



Maa Manikeshwari University, Bhawanipatna
Model Curriculum for Three/Four-Year Degree Course
(With Multiple Entry/Exit Option)
Based on NEP-2020

Department of Philosophy
(Session 2026-27)



Odisha State Higher Education Council, Bhubaneswar,

Government of Odisha

Verified by BoS members

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HOD
Department of Philosophy
Maa Manikeshwari University
Bhawanipatna

NEP Philosophy Curriculum (UG Course Structure)

Semester	Paper Core	Unit	Course Components	Suggested Change
Semester I	Core I: Introduction to Philosophy	Unit-I	Definition, Nature & Function of Philosophy, Branches of Philosophy, Value of Philosophy, Misconceptions about Philosophy, and in relation to other modes of thinking like Science, Social Science & Theology.	
		Unit-II	Introduction to Metaphysical issues: Appearance and Reality, Mind and Matter, Substance and Attribute, Universal and Particular.	
		Unit-III	Introduction to Metaphysical Doctrines: Monism, Dualism, Pluralism, Realism and Idealism.	
		Unit-IV	Basic understanding of Belief, Opinion and Knowledge, Sources of Knowledge, Epistemological Doctrines: Skepticism, Empiricism, Rationalism.	
	Core II: Introduction to Moral Philosophy	Unit-I	Definition, Nature, and Scope of Moral Philosophy, Distinction between Morality and Ethics; Ethics in Relation to Other Disciplines:	

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			Sociology, Politics, Economics, and Theology.	
		Unit-II	Psychological Basis of Ethics: Moral and Non-Moral Actions, Voluntary Actions, Moral Judgement: Nature of Moral Judgement, Logical, Factual and Aesthetic Judgments, Object and Subject of Moral Judgement; Morality and Legality.	
		Unit-III	Moral and non-moral senses of "Good," Good and its senses, morality and cultivation of traits, morality of traits vs. morality of principles.	
		Unit-IV	Moral concepts: Right, duty and virtue, Moral pathology: Theories of Punishment, capital punishment.	
Semester II	Core III: Living Philosophy of Vedas and Upanishads	Unit-I	Introduction to Vedas, Sruti, Smrti and Vedangas, Veda as Apauruseya, Vedic Thoughts on Human Action and Destiny, Socio-Religious Systems, Varna Dharma and Asrama Dharma, Purusarthas.	
		Unit-II	Vedic Cosmology, Important Divine Figures as Cosmic Forces, Karma and its types, Vedic Rituals at Different Stages of Life, Virat Purusa (Purusa Sukta), Yajna and Tapasya, Satya and Rta, Svarga, Narka, Life,	

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			Death and Rebirth.	
		Unit-III	Introduction to Upanisad: Meaning of Upanisad, Guru-Sisya and Asrama Traditions for Study, Number and Status of Upanisads; Individual Self, Brahman, Atman, Identity of Brahman and Atman, Status of Gods and Goddesses, Experience, Reason, Intuition and Revelation.	
		Unit-IV	Vidya / Paravidya-Avidya / Apra Vidya, Maya, Status of Universe; Karma, Jnana and Bhakti; Preyas, Sreyas and Nihsreyas; Birth-Death-Rebirth and Freedom; Ethics and Religion of Upanisads.	
	Core IV: Logic and Scientific Method	Unit-I	Definition, Nature, and Scope of Logic, Laws of Thought, Deductive and Inductive Arguments, Validity & Soundness of Arguments.	
		Unit-II	Sentence and Proposition, Classification of Propositions (from standpoint of Quality & Quantity), Transforming ordinary sentences to propositions, Distribution of terms, Seven-fold relation of propositions, Square of opposition of propositions.	
		Unit-III	Inference-Immediate Inference (Conversion and Obversion),	

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			Mediate Inference (Syllogism): Figure & Moods, Testing Validity of Arguments by Syllogistic Rules.	
		Unit-IV	Inductive Reasoning & Scientific Enquiry: Causation, Mill's Five Experimental Methods.	
Semester III	Core V: Greek Philosophy	Unit-I	Nature of Greek Philosophy, Salient features of early Greek Thought; Reality: Thales, Anaximander and Anaximenes, Heraclitus, Democritus, Anaxagoras and Empedocles.	
		Unit-II	Parmenides: Theory of Being and Permanence; Zeno: Arguments against pluralism, Zeno's Paradox; Problem before Socrates and his approach, Socratic Dialectical method, Epistemology, Concept of knowledge, Ethics of Socrates.	
		Unit-III	Plato's Theory of Knowledge, Theory of Ideas, Theory of World and Soul, Ethics, Society and Ideal State.	
		Unit-IV	Criticism of Plato's Theory of Ideas; Aristotle's View of Physics and Metaphysics: Form and Matter, Theory of Causation, Philosophy of Nature, God and Soul: Logic and	

