**Shyama Prasad Mukherji College**

**Teaching Plan (Aug - Dec 2022)**

**Teaching Plan of Western Philosophy**

**Course and Year:** B.A (hons) 2nd Year Section

**Semester:** 3rd

**Taught individually or shared:** Individually

**Paper:** Western Philosophy

**Faculty:** Neetanjali Khari

**No. of Classes** (per week)**:**5Lectures+ 2 Tutorials

**UNIT I: Introduction (1 Week, 26 August-7 September )**

1. Issues in Rationalism and Empiricism.

**Prescribed Readings:**

Markie, Peter, "Rationalism vs. Empiricism", The Stanford Encyclopedia of

Philosophy (Fall 2017 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.)

**No. of classes required to complete the unit (Approx.): 08 classes**

**UNIT II: Rationalism (6 Weeks, 8 September to 14 October 2022)**

1. Descartes: Method of Doubt, Mind and Body Dualism (28 August to 14 September)

2. Spinoza: God and Substance ( 15 September to 29 September)

3. Leibnitz: The concept of Monads and Pre established Harmony ( 30 September to 11 October)

**Prescribed Readings:**

Descartes, R. Discourse on Method, London: Penguin, 1968. (Chapters 1,2,4 and 5).

Spinoza: Ethics London: Penguin Classics, 2005 (Book 1 and 2). Strickland, Lloyd.

Leibniz's Monadology: A New Translation and Guide. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press, 2014

**No. of classes required to complete the unit (Approx.): 27 classes**

**UNIT III: Empiricism (5 Weeks, 17 October to 25 November 2022)**

1.Locke: Critique of Innate Ideas; Ideas and Qualities (12 October to 25 October)

2. Berkeley: Esse est Percipi; Denial of Matter ( Immaterialism) ( 26 October to 10 November)

3. Hume; Ideas and Impressions, Causation (11 November to 25 November)

**Prescribed Readings:**

Locke, John: An Essay Concerning Human Understanding, London:Penguin Classics,1997 (Book I and 2)

Berkeley: Three dialogues between Hylas and Philonous London: Penguin Classics, 1988 (First dialogue only)

Hume, David: An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding. Oxford: Clarendon Press 1975 (Part I, section II and III; Part II, section VII )

**No. of classes required to complete the unit (Approx.): 25 classes**

**UNIT IV: Critical Philosophy (26 November to 9 December 2022)**

1. Kant: Classification of Propositions; Possibility of synthetic a priori Judgments. ( 26 November to 7 December)

**Prescribed readings:**

Kant, I. Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics, Translated by Paul Carus, Digireads.com Publishing, 2010, pp. 7-20

**No. of classes required to complete the unit (Approx.): 08 classes**

**Methodology of Teaching:**

We conduct discussion and Interactive session, all study materials is provided through Physical Mode and on whats app group. Whats group is formed for the regular information. In our tutorial classes we generally take doubt session and hindi materials to be provided for those students who are from Hindi Medium. We also provide and discuss secondary readings during the tute classes.

**Assessment \ Mode of Evaluation**

Evaluation will be done by taking Assignments, Viva Voice and through Tests.

**Tentative date of Tests (as viva voice) / assignments:**

* **Assignment to be given -** 14th October 2022
* **Test (as viva voice) to be held -** 1st test- 15 Sep 2022

2nd test – 7 November 2022

**Criteria of Assessment:** The students are assessed on comprehension and clarity of concepts based on learning and application

**Teaching Learning outcome**:

This paper seeks to do three things: 1. it will enable students to witness how philosophers who were either predecessors or contemporaries evaluated the theories of others, thus will advise them in distinguishing good arguments from bad arguments. 2. it will enable students to have a better understanding of how a man thinks and what goes on into the making of human thought. 3. It will also make students aware that there is no place for superficial approach to the complex questions in life.

**Course and Programme Objective**

Philosophy is both fascinating and frustrating. It deals with the most difficult questions of life which have always bewildered us. Philosophers have been relentlessly working to quench this thirst of the mankind by expounding theories which have broadened the base of human understanding. The paper is designed to appreciate the profound ideas that sprung from the minds of the great philosophers of the modern western world. The syllabus comprises of six philosophers grouped under two traditions of thought: Rationalism and Empiricism and the seventh conciliating these two traditions with conflicting thoughts. It begins with Descartes’ seminal views on epistemology and metaphysics and traces the emergence of ideas in a kind of chronological order which demonstrates methodical development of philosophical thought

Additional Readings;

* 1. Copleston Frederick,S.J. “*A History of Philosophy” Volume IV”.* Image Books, London. 1994.
  2. Copleston Frederick,S.J. “*A History of Philosophy” Volume V”.* Image Books, London. 1994.
  3. Copleston Frederick,S.J. “*A History of Philosophy” Volume VI”.* Image Books, London. 1994.
  4. Scruton Roger. “*A short History of Modern Philosophy*”. Routledge London and New York, 2002.
  5. Y Masih.”*A critical History of Western Philosophy*”. 17th Edition, Motilal Banarsidas, India,2017.