

Core VI

Modern European Philosophy

Introduction:

This course on modern European philosophy encompasses the rich and diverse philosophical movements that emerged from the Renaissance to the contemporary era. Throughout the course, critical analysis of philosophical arguments, and discussions of historical context and intellectual influences can deepen students' understanding of modern European thought and its relevance to contemporary issues.

Course Outcomes:

- Ability to mark the development of Western philosophical thought from Bacon to Leibnitz.
- Ability to understand the basic problems countered by the aforesaid thinkers and their responses to the problems.
- Ability to see the rationalist current in Western philosophy.
- Ability to compare and evaluate the common issues undertaken by the thinkers.

Learning Outcome:

Unit- I: The learning outcomes of Unit I aim to equip students with a solid understanding of Francis Bacon's contributions to the reform of science, his theory of idols, and his development of the inductive method. Additionally, students should enhance their critical thinking abilities and scientific inquiry skills, enabling them to engage effectively in empirical research and evidence-based reasoning.

Unit-II: The learning outcomes of Unit I aim to equip students with a solid understanding of René Descartes' philosophical contributions, including his methodological skepticism, foundationalism, proofs for the existence of God, mind-body dualism, and rationalist epistemology. Additionally, students should enhance their critical thinking abilities and philosophical analysis skills, enabling them to engage effectively with Descartes' ideas and broader philosophical discourse.

Unit-III: The learning outcomes of Unit III aim to equip students with a solid understanding of occasionalism, Spinoza's rationalism, and his metaphysical, epistemological, and ethical ideas. Additionally, students should enhance their critical thinking abilities and philosophical analysis skills, enabling them to engage effectively with complex philosophical concepts and arguments.

Unit- IV The learning outcomes of Unit IV aim to equip students with a solid understanding of Leibniz's philosophical contributions, including his theory of monads, views on mind and matter, the solution to the mind-body problem through pre-established harmony, and his theodicy. Additionally, students should enhance their critical thinking abilities and philosophical analysis skills, enabling them to engage effectively with complex philosophical concepts and arguments.

Course Components:

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 the 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 Leibnitz: Theory of Monads, Mind and Matter, Mind-Body problem and Pre-established Harmony, Theodicy.

Prescribed Book: -

1. *Ratnakar Pati, History of Modern European Philosophy, A. K. Mishra Agencies, Cuttack.*
2. *Y Masih, A Critical History Of Modern Philosophy, Motilal Banarsidass Publishers, Delhi*

Reference Books: -

1. *Ira Sen Gupta: A History of Western Philosophy*
2. *Frank Thilly: History Of Western Philosophy,*
3. *Hrudananda Ray and Ganeswara Das, Pāsčātya Darśanara Itihasa (Ādhunika Yuga) (Odia), Odisha Rajya Pathya Pustaka Pranayana O Prakaśana Samsthā, Pustaka Bhavan, Bhubaneswar.*

E-Resource:

1. <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/francis-bacon/>
2. <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/descartes-epistemology/>
3. https://youtu.be/0UCoLSHelkE?si=feeNr-SNIw0XyI_g
4. <https://youtu.be/JbCm7ecjO6g?si=0qMiunxzLM0obsGN>
5. <https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/80575/1/Unit-6.pdf>

Sample Questions: 1 for Part- I Objective; Part- II Very Short Type (in 50 Words); Par-III Short Type (in 250 Words); Par-IV Long Type (in 800 Words);

Unit – I

1. Novum Atlantis Is the Work of _____.
2. Write a Short Note On Idola Tribus.
3. Explain Bacon's Theory of Idolas.
- 4 . Discuss the Inductive Method of Bacon.

Unit – II

1. “I Think Therefore I Exist ”Is the Statement of _____.
2. What Do You Mean By Idea?
3. Discuss the Relation Between Mind & Body In Descartes Approach?
- 4 . Briefly Explain Cogito-Ergo -Sum?

Unit – III

1. the Relation Between Mind and Body Is Known An _____ For Spinoza.
2. Explain Spinoza’s Abstract Monism.
3. Explain the Concept of Substance, Attributes, and Modes In the View of Spinoza.
4. Define the Substance and Explain the Various Nature of Substance In Spinoza’s Philosophy

Unit – IV

1. _____ Advocated the Concept of Pre-Established Harmony.
2. Explain, Pre-Established Harmony.
3. Discuss Leibnitz's Explanation of Mind and Matter.
4. Briefly Explain the Theory of Monads