B.A. (HONOURS) PHILOSOPHY

(Three Year Full Time Programme)

COURSE CONTENTS

(Effective from the Academic Year 2011-2012 onwards)

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
DELHI - 110007
# University of Delhi

**Course: B.A. (Hons.) Philosophy**

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<td>(Topics: 1,2,3,4,5)</td>
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<td>Option B : Greek Philosophy-II</td>
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<td>Paper 4.3- Ethics-I</td>
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<td>Paper 4.4 - Concurrent – Discipline Centered I</td>
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| Semester V       | Paper 5.1- Text of Indian Philosophy-I  
|                 | Madhyamakakarika of Nagarjuna           |
|                 | #Paper 5.2- Option A: Philosophy of Religion-I (Topics: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7&8) |
|                 | Option B: Philosophy of Logic-I (Chapter 1 to 14) |
|                 | Option C: Philosophy of Language-I      |
|                 | (J.L. Austin & John Searle)             |
|                 | Option D: Philosophy of Science-I (Topic 1 to 5) |
|                 | #Paper 5.3- Option A: Contemporary Philosophy-I |
|                 | Option B: Aesthetics-I                 |
|                 | Option C: Later Greek Philosophy-I     |
|                 | (Aristotle’s Metaphysics)              |
|                 | Paper 5.4- Ethics-II                  |

| Semester VI     | Paper 6.1- Text of Indian Philosophy-II |
|                 | Vendantaparibhasa of Dharmaraja Adhvarin |
|                 | #Paper 6.2- Option A: Philosophy of Religion-II (Topics 1 to 6) |
|                 | Option B: Philosophy of Science-II (Topic 1 to 4) |
|                 | Option C: Philosophy of Language-II (Ludwig Wittgenstein) |
|                 | Option D: Philosophy of Logic-II (Chapters 5 to 8) |
|                 | #Paper 6.3 – Option A: Contemporary Philosophy-II |
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|                 | (Hellenistic)                          |
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# For all optional papers, Paper-I of the said optional is prerequisite for opting Paper-II of that option.
**SEMESTER BASED UNDER-GRADUATE HONOURS COURSES**

**Distribution of Marks & Teaching Hours**

The Semester-wise distribution of papers for the B.A. (Honours), B.Com. (Honours), B. Com., B.Sc. (Honours) Statistics and B.Sc. (Honours) Computer Science will be as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Paper</th>
<th>Max. Marks</th>
<th>Theory Exam.</th>
<th>I.A.</th>
<th>Teaching per week</th>
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<td>Main Papers</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5 Lectures</td>
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<td>4 Lectures</td>
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<td>1 Tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit Courses for B.Sc.(Hons.) Mathematics</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4 Lectures</td>
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<td>1 Tutorial</td>
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- Size of the Tutorial Group will be in accordance with the existing norms.
- The existing syllabi of all Concurrent/Credit Courses shall remain unchanged.
- The existing criteria for opting for the Concurrent /Credit Courses shall also remain unchanged.
B.A. (HONOURS) PHILOSOPHY

SEMESTER-I

Paper : 1.1 Traditional Logic (Sec. A)
Distinction between connotation and denotation of terms. Distribution of terms.
Distinction between sentence and proposition. Types of Aristotelian categorical propositions.
Logical form: Truth and Validity
Laws of Thought
Theory of the Square of Opposition of Categorical Propositions. The problem of existential import.
Laws of Conversion, Obversion and Contraposition of Categorical propositions.
Fallacies of syllogistic arguments.

Informal fallacies (Sec. B)

Recommended Readings:
Basson & O’Connor: AN INTRODUCTION TO SYMBOLIC LOGIC, University Tutorial Press, Oxford, 1962 (for the method of antilogism)

Paper : 1.2

Elements of Indian Philosophy - I

Topics: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
1. Plurality of Indian philosophies despite common concerns.
3. Carvaka School: Its epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics.
5. Jainism: Anekantavada; Saptabhangi Naya; Syadvada; concept of substance; and nature of liberation.
Recommended Readings:

(A) Books:

(B) Articles:

Reference Books:
Baldev Upadhyaya: *Bhartiya Darsana* (In Hindi)
Haridatta Shastri: *Bhartiya Darsana Ka Itihasa*
Paper : 1.3 Concurrent – Qualifying Language
SEMESTER-II

Paper : 2.1

LOGIC

Truth Functional (Sec. A)

Truth-functions: Negation, Conjunction, Alternation (or Disjunction), Conditional (or Material Implication), Biconditional (or Material Equivalence), Sheffer’s Stroke function. Interdefinability of different truth-functions.

Truth-tables as a decision procedure. Reductio ad absurdum method.

Truth trees method. Alternational (or Disjunctional) and Conjunctinal Normal forms as decision procedures. Use of these methods for (a) deciding consistency (contingency), inconsistency (contradiction), and validity (tautology) of propositions. (b) showing implication and equivalence between propositions and (c) showing validity/invalidity of truth-functional argument.

Duality and its laws

Proof procedure for tautologies and valid truth functional arguments.

Quantification Theory (Sec. B)

Syllogistics and the method of antilogism.

Translating Ordinary language into the language of quantification.

Proof Procedure. (Scope of this is restricted to the discussion in Irving Copi’s INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC (5th Edition)

Recommended Readings:


Basson & O’ Connor: AN INTRODUCTION TO SYMBOLIC LOGIC, University Tutorial Press, Oxford, 1962 (for the method of antilogism)


Richard Jaffery: FORMAL LOGIC: Its scope and limits. McGraw Hill Book Company, New York (For truth trees method for “not” “and” and “or” are in the first two sections of chapter 2, with exercise in the third section of the same Chapter. Pp. 18-27)

Paper : 2.2

Elements of Indian Philosophy - II

Topic : 2, 8, 9, 10

2. Philosophy of the Upanisads. (Text: Kenopanisad)

8. Purva-Mimamsa: pramanas: pramanyakvada: khyativada: dharma. Vidhi nisedha, and arthavada; sabdabodha: understanding the meaning of words; understanding the meaning of sentences: akanksa,
yogyata, sannidhi, and tatparya, doctrine of karma and apurva; nature of svarga; criticism of moksa as a pursartha.

9. Samkara Advaita Vedanta  Nature of Brahman; maya, jiva and jagat, pramanyavada; khyativada, theory of causation; nature of moksa; Samkara’s arguments against karma as a means to moksa; Moral theory.

10. Ramanuja’s Visistadvaitavada; Distinction between advaita and visistavada nature of Isvara, maya, jiva and jagat. Ramanuja’s criticism of Samkara’s theory of maya, Nature of liberation, and the means to attaining it.

Recommended Readings:

(A) Books:

(B) Articles:

Reference Books:

Baldev Upadhyaya: *Bharatiya Darsana (In Hindi)*
Haridatta Shastri: *Bhartiya Darsana Ka Ithasa*
Paper: 2.3 Concurrent - Credit Language
SEMESTER-III

Paper : 3.1 History of Western Philosophy - I
(Descartes, Spinoza, Leibnitz, Locke)

Descartes: DISCOURSE ON THE METHOD.
Leibnitz: CRITICAL REMARKS CONCERNING THE GENERAL PART OF DESCARTES PRINCIPLES (Articles 1-36 only)

Reference Books:
Copleston: A HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY, Relevant Chapters
O’ Connor: Ed. A CRITICAL HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY

# Paper : 3.2 (Option A)

Social and Political Philosophy - I
John Rawls, Equality & Rights

John Rawls: A THEORY OF JUSTICE, Part I Only
Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1971

1. Equality:
   Bernard Williams, “The idea of equality” in Hampshire and Kolakowski, eds, THE SOCIALIST IDEAS, OUP

2. Rights:
   H.L. A. hart, “Are there natural rights?”
   R. Dworkin, “Taking rights seriously”

Greek Philosophy - I
(Pre-Socratic and Socrates)
Milesians: Thales, Anaximander, Anaxmenes
Pythagoras and 4th Century Pythagorus (e.g. Philolaus)
Heraclitus
Eleatics: Melissus, Parmenides and Zero
Empedocles
Anaxagoras
The Atomists: Leucippus and Democritus
Sophists: Protagoras and Gorgias
Socrates

Reference Books:
Pre-Socrates
J. Barnes: Early Greek Philosophy, London; penguin Books
Kirk Raven and Schofield: THE PRESOCRATIC PHILOSOPHERS
J. Burnet: GREEK PHILOSOPHY: THALES TO PLATO.
W.C.K. Guthrie: HISTORY OF GREEK PHILOSOPHY, Vols. I &2

Sophist
Plato’s PROTAGORAS AND GORGIAS (selections)
G.B. Kerferd: THE SOPHISTS: Cambridge : Cambridge University Press
Socrates
Vlastos: SOCRATES: A COLLECTION OF CRITICAL ESSAYS.
Paper: 3.3 Concurrent - Interdisciplinary
SEMESTER-IV

Paper : 4.1  
**History of Western Philosophy - II**  
(Berkley, Hume, Kant)

*Berkeley*: *THREE DIALOGUE BETWEEN HYLAS AND PHILOONUS*. First Dialogue only

*Hume*: *A TREASURE ON HUMAN NATURE*, Book I Part I(Complete) And Part-III sections I-XVI)

*Kant*: *PROLEGOMENA TO ANY FUTURE METAPHYSICS*.

Reference Books:

*Copleston*: A HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY, Relevant Chapters

*O’ Connor*: Ed. A CRITICAL HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY


# Paper : 4.2  
(Option A)  
**Social and Political Philosophy – II (Topics 1,2,3,4,5)**

1. **Society:**

2. **Politics:**

3. **Democracy:**
   - Joseph Schumpeter, “Two concepts of democracy”

4. **Power:**
   - Steven Lukes, “Power; A radical view”. M.K. Gandhi, HIND SWARAJ

5. **LIBERTY:**
   - Isiah Berlin, “Two concepts of liberty”

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**
**PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND SOCIETY.**  

**POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY.**  
Ed. Anthony Quinton  
Oxford: OUP(paperback), 1967

Articles by Schumpeter, Hart and Berlin are available in Quinton’s POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY; and those by Partridge, Dworkin and Likes are found in laslett and Runciman’s Philosophy, Politics and Society.


Benn & R.S. Peters:  
Social Principles and the Democratic State  
Allen and Unwin, London

**Greek Philosophy - II**

Plato’s The REPUBLIC (Bks II to VII)  
Aristotle’s PHYSICS (Bks I & II)

**Reference Books**

Plato  

*C D C Reeve: PHILOSOPHER KINGS, PRINCETON, 1988*

Aristotle  
*Aristotle’s PHYSICS, Bks I & II. Translated with Introduction and Notes* by W. Charlton(oxford, 1970)

**Ethics - I**

**Topics:**

1. Conventional and reflective morality  
2. Aristotle’s conception of virtue and well-being  
3. Kant’s conception of Good Will, duty and Categorical Imperative  
4. Joseph Butler’s theory of Conscience and self-love  
5. J.S. Mill’s Utilitarianism  
6. Freedom and Responsibility

**Recommended Readings:**

William Frankena: ETHICS. 2nd Edition Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi


*Aristotle: NICOMACHEAN ETHICS.* (For Aristotle’s Theory of Virtue and well
Kant: *GROUNDWORK OF THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS.*
Trans. H.J. Paton, as *THE MORAL LAW.* London: Hutchinson, 1953 (for Kant’s ethical Theory)

J.S. Mill: *UTILITARIANISM.* London 1863, in Mary Warnock, ed.

Mill: *UTILITARIANISM AND OTHER WRITING.* Glasgow: Collins, 1962 (for Mill’s theory of Utilitarian ethics)


**REFERENCE BOOKS:**

*Bernard Williams: MORALITY: AN INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS:* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1993

*Kant:* ‘Duties towards the body in regard to life”, in his *LECTURES ON ETHICS,* trans, Louis Infield, New York: Harper & Row, 1986


Paper: 4.4 Concurrent – Discipline Centered I
SEMESTER-V

Paper: 5.1

Text of Indian Philosophy – I

Madhyamakarika of Nagarjuna

(Chapters: 1 & 25)

Translated by Th. Stcherbatsky as in Stcherbatsky THE CONCEPTION OF BUDDHIST NIRVANA (Motilal Banarsidass Delhi, 1968)

REFERENCES BOOKS AND ARTICLES:


# Paper: 5.2

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION/LOGIC/ LANGUAGE/SCIENCE:

(Option A)

Philosophy of Religion - I

Topics:
1. Nature of the Philosophy of Religion. Its Distinction from Theology
2. Nature of Religion and the Concept of Dharma
4. Prayer and Bhakti
5. Reason, Faith and Revelation
6. Immortality of the Soul and the Doctrine of Karma
7. Religious Experience and Knowledge
8. Plurality of Religions and Religious Tolerance

Reference Books and Articles:

Barren Cyrill: WITTGENSTEIN ON ETHICS AND ERELIIGIOUS BELIEF.
Hick, John, *PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION*. Prentice Half of India New Delhi, 1992 Hindi translation of John Hick’s Book by Rajesh Kumar Singh is brought out by the same Publishers in 1994

Trueblood, David Alton, *PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION*.

Chempathy, L. *INDIAN RATIONAL THEOLOGY*. (This book contains English translation of Udayan’s NYAYAKUSUMAANJALI)


John Dewey: *A COMMON FAITH* New Haven Conn Yale University Press, 1934

V.P. Varma: *SAMKAALEEN VISLESANATMAKADHARMA DARSHAN*, Delhi University Hind Directorate, Delhi

**Philosophical Logic - I**

Chapter 1 to 14.

P.F. Strawson’s *INTRODUCTION TO LOGICAL THEORY* London 1952

**REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES:**

David Mitchel: *INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC*

Copi & Gould, (eds) *CONTEMPORARY READINGS IN LOGICAL THEORY*, Macmillan, New York

W.V. Quine: *PHILOSOPHY OF LOGIC* Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi

**Philosophy of Language - I**

Texts: J L Austin: *HOW TO DO THINGS WITH WORDS*.

John Searle: *SPEECH ACTS: AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE*.

**REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES:**


**Philosophy of Science - I**

1. Origin of Scientific thoughts
2. Probability and Introduction, Problem of Induction
3. Mill’s Method of Experimental Inquiry, Nature of Causality
4. Measurements
5. Observation, Experiment, Explanation, and Prediction

**READING MATERIAL**

Frances A Yates: “The Harmeneutic Tradition in Renaissance Science” in
IDEAS AND IDEALS

# Paper : 5.3

**CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY/ AESTHETICS/LATER GREEK**

(Option A)

**Contemporary Philosophy - I**


**REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES:**

- Roderick M. Chisholm; *THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE*, Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi
- David Hamlyn: *THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE*
- John Hospers: *AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS*. Hindi translation of this Book is available

(Option B)

**Aesthetics - I**

Harold Osborne (editor), *AESTHETICS OUP Paperbacks*, Oxford, 1972

**REFERENCES BOOKS AND ARTICLES**

- Virgil Aldrich: *PHILOSOPHY OF ART*, Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi
- Shyamala Gupta: *Saundarya Tattva mimamsa*, Seema Sahitya Bhavan, New Delhi, 1993

(Option C)

**Later Greek Philosophy - I**

Text: *ARISTOTLE’S METAPHYSICS* (Books Gamma, Delta, Eta) Translated with Notes By Christopher Kirwin, Oxford, 1984

Commentary on Zeta in Ross; *ARISTOTLES’S METAPHYSICS* (2 Vol) Charendon Press, Oxford, 1953


Paper : 5.4

**Ethics - II**

**Section A:**

1. Value of life: Suicide and Euthansia
2. Capital punishment; Theories of punishment
3. Expression of dissent: Terrorism
4. Moral attitude to the environmental and animals
5. Equality, discrimination and preferential treatment

Section B:

1. Bhagavadgita: Niskamakarma
2. Purusarthas: Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksa
3. Yamas (five Principles of Morality)
4. Mahatma Gandhi’s conception of Ahimsa (non-violence), Satyagraha (Zest for Truth) and means-ends relationship.
5. Confucius’s conception of the Doctrine of the Mean
6. Al Ghazali’s theory of virtues

Recommended Reading:

William Frankena: Ethics. 2nd Edition Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi


REFERENCE BOOKS:

Bernard Williams: MORALITY: AN INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS: Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1993


BHAGAVADGITA. (For Niskamakarma)

Raghvan Aiyar: MORAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT OF MAHATMA GANDHI. (For Gandhi’s Conception of Ahimsa, Satyagraha and Means-ends Relationship)

Patanjali’s Yogasutra: (For Five Yamas)
Mahendra Kumar: “Towards a Reconstruction of the Concept of Non-violence” in his *VIOLENCE AND NON-VIOLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS*. Thomson Press, New Delhi, 1975