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	Core VI: Modern European Philosophy		Ethics.	
		Unit-I	Francis Bacon: Challenges for Bacon, Reform of Science, Theory of Idolas, Inductive Method.	
		Unit-II	Rationalism, Rene Descartes: Problems for Descartes, Method, and Criterion for Knowledge, Universal Doubt and Search for Certainty, Cogito-Ergo-Sum, Proofs for Existence of God, External World, Mind-Body Dualism, Innate Ideas.	
		Unit-III	Benedict De Spinoza: Rationalism, Methods, Substance, Attribute and Modes, Theory of Knowledge, Concept of God, Monism, and Pantheism.	
		Unit-IV	Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz: Theory of Monads, Mind and Matter, Mind-Body problem and Pre-established Harmony, Theodicy.	
	Core VII: Systems of Indian Philosophy	Unit-I	Salient Features of Indian Philosophy and Basic Concepts, Carvaka: Epistemology and Metaphysics.	
		Unit-II	Introduction to Jainism: Epistemology: Syadvada,	

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			Anekantavada, Ethics - Triratna's, Sallekhana.	
		Unit-III	Introduction to Buddhism: Four Noble Truths (Catvāri Aryasatyani), Doctrine of Momentariness (Kṣaṇikavāda), Theory of Dependent Origination (Pratītyasamutpada), No Soul Theory (Anātmavāda), Nirvana (Nirvāṇa), Noble Eightfold Path (Āryāṣṭāṅgamārga), Paramitas (Pāramitā), and Ideals of Pratyeka Buddha (Pratyekabuddha), Bodhisattva and Arhata	
		Unit-IV	Introduction to Samkhya Yoga: Dualism of Purusa and Prakriti, God and World, Causation, Theory of Evolution, Twenty-Four Tattvas, Liberation according to Samkhya, Astanga Yoga of Patanjali.	
Semester IV	Core VIII: Ethical Theories	Unit-I	Moral Sense, Moral Sentiments, Springs of Action; Theories of Morality: Hedonism: Psychological and Ethical; Egoism and Altruism.	
		Unit-II	Plato's and Aristotle's Ethics: Virtue Ethics and Eudaemonism, Phronesis; Kant's Ethics - Deontological theory.	

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		Unit-III	Theories of Morality: Utilitarianism: Bentham, Mill, Sidgwick and Rashdall; Theories of Punishment.	
		Unit-IV	Indian Ethics: Three Runas, Four goals of life (Purusarthas), Dharma: Nature and Kind, Karma and its divisions, Niskama Karma and Lokasangraha.	
	Core IX: Social and Political Philosophy	Unit-I	Sociality, Social science & Social laws, Philosophy of Social Science: Relation Between Individual & Society (Mechanical, Organic & Idealistic view).	
		Unit-II	Political Ideals and Systems- Justice, Liberty, Equality; Anarchy, Monarchy, Democracy and forms of governance systems. Introduction to Political Doctrines- Humanism, Secularism, Feminism, Philosophy of Ecology.	
		Unit-III	Democratic Ideals- Democratic Government, Conditions for Successful Functioning of Democracy, Human Rights, current electoral systems in India	
		Unit-IV	Political Ideologies- (a) Socialism and Marxism, (b) Kautilya on political ideology- Ruler (Raja) and	

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	Core X: Systems of Indian Philosophy		the Ruled (Prajā), (c) Sarvodaya (Gandhi and Vinoba), (d) Vasudhaiva kutumbakam.	
		Unit-I	Vaisheshika: Dharma, Categories (Sapta Padarthas), Atomism, God, Karma, Adrsta, Bondage and Liberation.	
		Unit-II	Nyaya: Pramanas: Pratyaksa, Anumana, Upamana and Sabda; Prama and Aprama, Causation, Concept of Self and God, Apavarga.	
		Unit-III	Purva Mimamsa: Theory of Karma, Yajna and Svarga, Apurva, Dharma, Epistemology.	
		Unit-IV	Uttara Mimamsa: Sankara's Advaita and Ramanuja's Visistadvaita: Brahman, Isvara, Jagat and Jiva, Avidya / Maya and Liberation, Jnana and Bhakti as paths for Liberation.	
Semester V	Core XI: Modern European Philosophy	Unit-I	John Locke: Refutation of Innate ideas, Sensation, Reflection, Simple and Complex Ideas, Theory of Knowledge and Types of Knowledge; Substance, Modes, and Relations.	
		Unit-II	George Berkeley: Criticism of Lockean Empiricism, Refutation of	

