL222N: 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)

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