## SEMESTER-VI

| Paper : 6.1 | Text of Indian Philosophy - II  
Dharmaraja Adhvarin: *VEDANTAPARIBHASA*  
(Translated into English by S S Surya Narayana Sastri. Adyar Library Publication Madras)  
REFERENCES BOOKS AND ARTICLES:  
TMP Mahadevan: *THE PHILOSOPHY OF ADVAITA VEDANTA*. University of Madras, Madras |
| --- | --- |
| # Paper : 6.2  
(Option A) | PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION/SCIENCE/LANGUAGE/LOGIC  
**Philosophy of Religion - II**  
*Topics:*  
1. Proofs for the Existence of God - The Ontological, Cosmological, Teleological and Moral arguments (with reference to the discussion, in Udayana’s *Nyayakusumanjali* and Western philosophy)  
2. Religious Language and Communication Cognitivist and Non-Cognitivist Debate  
4. Pascal, g. ‘The Wager’  
5. Clifford, W.K., ‘The Ethics of Belief’  
*Note:* Texts (1) to (3) are available in B A Bordy’s *READINGS IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION – AN ANALYTIC APPROACH*. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 1974. |
### Philosophy of Science - II

**Topics:**

1. Nature and types of Scientific theories:
   - a) Realism, b) Anti realism and Quasi-Realism

2. Scientific progress and change: Falsificationism (Popper), Scientific Paradigms (Kuhn) Research programmes (Lakatos) Anarchistic theory of knowledge (Feyeraband) and Methodologies of scientific appraisal (G.L. Pandit)

3. Rationality and the Politics of Knowledge/Moral Limits of Scientific Research


### Reading Material

Frances A Yates: “The Hermeneutic Tradition in Renaissance Science” in *Ideas and Ideals*

### Philosophy of Language - II

Ludwig Wittgenstein: *Philosophical Investigations*. (Relevant sections on nature of language games, Sections 1-110, 120, and concept of rule, Sections 197-210.)

**Reference Books and Articles:**


### Philosophy of Logic - II

<table>
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<th>Chapters 5,6,7,8</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>David Mitchel: Introduction to Logic</td>
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<tr>
<td>W V Quine: Philosophy of Logic. Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi.</td>
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**# Paper : 6.3**

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<tr>
<td><strong>CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY/AESTHETICS/LATER GREEK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contemporary Philosophy - II</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topics:</strong></td>
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<td>Any three of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Rudolf Carnap: “Elimination of Metaphysics through a Logical Analysis of Language”. (This essay is available in A J Ayer’s <em>LOGICAL POSITIVISM</em>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Ramchandra Gandhi: <em>AVAILABILITY OF RELIGIOUS IDEAS</em>.</td>
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| **REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES:** |
| Roderick M. Chisholam: *THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE*. Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi |
| David Hamlyn: *THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE* |
| John Hospers: *AN INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS*. Hindi translation of this Book is available |

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<tr>
<td><strong>Aesthetics - II</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ananda K. Swamy: <em>TRANSFORMATION OF NATURE IN THE ART</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 1 (Selected portions from ‘The Theory of Art in Asia) pp –57 Munshiram Manoharalal, New Delhi, Reprinted 1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kapila Vatsyayana: <em>THE SQUARE AND THE CIRCLE</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rekha Jhanji: <em>THE SENSUOUS IN INDIAN ART</em>. 1st and 5th chapters,</td>
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Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi
Nihar Ranjan Ray: “The nature and Essence of Art” in his _AN APPROACH TO INDIAN ART_. Chapter 4, 111-142 Publication Bureau, Punjab University, Chandigarh.
M. Hiryanna: _ART EXPERIENCE, LONDON_, 1951

**REFERENCE BOOKS AND ARTICLES**

Virgil Aldrich: _PHILOSOPHY OF ART_, Prentice Hall of India, New Delh.

Shyamala Gupta: _Saundarya Tattva mimamsa_, Seema Sahitya Bhavan, New Delhi, 1993

**Later Greek Philosophy - II**

Hellenistic:

Epicurus;


_Stoics:_


_Academics:_


_Scepticism:_


_General:_


Paper : 6.4 Concurrent – Discipline Centred II

# For all optional papers, Paper-I of the said optional is prerequisite for opting Paper-II of that option.