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			Abstract Ideas and Matter, Subjective Idealism of Berkeley (Esse-est-percipi), Theory of Knowledge. David Hume: Impression and Idea, Theory of Knowledge, Ideas of Necessary Relationship and Interpretation of Causality, Skepticism.	
		Unit-III	Immanuel Kant: Problems before Kant, Reconciliation of Empiricism and Rationalism, Copernican Revolution. Kant's System of Knowledge: Transcendental Aesthetics: Space and Time as A-priori Conditions of Perception, Transcendental Logic: Transcendental Analytic, Transcendental Deduction, Schematism of Categories.	
		Unit-IV	Immanuel Kant: Types of Judgments / Propositions: Possibility of Synthetic A-priori Judgment, Introduction to Transcendental Dialectic: Paralogism, Antinomies and Ideals of Pure Reason.	
	Core XII: Applied Ethics	Unit-I	Introduction to Applied Ethics: Nature and Scope of Applied Ethics; Moral Status of Animals: All Lives are Equal, Animals Rights, Reverence for life.	

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		Unit-II	Environmental Ethics: Anthropocentrism, Non-anthropocentrism: Bio-Centrism, Eco-centrism, Shallow and Deep Ecology.	
		Unit-III	Medical Ethics (Bioethics): Right to Life, Hippocratic Oath, Sanctity of Life, Euthanasia; Abortion, Surrogacy: Patient-Doctor Relationship.	
		Unit-IV	(a) Business Ethics- Rights and Obligations of Stake Holders, Corporate Social Responsibility; Ethics of Promotion / Advertisement; (b) Media Ethics - Anonymity and Confidentiality, Privacy, (c) Cyber-Security, Challenges of Artificial Intelligence.	
	Core XIII: Philosophy of language	Unit-I	Word Meaning: Meaning of the word "meaning", Ambiguity and Vagueness.	
	Add course components before unit 1 in this paper	Unit-II	Definitions: Denotative, Connotative, and Ostensive Defining and Accompanying Characteristics, Stipulative, Reportive, and Persuasive definition.	
		Unit-III	Sentence Meaning: Sentence and Proposition; Word Meaning and	

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			sentence meaning, Criteria of sentence meaning, Basic features of Sentence meaning in Indian Philosophy- Akanksa, Yogyata, Sannidhi and Tatparya, Anvitabhidhana Vada and Abhithanvaya Vada.	
		Unit-IV	Analytical Truth and Logical Possibility; Theories of Truth-correspondence, coherence, and truth as works, Theory, Law, and Explanation.	
Semester VI	Core XIV: Philosophy of Religion	Unit-I	Introduction to Philosophy of Religion; Concept of God; nature and scope of philosophy of religion	
		Unit-II	Proofs for belief in existence of God; Proofs against belief in existence of God; Religion and Morality.	
		Unit-III	Problem of Evil: Augustinian Theodicy, Irenaean Theodicy, Process Theodicy, Reason, Revelation, and Faith.	
		Unit-IV	Problems of Religious Language: Cognitive and Non-Cognitive; Verification and Falsification Theory; Karma, Rebirth and Reincarnation.	

Semester	Paper Core	Unit	Course Components	Suggested Change
	Core XV: Symbolic Logic	Unit-I	Chapter I - Introduction (Sections 1 to 4); Chapter II - Calculus of Propositions (Sections 1 to 5).	
		Unit-II	Chapter III - Calculus of Propositions (Sections 1 to 6).	
		Unit-III	Chapter IV - Calculus of Propositions (Sections 7 to 9); Chapter V - Elements of Predicate Calculus (Sections 1 to 9).	
		Unit-IV	Appendix (Sections 1 to 4).	
Semester VII	Core XVI: Upanisadic Philosophy for Life: Textual Study of Isa Upanisad	Unit-I	Introduction to Upanisads: Term Upanisad, Number, Dates, and Authorship of Upanisad, Upanisad as Vedanta, difference from Brahmana & Aranyaka; Significance of Isa Upanisad.	
		Unit-II	Isa Upanisad - Mantra 1-6; Ethics, Karma & Rebirth of Upanisad Philosophy.	
		Unit-III	Isa Upanisad - Mantra 7-12; Knowledge and Ignorance in Upanisad.	
		Unit-IV	Isa Upanisad - Mantra 13-18, Life as Eternal.	

