

## Core VIII

## Semester IV Ethical Theories

### Introduction:

This course on ethical theories would provide students with a comprehensive understanding of various approaches to moral philosophy and the principles that guide ethical decision-making. Throughout the course, readings of primary texts, case studies, ethical dilemmas, and class discussions will help students develop critical thinking skills and ethical reasoning abilities. Additionally, assignments and projects can encourage students to apply ethical theories to real-world situations and articulate their moral perspectives.

### Course Outcomes:

1. Understanding of the various ethical theories.
2. Ability to decide a particular course of action that is ethically justifiable in a given context.
3. Ability to compare and evaluate the ethical theories.
4. Knowledge of the theories of punishment

### Learning Outcome:

**Unit-I** Students will be able to identify different theories of Morality. They will gain a better orientation from the ethical perspective.

**Unit-II** By the end of this unit, students will have a larger awareness of Plato's, Aristotle's, and Kant's theory of Morality.

**Unit-III** Students will be able to reflect on the theory of utilitarian theory the impact of actions guided by it, and the theories of punishment.

**Unit-IV** Students can identify the basics of the Indian Theories of Morals and describe the key characteristics that distinguish for welfare of the individual and society.

### Course Components:

**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.

**Unit-III:** Theories of Morality:Utilitarianism: Bentham, Mill, Sidgwick and Rashdall. Theories of Punishments.

**Unit-IV:** Indian Ethics: Three Runas. The four goals of life (*Puruṣārthas*), Dharma: Nature and Kind, Karma and its divisions, Niskama Karma and Lokasangraha.

**Prescribed Books: -**

- ✓ *Sinha, J.N.- A Manual of Ethics, New Central Book Agency Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata*
- ✓ *Lilly, William - An Introduction to Ethics, Allied Publishers Ltd., New Delhi*

**Reference Books: -**

- ✓ *W. Frankena– Ethics*
- ✓ *S.C. Panigrahi, and N.C. Padhi, Ethics: Indian and Western, Ananya Publications, Cuttack.*

**E-Resource:**

1. <https://iep.utm.edu/hedonism/>
2. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/intuitionism-ethics>
3. [https://youtu.be/Q5ihj\\_p-p\\_I?si=zLM3OPIO8a2ghJ\\_u](https://youtu.be/Q5ihj_p-p_I?si=zLM3OPIO8a2ghJ_u)
4. <https://youtu.be/rV8f7vrXg94?si=NIf2XrqhnEd7hxYJ>
5. <https://youtu.be/0vNXd9m0fiw?si=zWvsr2Rj7k8pdED7>

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. Moral sentences arouse moral \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What are the types of hedonism?
3. What is the meaning of ethics of egoism?
4. What is altruism? Explain.

**Unit-II**

1. What is utilitarianism?
2. What are the types of utilitarianism?
3. What is Bentham's utilitarianism?
4. What is Mill's utilitarianism?

**Unit-III**

1. What is Eudaimonism?
2. What is Plato's approach to ethics?
3. What are the key ideas of virtue ethics?
4. What is deontological theory?

#### **Unit-IV**

1. Dharma is generally understood as \_\_\_\_?
2. What is the theory of Puruṣārtha?
3. How does Karma theory impact on Indian psyche?
4. Describe the Kiskarma Karma?