



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – PHILOSOPHY

FOURTH SEMESTER – APRIL 2025

PPL4MC05 – METAPHYSICS



Date: 26-04-2025

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 09:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

SECTION A – K1 (CO1)

Answer ALL the questions

(5 x 1 = 5)

1 Answer the following

- _____ is the universal tool (organon) for doing metaphysics [Ethics, Hermeneutics, Logic].
- Aristotle calls pure potency _____ [Prime God, Prime Matter, Prime Man].
- Kant: 'All bachelors are unmarried' is a *synthetic judgement*. [True / False]
- Hegel: The synthesis between 'being' and 'non-being' is *becoming*. [True / False]
- Bergson: Views reality fundamentally as a _____. [progress, process, purpose]

SECTION A – K2 (CO1)

Answer ALL the questions

(5 x 1 = 5)

2 Answer the following

- Mention the four kinds (universal pairs) of change in Aristotle's Metaphysics.
- Mention the four causes according to Aristotle.
- Define the 'substance dualism' of Descartes.
- Explain Fichte's 'dialectical method'.
- Explain Teilhard's 'inside' and 'outside' of things.

SECTION B – K3 (CO2)

Answer any THREE of the following in 100 words each.

(3 x 10 = 30)

- Giving examples for *modus ponens*, *modus tollens* and the *principle of non-contradiction*, explain the importance of logic in metaphysics.
- Giving the example of a bull (animal), illustrate Aristotle's ten Categories.
- Elaborate on the importance of Aristotle's analogy of being.
- How does Kant's discussion of analytical and synthetical judgments make a synthesis between rationalism and empiricism?
- Critically discuss any four main concepts in the selected text for study from Heidegger's *Being and Time*.

SECTION C – K4 (CO3)

Answer any TWO of the following in 200 words each.

(2 x 12.5 = 25)

- Elaborate on the idea of Aristotle-Aquinas that God is the first cause of the cosmos and the necessary being.
- Critically evaluate Spinoza's five theorems to argue for "Substance Monism". Why is his metaphysical system *deterministic*?
- Elaborately discuss the concept of "monad" in the selected text for study from Leibniz's

	<i>Monadology</i> .
11	Critically evaluate the main concepts of A. N. Whitehead in the chapters “Categorical Scheme” and “God and the World” his book <i>Process and Reality</i> .
SECTION D – K5 (CO4)	
	Answer any ONE of the following in 500 words (1 x 15 = 15)
12	Write an essay on Aristotle’s discussion of material substances as compounds of Form and Matter. [10 marks] How would you explain your individual being in terms of form and matter? [5 marks]
13	Compare and contrast the ideas of God and the World of Teilhard de Chardin and Whitehead. [10 marks] Give your critical remarks to each of them. [5 marks]
SECTION E – K6 (CO5)	
	Answer any ONE of the following in 1000 words (1 x 20 = 20)
14	Write an essay on the understanding of ‘Substance’ according to three rationalists Descartes, Spinoza and Leibniz. [12 marks] Giving reasons, illustrate which of these accounts of substance is better to understand your relationship with God. [8 marks]
15	(a) Briefly explore any four metaphysical ideas of Schelling in his <i>Essay on Human Freedom</i> . [8 marks] (b) Compare any one of these ideas with another metaphysical thinker. [4 marks] (c) Assess the usefulness of these ideas to develop your life philosophy. [8 marks]

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