

4th Semester

PHI -251- History of Modern Western Philosophy

Credits: 4

Objectives: To survey the development and nature of philosophical ideas of the Modern Western Traditions

Unit – I Descartes, Spinoza and Leibnitz

- (a) Descarte's Method of Doubt
- (b) Cogito Ergo Sum
- (c) Spinoza's Substance, Attributes and Modes
- (d) Leibnitz's Monadology

Unit – II Locke and Berkeley

- (a) Simple and Complex Ideas
- (b) Primary and Secondary Qualities
- (c) Esse est Percipi

Unit – III David Hume

- (a) Impressions and Ideas
- (b) Causality
- (c) Hegel's Dialectical Method

Unit – IV Immanuel Kant

- (a) Possibility of Synthetic a priori judgements
- (b) Categories of Understanding
- (c) Phenomena and Noumena
- (d) Absolute Idealism of Hegel

Learning outcome: Students will learn about the various philosophical ideas and debates within the Modern Western Europe.

Suggested Readings:

1. Copleston, F., S.J A History of Philosophy, Burns and Oates Limited, London, Vol.III(1966), Vol.IV (1971), Vol. V(1968), Vol. VI (1968).
2. O' Connor, D. J., Critical History of Western Philosophy, New York, The Free Press, 1964.
3. Russell, B., History of Western Philosophy, London, Allen & Unwin 1963.

4. Falckenberg, Richard. History of Modern Philosophy, translated by A C Armstrong. Jr. 'Kosha Publishing' House, Delhi 1989.
5. Benneth Jonathan, Locke, Berkeley, Hume; Central themes, Oxford, 1971.
6. Masih, Y., A Critical History of Western Philosophy, Motilal Banarasidass, Delhi, 1994.
7. Seruton Roger, A Short History of Modern Philosophy, Routledge Classics, London, 1995.
8. Errol Harris, Fundamentals of Philosophy, George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London, 1969.