DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF GOUR BANGA

Syllabus for Ph.D. Coursework in Philosophy
(w.e.f. the session: 2016-17)
Approved by the BRS in Philosophy

One semester for Ph.D. Coursework (duration of six months)

- Number of Courses: 4 (100 marks in each course)
- Total Marks: 400
- Pass marks: 55%

Outline of the Syllabus

COURSE – I

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY (Marks: 100)
1st Half: General Research Methodology (Marks: 50)
2nd Half: Subject Oriented Research Methodology (Marks: 50)

COURSE – II

COMPUTER APPLICATION (Marks: 100)
1st Half: General Computer Application (Marks: 50)
2nd Half: Subject Oriented Computer Application (Marks: 50)

COURSE – III

FOUNDATION OF SUBJECT AND ADVANCED SUBJECT OF SPECIALIZATION (Marks: 100)
1st Half: Foundation of Subject (Marks: 50)
2nd Half: Advanced Subject of Specialization (Marks: 50)

COURSE – IV

REVIEW OF PUBLISHED RESEARCH WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH PROPOSAL (Marks: 100)
1st Half: Review of Published Research Works (Marks: 50)
2nd Half: Development of a Research Proposal (Marks: 50)
COURSE – I

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY (Marks: 100)

1st Half: General Research Methodology (Marks: 50)

- What is expected in a thesis?
- Developing research skills.
- Finding the research questions.
- Purpose or objective of research work.
- Choosing a research topic.
- Finding library sources and putting sources to work.
- Literature review.
- Research gap.
- Methodological knowledge of Bibliography/Reference, Footnote/Endnote, Paraphrasing sources, Quotation, Proof-reading and Diacritical marks.
- Types of research work: qualitative, quantitative, conceptual/critical analysis.
- Writing and presentation skill.
- Research Ethics and Plagiarism.

Suggested Readings:
- Ramachandran, T.P: The Methodology of Research in Philosophy, University of Madras Press.

2nd Half: Subject Oriented Research Methodology (Marks: 50)

- Philosophical Methodology 1 (Indian)
  1. Concept of philosophy in traditional Indian schools of thought.
  2. Concept of philosophy in modern Indian thought (Kalidas Bhattacharya, RasVihary Das, Daya Krishna).
Suggested Readings:

- Tarkavagish, Phanibhusan: *Nyayadarshana* (Vol. 1), WBSBB, Kolkata.

### Philosophical Methodology 2 (Western)

1. Ancient Greek approaches to Philosophy: Socratic Method.
2. The Epistemic approach: Rationalism and Empiricism.
3. Linguistic analysis as a method.
4. Phenomenological method.
5. Hermeneutics.

Suggested Readings:

COURSE – II

COMPUTER APPLICATION (Marks: 100)

1st Half: General Computer Application (Marks: 50)

- Internet: Access to web resources; Downloading articles (Google Scholar, INFLIBNET etc.); Google Docs; E-mail communication; Use of E-resources.
- Software Usage: MS Word, PowerPoint, PDF.

2nd Half: Subject Oriented Computer Application (Marks: 50)

- Internet for Research in Philosophy:

  Gateways:
  - Episteme Links http://www.epistemelinks.com/
  - Philosophy at Large http://www.liv.ac.uk/pal/
  - Guide to Philosophy on the Internet http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/phillinks.htm
  - Philosophy around the Web http://users.ox.ac.uk/~worc0337/phil_index.html
  - Extensive network of sites by subject specialists: http://www.about.com/
  - Philosophy Pages http://www.philosophypages.com/

  Gateways concerning specific topics or philosophers:
  - Continental Philosophy http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~janzb/continental/
  - Ethics http://ethics.sandiego.edu/
  - Kant on the Web http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~ppp/Kant.html
  - Hume http://www.humesociety.org/

  Bibliography:
  - Philosopher's Index http://philinfo.org/
  - Philosophy Documentation Center http://www.pdcnet.org/guide.html
  - Chalmers’ List http://www.u.arizona.edu/~chalmers/
  - John Locke Bibliography http://www.libraries.psu.edu/tas/locke/

  Encyclopaedia:
  - Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://plato.stanford.edu/
  - The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/
  - New World Encyclopedia http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/
  - Catholic Encyclopedia http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/
COURSE – III

FOUNDATION OF SUBJECT AND ADVANCED SUBJECT OF SPECIALIZATION (Marks: 100)

1st Half: Foundation of Subject (Marks: 50)

- **Key branches of Philosophy (Indian and Western):**
  - Epistemology, Logic, Ethics, Metaphysics, Aesthetics

**Suggested Readings:**


2nd Half: Advanced Subject of Specialization (Marks: 50)

- **Post-structuralism**
  - Post-structuralism as a movement and philosophical linkages.
  - Post-structuralist model of language.
  - Post-structuralism and postcolonialism: Interplay.
  - Key thinkers: Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Jacques Lacan, Gilles Deleuze, Jean-François Lyotard, Roland Barthes, Julia Kristeva, Slavoj Žižek.
  - Theories: Deconstruction, Power and History, Psychoanalysis, Philosophy of Difference, Discourse, Death of the author.

**Suggested Readings:**

COURSE – IV
REVIEW OF PUBLISHED RESEARCH WORKS AND
DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH PROPOSAL (Marks: 100)

1st Half: Review of Published Research Works (Marks: 50)
- Review of One Book or Two Articles of candidate’s choice pre-approved by the
  Departmental Committee.
  (To be submitted by the candidate)

2nd Half: Development of a Research Proposal (Marks: 50)
To be submitted by the candidate on any topic of his/her choice following the
format given below:
- Introduction of the topic of research.
- Statement of the problem.
- Rationale and conceptual framework.
- Brief review of literature concerning the area of the proposal.
- Objectives of the research project.
- Research questions and/or hypothesis/hypotheses.
- Research design/Proposed chapterization.
- Sample/Data collection and analysis (for Qualitative and Quantitative
  research).
- Research plan regarding time schedule.
- References/Bibliography.

Suggested Readings:
- Creswell, J.W: Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods