

## Assignments for 2019

### Assignment – 1 MPY – 002: Western Philosophy

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Elaborate Kant's philosophy of knowledge. What is special about the philosophical method of Kant? 20

Or

Explain the philosophy of God according to Aquinas. Discuss the five traditional ways to prove the existence of God.

2. Explain the major metaphysical and epistemological issues discussed in Western Philosophy. 20

Or

Write an essay on Hegel's dialectic method and the "Philosophy of spirit".

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Discuss the fundamental principle of becoming in the philosophy of Whitehead. 10
- (b) Write on the period of pure phenomenology in Husserl. 10
- (c) Contrast Spinoza's concept of substance with that of Descartes. 10
- (d) Explain Plato's analogy of the ideal republic in your own words. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) What are the general characteristics of feminist thought? 5
- (b) Briefly state the characteristics of Scholasticism. 5
- (c) What are the major themes discussed in existentialism? 5
- (d) Write a short note describing the hermeneutic circle. 5
- (e) What is family resemblance? 5
- (f) Describe the theory of divine illumination in Augustine. 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Intuition 4
- (b) The Eleatic School 4
- (c) Bracketing (Epoché) 4
- (d) Matters of fact 4
- (e) Evil 4
- (f) Necessary Conditions 4

- (g) Intentionality of Consciousness
- (h) Materialism

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## Assignment – 2 MPYE – 008: Metaphysics

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Explain the starting point of Metaphysics according to different thinkers. 20  
Or  
Elaborate the early western and Indian approaches to the problem of one and many.
2. Make a detailed exposition of various intrinsic and extrinsic causes. 20  
Or  
Write a detailed essay on the scope of metaphysics.
3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:
  - (a) Discuss being as *tad ekam*. 10
  - (b) How do you explain primary matter and substantial form from the classical perspectives? 10
  - (c) Give a detailed account of the essential nature of cause, its main divisions and its relation to effect. 10
  - (d) How is knowledge understood as relation? Discuss the complementarity of both ontology of relation and epistemology of relation. 10
4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:
  - (a) Describe the problem of falsity. 5
  - (b) Explain essence as the principle of limitation. 5
  - (c) What do you understand by the absolute and relative? 5
  - (d) Describe the principle of causality (karana) 5
  - (e) Explain the principles of identity and distinction. 5
  - (f) Being is neither univocal nor equivocal but analogous. Explain. 5
5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:
  - (a) Maya 4
  - (b) Agapeic love 4
  - (c) Free will 4
  - (d) Paramanuvada 4
  - (e) Phantasm 4
  - (f) Ontological Truth 4
  - (g) Problem of Falsity 4
  - (h) Substantial form 4

## Assignment – 3 MPYE – 009: Philosophy of Science and Cosmology

Note:

- i. Answer all five questions
- ii. All questions carry equal marks
- iii. Before writing the assignment-responses, read the questions, understand them, refer the texts and write down the answers in your own words.
- iv. Answer to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Write an essay on the major issues addressed in philosophy of science. 20

Or

Explain Kuhn's notions of: a) Paradigm, b) Normal Science c) Revolutionary Science. 20  
Also present a critical analysis of Kuhn's theory of science.

Or

2. What is the relation between reason and faith? How Scientific Perspective of Truth differs from Religious Perspectives? Explain. 20

Or

Explain the uncertainty principle. Discuss in detail the philosophical implications of uncertainty principle.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Make a critical analysis of logical positivism 10
- (b) Explain the relationship between philosophy of science and metaphysics 10
- (c) Discuss the philosophical implications of uncertainty principle. 10
- (d) Present feminist accounts of science in detail. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) What do we mean by unobservables in science? 5
- (b) What is an island universe? 5
- (c) Discuss the correlation between perception, thought, and language. 5
- (d) What are the problems of inductive reasoning? 5
- (e) Make a brief description of the steady-state theory. 5
- (f) What do you understand by epistemological anarchism? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Space-time curve 4
- (b) Verification theory 4
- (c) Generalizations 4
- (d) Falsification 4
- (e) Schrodinger's Cat 4
- (f) Incommensurability 4
- (g) Inductive reasoning 4
- (h) Paradigm 4

Assignment – 4 MPYE – 010: Philosophy of Religion

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Is Liturgy an important aspect of religious structure? Explain how worship and liturgy are related.