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	Core XVII: Contemporary Indian Philosophy	Unit-I	Rabindranath Tagore: Nature of Religion, Reality, and God; Nature of Man (Finite, Infinite and both Finite-Infinite), Humanism. Swami Vivekananda: God, World and Maya, Liberation: Ways for Liberation, Universal Religion and Practical Vedanta.	
		Unit-II	Sri Aurobindo: Evolution and Involution; Reality as Sacchidananda, Supermind and Gnostic Being, Triple Transformation and Integral Yoga.	
		Unit-III	Mahatma Gandhi: Truth, God, and Non-violence, End and Means, Satyagraha, Social and Political Ideas, Education. Jyotirao Phule: Critical Understanding of Caste-System. B.R. Ambedkar: Annihilation of Caste, Neo-Buddhism.	
		Unit-IV	S. Radhakrishnan: Man, Reality and Religion, Ways of Knowing, Intellect and Intuition, Idealism. J. Krishna Murty: Man and Nature, Human Crisis, Philosophy of Education.	

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	Core XVIII: Post-Kantian Philosophy - I	Unit-I	to Hegel's Philosophy: Dialectical Method, Nature of Spirit, Absolute Idealism, Internalization and Alienation, Ethics.	
		Unit-II	Introductory Reading of Bradley: Concept of Appearance and Reality. Henri Bergson: Revolt against materialism, Creative Evolution, Two sources of morality and religion.	
		Unit-III	Arthur Schopenhauer: Schopenhauer's Critique of Kant, World as Idea, World as Will: Will to live and Will to reproduce, World as evil, Ethics.	
		Unit-IV	Herbert Spencer: First Principle - The Unknowable, Evolution-evolution of life, mind, society, and morals.	
	Core XIX: Post-Kantian Philosophy - II	Unit-I	Soren Kierkegaard: Analysis of Human Existence: Despair, Social Critique, and Anxiety, Spheres of Existence or Stages on Life's Way, Subjectivity as Truth.	
		Unit-II	Friedrich Nietzsche: Critique of Religion and Morality, Value Creation, Meta-ethical Stance and	

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			Nature of Value Creation, Nietzschean Values: Will to Power, Superman, Decadence, Aristocracy, Affirmation.	
		Unit-III	William James: Pragmatism, Pluralism, Principles of Psychology. John Dewey: Education, Instrumentalism, Science and Politics.	
		Unit-IV	A.N. Whitehead: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Education, Metaphysics, Religion.	
Semester VIII	Core XX: Existentialism and Phenomenology	Unit-I	Husserl's Phenomenology: Method, Theory of Essences, Critique of Psychologism.	
		Unit-II	Husserl's Phenomenology: Intentionality, Life-world, Noema and Noesis, Ethics.	
		Unit-III	Heidegger: Phenomenological Method, Concept of Being (DASEIN), Process of Being, Man as Being in the World.	
		Unit-IV	J.P. Sartre: Phenomenological Method, Being and Nothingness, Freedom, Bad Faith.	

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	Core XXI: Linguistic & Analytic Philosophy	Unit-I	G. Frege: On Sense and Reference. G.E. Moore: Refutation of Idealism, Defense of Common Sense, Proof of External World.	
		Unit-II	Bertrand Russell: Logical Atomism, Logical Constructions, Incomplete Symbols.	
		Unit-III	A. J. Ayer: Rejection of Metaphysics, Verification Theory of Meaning, Linguistic Theory of Necessary Propositions.	
		Unit-IV	Ludwig Wittgenstein: Picture Theory of Meaning, Saying and Showing, Meaning and Use, Language Games, Critique of Private Language.	
	Core XXII: Meta-Ethics	Unit-I	Ethics; Types of Ethics; Introduction to Meta-Ethics, Moral Epistemology, Moral Psychology.	
		Unit-II	Ethical Cognitivism: Moral Realism (Ethical Naturalism and Non-Naturalism); Moral Anti-Realism (Moral Subjectivism, Moral Relativism).	
		Unit-III	Ethical Non-Cognitivism: Emotivism, Quasi Realism, Universal	

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			Prescriptivism.	
		Unit-IV	Error Theory, Expressivism, Moral Supernaturalism, Moral Constructivism.	
	Core XXIII: Symbolic Logic: Quantification Theory	Unit-I	Singular Propositions and General Propositions; Proving Validity; Preliminary Quantification Rules.	
		Unit-II	Proving Invalidity; Multiply-General Propositions.	
		Unit-III	Quantification Rules: Universal Instantiation, Existential Generalization, Existential Instantiation, Universal Generalization.	
		Unit-IV	More on Proving Invalidity; Logical Truths Involving Quantifiers.	