PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMBINED COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION (CCE) SYLLABUS

PHILOSOPHY

Total Marks: 100

	Topics

1 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

- Definition, nature, value and scope of philosophy
- Philosophical Methods: Socratic Method (Socrates), Inductive Method (Bacon, Mill), Deductive Method (Aristotle, Descartes), Dialectical Method (Hegel), and Fallibilistic Method (Popper)

2 ONTOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS:

- Objective Idealism: The World of Forms, Allegory of the Cave (Plato)
- Transcendental Idealism: Phenomena vs. Noumena, A Priori Forms of Sensibility, Synthetic A Priori Knowledge (Immanuel Kant)
- Absolute Idealism: The Absolute (Geist/Spirit), Dialectical Method. The Real is Rational,
- (G. W. F. Hegel)

3 EPISTEMOLOGICAL APPROACHES:

- Rationalism: Knowledge through pure reason, innate ideas, and logical deduction (Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz)
- Empiricism: Knowledge derived through sensory experience, tabula rasa, observation, and induction (Locke, Berkeley, Hume)
- Skepticism: Limits of knowledge, radical doubt, justification, and certainty (Academic vs. Pyrrhonian Scepticism; Hume's Scepticism)

4 LOGIC AND SCIENTIFIC METHOD

- Definition: Its rules, types and purposes
- Deduction vs. Induction: Understanding Truth and Validity
- Informal Fallacies: 1. Fallacies of Ambiguity: Equivocation, amphiboly. Accent, Composition, Division. 2. Fallacies of Presumption: Accident. Complex Question, Circular Fallacy (Petitio Principii), 3. Fallacies of Relevance: Appeal to Force, The Appeal to Populace, Appeal to Emotion, The Red Herring, The Straw Man, Attack on the Person, Missing the Point
- Scientific Explanation & Methodology: Scientific vs. unscientific explanations, formulation, classification, and verification / falsification of hypotheses

5 ETHICAL THEORIES

- Character-based Ethics / Virtue Ethics: Nicomachean Ethics, Eudaimonia, Doctrine of the Mean (Aristotle)
- Duty-based Ethics / Deontology: Categorical Imperative, Goodwill, Duty (Immanuel Kant)
- Result-based Ethics / Utilitarianism: Quantitative Hedonism (Jermey Bentham), Qualitative Hedonism (J. S. Mill)

6 PHILOSOPHICAL MOVEMENTS

- Logical Positivism: Verification Principle & Refutation of Metaphysics (A.J. Ayer)
- Dialectical Materialism: Laws & dynamics of dialectics, Theory of Knowledge (Marx)
- Existentialism: Existence precedes essence, Radical Freedom and Responsibility, Bad Faith, Anguish, Being-for-Itself vs. Being-in-Itself (Sartre)
- Postmodernism: Deconstruction, Logocentrism, Aporia, Différance (Derrida)

7 MUSLIM THEOLOGY & SUFISM

- Mutazilites: Five core theological principles (al-usul al-khamsa)
- Asharites: Divine Attributes (Sifat), Uncreatedness of the Quran, Free Will and Acquisition (Kasb)
- Sufism: Its origin, definition and core characteristics, Pantheism / wahdat-al-wajud (Ibn Arabi), Panentheism / wahdat-al-shuhud(Sheikh Ahmmad Sirhindi)

8 MUSLIM THINKERS

- Al-Farabi: Theory of the Intellect, Theory of Ideal State (al-Madīna al-Fādila)
- Ibn Sina: Theory of Knowledge, Systematic psychology / Mind / Body relationship
- Al-Ghazali: Skeptical method, Refutation of Philosophers (Tahafut al-Falasifah)
- Ibn Rushd (Averroes): Reconciliation between Philosophy and Religion, Way to knowledge
- Ibn Khaldun: Philosophy of History, Theory of Social Cohesion ('Asabiyyah), Critique of Metaphysics
- Shah Waliullah: Metaphysics, Concept of Reconciliation (Tatbiq), Social and Economic Philosophy (Irtifaqat)
- Muhammad Iqbal: Concept of Ego (Khudi), Ijtihad as the Principle of Movement in Islam

Suggested readings:

1) Barrett, William. Irrational Man. New York: Doubleday & Co., 1968.

2) Binkley, Luther J. Contemporary Ethical Theories. New York: Philosophical Library Inc., 1961.

3) Blackham, H. J. Six Existentialist Thinkers. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1961.

4) Boguslavsky, B. M., et al. ABC of Dialectical and Historical Materialism. 2nd ed. Translated by Lenina Ilitskaya. Moscow: Progress Publishers, 1978.

5) Copi, Irving M., Carl Cohen, and Victor Rodych. Introduction to Logic. 15th ed. New York: Routledge, 2019.

6) Cornforth, Maurice. Materialism and the Dialectical Method. 6th ed. New York: International Publishers, 1968.

7) Fakhry, Majid. A History of Islamic Philosophy. 3rd ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004.

8) Hurley, Patrick J., and Lori Watson. A Concise Introduction to Logic. 13th ed. Boston: Cengage Learning, 2018.

9) Iqbal, Muhammad. The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam. Edited and annotated by M. Saeed Sheikh. Lahore: Iqbal Academy Pakistan, 1989.

10) Khaliq, Abdul. Problems of Muslim Mysticism. 2nd ed. Lahore: Iqbal Academy Pakistan, 2021.

11) Khaliq, Abdul. Problems of Muslim Theology. 1st ed. Lahore: Victory Book Bank, 2000.

12) Moore, Brooke Noel, and Kenneth Bruder. Philosophy: The Power of Ideas. 5th ed. London: McGraw-Hill, 2002.

13) Norris, Christopher. Deconstruction: Theory and Practice. London: Routledge, 2002.

14) Rachels, James. The Elements of Moral Philosophy. New York: McGraw-Hill Inc., 1995.

15) Scruton, Roger. A Short History of Modern Philosophy: From Descartes to Wittgenstein. 2nd ed. London and New York: Routledge, 2002.

16) Sharif, M. M., ed. A History of Muslim Philosophy. Vol. 1. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1963.

17) Sharif, M. M., ed. A History of Muslim Philosophy. Vol. 2. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1966.

18) Thilly, Frank. A History of Philosophy. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1914.

19) Wright, William Kelley. A History of Modern Philosophy. 4th ed. New York: The Macmillan Company

Internet Resources:

- **Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)** **https://plato.stanford.edu/**
- **Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (IEP)** **https://iep.utm.edu/**

Note: The above list is only suggestive and not exhaustive. Candidates may consult other standard books and relevant material covering the prescribed syllabus.

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