Or

Explain the philosophical and socio-cultural roots of modern atheism 20

2. How do religious thinkers respond to the challenges raised by verification and falsification principles with regard to religious language? Explain. 20

Or

What are the different types of religious experiences? Explain various factors involved in religious experience.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Are organized religions necessary? Discuss. 10
- (b) Differentiate between univocal, equivocal and analogical languages. 10
- (c) Discuss the elements of rituals. 10
- (d) How has modern science impacted the development of Deism? Explain. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) How does Emile Durkheim look at religious experience? 5
- (b) Define Philosophy of religion. 5
- (c) How does Freud look at religion? 5
- (d) Briefly explain the problem of evil 5
- (e) Explain the moral argument for God's existence. 5
- (f) What do you know about neurotheology? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Determinism and indeterminism 4
- (b) Panentheism 4
- (c) Agnosticism 4
- (d) Immanence 4
- (e) Metamorphoses 4
- (f) Symbolism 4
- (g) Existential Theism 4
- (h) Functions of liturgy 4

Assignment – 5 MPYE – 011: Philosophy of Art (Aesthetics)

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Write short essays on the concepts of “aesthetic experience” and “aesthetic recipient”. Explain the key concepts of the rasa theory of Bharata. 20

Or

Write an essay on Aristotle’s doctrine of catharsis. How is it significant in the study of aesthetics?

2. Make detailed exposition of various theories of rasa like Utpattivada, Anumitivada, and Bhuktivada. 20

Or

Write an essay on the nature of aesthetics. Elaborate the three basic approaches to aesthetics.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:
  - (a) Explain the concept of alaukika rasa. 10
  - (b) Write a short essay on the concept of beauty in art. 10
  - (c) Discuss the key concepts of rasa theory. 10
  - (d) Explain the sense of taste defined and redefined by Edmund Burke. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:
  - (a) Briefly describe the representation theory of art. 5
  - (b) Is art a process? 5
  - (c) Describe the inference theory of Rasa (*rasanumiti vada*). 5
  - (d) What is the doctrine of Sadharnikarana? 5
  - (e) Explain the three basic approaches to aesthetics. 5
  - (f) What is Aesthetic relish? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:
  - (a) Vyabhicarihava 4
  - (b) *Rasa-brahma vada* 4
  - (c) Suchness 4
  - (d) *Sahridaya* 4
  - (e) Universality of the sense of beauty 4
  - (f) *Alamkara* 4
  - (g) *Vira rasa* 4
  - (h) Ancillary feelings 4

Assignment – 6 **MPYE – 012: Tribal Philosophy**

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Make a detailed exposition of the tribal contributions to Indian civilization. 20  
Or

Examine the need for re-tribalisation in reference to the modern hunger for tribal values.

2. Explain various factors that constitute and threaten tribal identity. 20  
Or

What is the relationship between displacement and livelihood? Explain the problems of displacement and rehabilitation in detail. 20

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) What are the unique factors that signify tribal religious life? How do you look at the future of tribal religions? 10
- (b) Discuss the causes and consequences of tribal migration. 10
- (c) Explain why the meaning system and philosophy of life of the agrarian communities are based on the nature. 10
- (d) What are the unique factors that signify tribal religious life? How do you look at the future of tribal religions? 10

3. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) What is Ethnobotany? 5
- (b) What is the etymology and significance of the term 'adivasi'? 5
- (c) What was the Tana Bhagat movement? 5
- (d) Is folk medicine related to Ayurveda? 5
- (e) What are the general characteristics of Indian tribes according to T.B Naik? 5
- (f) Explain the significance of oral tradition in tribal religions? 5

4. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Bitlaha (Ostracism) 4
- (b) Belief in ancestor spirits 4
- (c) Ekalavya 4
- (d) Sanskritization 4
- (e) Totemism 4
- (f) Migration and destruction of culture 4
- (g) Disom hor 4
- (h) Nordics 4

## Assignment – 7 MPYE – 013: Philosophy of Technology

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Discuss various ethical and legal issues associated with genetic engineering. 20

Or

Explain the scientific basis for the reflections on physical immortality.

2. What do you know about the nature of cognition in machines? Discuss artificial intelligence and the functionalist theory of mind. 20

Or

Explain how research in Artificial intelligence is assisting the functionalist understanding of human mind.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) What do you understand by the democratization of technology? 10
- (b) Discuss the role of technology in the debate on nature, nurture, and culture. 10
- (c) To what extent is technologization of human nature possible? Discuss. 10
- (d) Discuss the relation between neurotheology and religious experience 10

2. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) How does Heidegger understand human person as a being-toward-death? 5
- (b) What do you understand by singularity? 5
- (c) Explain various social aspects of technology. 5
- (d) What do you understand by the technologization of human nature? 5
- (e) What do you understand by identities extension from biological to cybernetic identities? 5
- (f) What are the philosophical consequences of deterministic Newtonian mechanics? 5

3. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Cloning 4
- (b) Genetic discrimination 4
- (c) Species extension 4
- (d) Artificial intelligence 4
- (e) Cultural transmission 4
- (f) Cyborg 4
- (g) Bionics 4
- (h) Artificial intelligence 4



## Assignment – 8 MPYE – 014: Philosophy of Mind

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Discuss the philosophical account of perception. 20

Or

Explain the mind - body problem in detail. Discuss some of the positions held on it in the contemporary philosophy of mind.

