



**JAI HIND COLLEGE
BASANTSING INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
&
J.T.LALVANI COLLEGE OF COMMERCE
(AUTONOMOUS)**

"A" Road, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020, India.

**Affiliated to
University of Mumbai**

SYBA Philosophy III (Semester IV)

Philosophy of Religion

**Credit Based Semester and Grading System (CBCS) with
effect from the academic year 2019-20**

SYBA PHILOSOPHY SYLLABUS

Academic year 2019-20

Semester IV			
Course Code: APHI402	Course Title: Philosophy of Religion	Credits: 3.5	Lectures /Week: 3
Learning Objectives			
a) To introduce students to a reasoned, systematic and critical reflection about religious beliefs			
b) To develop in students the capacity for analytical and critical thinking about such matters.			
Course description			
Philosophical understanding of religious concepts through the lens of critical analysis.			
Unit I	Religious Experience, Miracles and Mysticism What is religious experience? Experience as direct evidence; Being evidence v/s providing evidence Miracles – Arguments for and against miracles Mysticism – Nature, meaning and essentials of mysticism; extrovertive&introvertive mystical experiences; Can mystical experiences be studied scientifically?	11 lectures	
Unit – II	Religious Language Analogical function of religious language (Thomas Aquinas’ view) Symbolic function of religious language (Paul Tillich’s view) Non Cognitive – J. R. Randall (Jr.) – Religious language as functional (cultural, artistic, social and religious) and symbolic; R. B. Braithwaite – Religious language from Linguistic perspective (emotive, ethical and prescriptive)	11 lectures	
Unit – III	The Existence of Evil The problem of evil defined: David Hume; Augustine’s response: evil is not real; Leibniz’s response: best of all possible worlds, Alvin Plantinga’s response: evil is a result of freewill.	12 lectures	
Unit – IV	Death and Afterlife Philosophical problems of life after death: Identity and Survival Evidence for life after death Rebirth Resurrection	11 lectures	
References			
Unit I: Religious Experience			
Yandell, K. <i>Philosophy of Religion: A Contemporary Introduction</i> Chapters 4 & 11			
Davis, S. <i>God, Reason and Theistic Proofs</i> pp 121 – 137			
Cahn, S. <i>Exploring Philosophy of Religion: An Introductory Anthology</i> pp 151 – 190			
Collingwood, <i>Religion and Philosophy</i> Chapter 3			

Davies, B. *An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion* pp 190 – 211
 Parrinder, G. *Mysticism In The World's Religions* Chapters 7 – 16
 Oliver, P. *Mysticism: A Guide For The Perplexed* pp.7 – 43
 Jones, R. *Philosophy of Mysticism: Raids on the Ineffable* Chapters 1 – 4
 Woods, R. *Understanding Mysticism* Chapters 1, 2 & 5
 Stace, W. T., *Mysticism and Philosophy* pp 62 – 81, 85 – 123

Unit II: Religious language

An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion, chapter 2, Brian Davies,
Exploring the Philosophy of Religion, chapter 4, David Stewart
Religious Language and the Problem of Religious knowledge, Ronald Santoni (ed)
Religious Language (Part I), Michael Scott
Introduction to Philosophy of Religion, John Hick
The Philosophy of Religion: A Buddhist Perspective, Arvind Sharma

Unit III: The Existence of Evil

God and Evil- An Introduction, chapter 6 (Augustine and Leibniz), Michael Peterson
Philosophy of Religion: A Historical Introduction chapter 7, Linda Zagzebski, Chad Meister
Introducing Philosophy of Religion chapter 7 (Augustine, Leibniz and Plantinga)
Philosophy of Religion: The Basics chapter 12, Richard Creel

Unit IV: Death and Afterlife

Philosophy of Religion, Peter Cole (Chapter 13)
Exploring Philosophy of Religion: An introductory Anthology, Steven M Cahn (Part 6)
Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction, William Rowe (Chapter 9)
An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion, Brian Davies (Chapter 11)
Philosophy of Religion: A Historical Introduction chapter 8, Linda Zagzebski
Introducing Philosophy of Religion chapter 10, Chad Meister
Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction with readings chapter 1 (Plato's Phaedo), Stuart Brown
Philosophy of Religion – An Introduction chapter 9, William Rowe
Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology, Louis Pojman and Michael Rea (ed)
The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Religion chapter 15 (Resurrection), William Wainwright (ed)

Evaluation Scheme

I. Continuous Assessment (C.A.) - 40 Marks

- (i) **C.A.-I: Test – 20 Marks of 40 minutes duration on the topic: Monotheistic (Greek, Semitic and Hindu) and Non-monotheistic (Jainism and Buddhism) Conceptions of Ultimate Reality**

Reference: Yandell, K. *Philosophy of Religion: A Contemporary Introduction* pp 159-176

- (ii) **C.A.-II: Research paper presentation on the topic: Mysticism (Buddhism, Sufism, Taoism, Shintoism, Christian, Kabbalah, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Yoga, Lalleshwari, Rabia, Rumi, William James, etc.)**

II. Semester End Examination (SEE)- 60 Marks

Four questions shall correspond to the four units for 15 marks each.
Each question shall carry internal choice.

