



## **Sub Committee for Philosophy**

### **Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Curriculum Development**

**Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy (Major/Minor)

#### **Introduction**

Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts offers Philosophy as a major or minor subject that can be taken up by students during their time here. The Philosophy major consists of ten papers whereas the Philosophy minor consists of the first six papers.

These are:

1. Foundations of Western Philosophy
2. Foundations of Indian Philosophy
3. Modern Western Philosophy
4. Modern Indian Thinkers
5. Logic, Reasoning & Methodology
6. Philosophy of Science
7. Advanced Ethical Theory
8. Analytic Philosophy
9. Phenomenology and Existentialism
10. Pragmatism
11. Schools of Contemporary Philosophy



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School of Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 1: Foundations of Western Philosophy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 3

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 2

**Course Description:**

This course aims at introducing students to the foundations of western philosophy, and will focus on metaphysics and epistemology as forming the basis of philosophy in general. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the nature and significance of philosophical thought via a historical approach. Also, as part of the course, students will appreciate the place occupied by philosophy in the development of other fields of study, and will be familiarized with various schools of thought, and their lasting significance.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 2: Foundations of Indian Philosophy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 4

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 2

**Course Description:**

This course aims at introducing students to the foundations of Indian philosophy and will focus, like the previous course, on metaphysics and epistemology. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the Indian philosophical landscape and its relation to western philosophy and modern Indian thought. A school-based approach will be taken, and students will be familiarized with over six schools of Indian philosophy.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 3: Modern Western Philosophy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 5

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This course is dedicated to philosophy as done in modern Europe, and will begin with the Cartesian revolution and move up all the way to Nietzsche. The historical approach taken will enable students to get a taste of various schools of thought existent at the time in question, rather than only look at the subject only from a specific point of view. Central to the topic of this course is the scientific turn and the place of philosophy within that scientific and religious environment.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 4: Modern Indian Thinkers

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 6

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the philosophical foundations of modern Indian thought. This will be done by studying the philosophy of central thinkers in the modern tradition. Philosophy in modern India, given the socio-political situation, will include political and ethical thought as central. Philosophy in modern India was, and continues to be faced with the dual challenges and opportunities of globalization, while it keeps one eye fixed on a rich philosophical heritage.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 5: Logic, Reasoning & Methodology

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 7

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This is an advanced course in logic, since students would already be introduced to the subject through the 'Logic' core course. Students will study both formal and informal logic, including modern symbolic logic and aspects, and induction, probability, and scientific methodology. Logic being a vast and diverse field, this course will offer the students a firm base to then take up a detailed study of any aspect of logic that they develop an interest in.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major/ Minor Paper 6: Philosophy of Science

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 8

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

There is perhaps no word more powerful in the modern English lexicon, than 'Science'. This course aims to open the student's mind to various ways in which this endeavor has been characterized and theorized on. Students will explore the theoretical foundations of distinctive methods used by modern science, as well as the conceptual bases on which science is based.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major Paper 7: Advanced Ethical Theory

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 5

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This course is meant to be an in-depth study of the theory of ethics, meant for students who already have a familiarity with the subject. The course will track the development of the theory of ethics from the ancient Greeks up to the philosophical foundations of the modern human rights movement.





**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major Paper 8: Analytic Philosophy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 6

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This course is meant to introduce students to the foundational texts and thinkers of analytic philosophy. This school of thought is being presented as one of the three main branches of contemporary philosophy, along with phenomenology and pragmatism. Students will read works by Bertrand Russell, Ludwig Wittgenstein, and Gilbert Ryle, among others. They will also be introduced to contemporary debates regarding analytic philosophy.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major Paper 9: Phenomenology and Existentialism

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 7

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

This course is meant to introduce students to the foundational texts and thinkers of phenomenology and existentialism. This school of thought is being presented as one of the three main branches of contemporary philosophy, along with analytic philosophy and pragmatism. Students will read works by Husserl, Heidegger, and Sartre, amongst others. They will also be introduced to contemporary debates within phenomenology and existentialism.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major Paper 10: Pragmatism

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 8

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

This course is meant to introduce students to the foundational texts and thinkers of the pragmatist tradition in philosophy. This school of thought is being presented as one of the three main branches of contemporary philosophy, along with analytic philosophy and phenomenology. Students will read works by William James, John Dewey, and Richard Rorty among others. They will also be introduced to contemporary debates related to pragmatism.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Philosophy Major Paper 11: Schools of Contemporary Philosophy

**(UG/PG):** UG

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hrs)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to the major schools of contemporary philosophy. Foundational texts and thinkers will be studied in order to give students a good understanding of the origin and development of these schools of thought. The schools of thought studied will be analytic philosophy, phenomenology and pragmatism. Students will be familiarised with the core philosophical issues that gave rise to these schools, and will also be exposed to modern ways in which these schools of thought are being adapted.