2. Give a detailed account of the various views on the survival of mind in the history of Western Philosophy. 20

Or

Is any universal structure necessary in language? Discuss the western perspective on the relation between mind and language.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Explain the Problem of other Minds. 10
- (b) What are the significant themes discussed in the philosophy of mind? 10
- (c) Explain Wittgenstein's account of understanding. 10
- (d) Is understanding as a non-conscious state or process? Discuss. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) Discuss the notion of the two horses in Plato. 5
- (b) Why is mind-body problem treated as a category error? 5
- (c) What do you understand by innate structure of language? 5
- (d) What is the Buddhist theory of meaning (*Apohavada*)? 5
- (e) What is mental state for a behaviourist? 5
- (f) What do you understand by eliminative materialism? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Qualia 4
- (b) Language of thought 4
- (c) Antahkarana 4
- (d) Connectionism 4
- (e) Ghost in the machine 4
- (f) Intentionality 4
- (g) Animal Intelligence 4
- (h) Physicalism 4

## Assignment – 9 MPYE – 015: Gandhian Philosophy

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Explain Sarvodaya as Gandhi's social philosophy and Satyagraha as his political philosophy. 20

Or

Elaborate the meaning of non-violence. Explain the relevance and limitations of nonviolence.

2. Discuss the role of both reason and faith in Gandhi's thought. 20

Or

Explain the dynamic meaning of ahimsa and satyagraha. Discuss their socio-political significance.

3. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Critically examine the Gandhian concept of God. 10
- (b) How does Gandhi establish faith as a sure means of knowledge? 10
- (c) Discuss the goals and philosophical foundations of sarvodaya. 10
- (d) Write a short essay about Gandhi's views on caste system and untouchability 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) Explain Swaraj as Self-Rule. 5
- (b) How did Gandhi approach the question of jivan mukti? 5
- (c) What was the Gandhi-Ambedkar controversy? 5
- (d) Distinguish between 'religious tolerance' and 'religious harmony' 5
- (e) Briefly discuss Gandhi's critique of civilization. 5
- (f) What do you understand by philosophical anarchism? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Absolute Truth and Relative Truth 4
- (b) Satya nasti paramo dharma 4
- (c) Brahmanirvana 4
- (d) Civil disobedience 4
- (e) Karma 4

(f) Jivanmukta	4
(g) Non-cooperation	4
(h) Swadeshi	4
(i) Pacifism	4

Assignment – 10 MPYE – 016: Philosophy of Sri Aurobindo

Notes:

- i) Answer all five questions
- ii) All questions carry equal marks
- iii) For every question, refer to the texts and write down the assignment-responses in your own words.
- iv) Answers to question no.1 and 2 should be in about 500 words each.

1. Give a detailed account Aurobindo's educational philosophy. 20

Or

Explain the Absolute as unity manifesting multiplicity.

2. Discuss the nature of the absolute reality in the philosophy of Aurobindo. Explain how the relation between matter and spirit is reconciled in cosmic consciousness? 20

Or

Make a detailed analysis of the understanding of human nature as explained by Aurobindo.

3. Answer any two of the following questions in about 250 words each:

- (a) Can we take integral yoga as applied psychology? 10
- (b) What is the 'inmost being' (the psychic) according to Aurobindo? 10
- (c) Explain Maya as the power of becoming in the philosophy of Aurobindo. 10
- (d) Discuss Aurobindo take on the Upanishads. 10

4. Answer **any four** of the following in about 150 words each:

- (a) Elaborate the notion of upasana in Aurobindo. 5
- (b) Briefly explain integral knowledge. 5
- (c) What is consciousness-force? 5
- (d) What do you understand by environmental consciousness? 5
- (e) How does Aurobindo define the Brahman? 5
- (f) What is the relevance of integral world-view? 5
- (g) What are the different types of being? 5

5. Write short notes on **any five** of the following in about 100 words each:

- (a) Nescience 4
- (b) Purusa and Prakrti 4
- (c) Superconscient 4
- (d) Spiritualization 4
- (e) Sanskaras 4
- (f) Overmind 4
- (g) Higher levels of mind 4
- (h) Jivataman 4