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METAPHYSICS

SEMESTER 5

PHILOSOPHY

BLOCK 1

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COURSE INTRODUCTION

Metaphysics is a branch of philosophy which enquires into the nature of reality. It is an enquiry into the general nature of reality as opposed to appearances. It was called 'First Philosophy' by Aristotle. Metaphysics tries to determine the real nature of the world, life and God. It discusses the nature of the world including matter and life, the nature and existence of God, the immortality of the soul and freedom of the human will. Etymologically, the term 'metaphysics' is derived from two Greek words 'meta' and 'physica'. 'Meta' means 'after' and 'Physica' means physics'. Hence, the term 'metaphysics' literally means 'what comes after physics'.

This course consists of fifteen units. The first unit starts with "**Nature of Metaphysics".** It includes the concepts like Nature of Metaphysics, Metaphysics and Philosophy, Metaphysics and Epistemology, Metaphysics and Science, Metaphysics and Religion, Metaphysics and Mysticism, Metaphysics and Logic, and Possibility of Metaphysics

The second unit is '**Space and Time: Kant".** The concepts included in this unit are: Forms of Sensibility, Metaphysical Exposition of the Concept of Space and Time, Transcendental Exposition of the Concept of Space and Time

The third unit is '**Realism: Naïve and Scientific".** It deals with the issues such as Classification of Realism, Naïve Realism, Scientific Realism, Difference between Naïve and Scientific Realism, and Conclusion

The fourth unit is "**Neo-realism".** It basically discusses the concepts like Neo-Realism or New Realism, Epistemological Monism, Naive Realism and Neo–Realism

The fifth unit is "**Subjective idealism: Berkeley".** The concepts included in this unit are-

Meaning of Subjective Idealism, Berkeleyan Idealism, Berkeley's Idealism: Subjective or Objective? Solipsism: Was Berkeley a Solipsist?

The sixth unit is "**Objective idealism: Hegel".** The concepts included in this unit are Meaning of Objective Idealism, Objective Idealism of Hegel, Hegel's Dialectical Method

The name of the seventh unit is **'Mind-Body relation: Interactionism'.** It discusses the issues like Descartes view on Mind- Body relation, and Interactionism

The tenth unit is "**Mind-Body relation: Double aspect theory"(Spinoza).** It deals with the issues such as Spinoza's View on Mind-Body relation and Parallelism

While going through this course you will come across some boxes which are put on the left side or right side of the text. These boxes will give us the meanings of some words and concepts within the text. Apart from this, there will be some broad and short questions included under Activity and Check Your Progress in every unit. Activities will increase our thinking capacity because questions put in Activity are not directly derived from the text. But answers to the short questions are put in the section Answers to Check Your Progress. Besides, there are some text-related questions which are put in Model Questions. These questions will help you in selecting and mastering probable topics for the examination so that you can prepare for the examination with confidence.