

SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

NAME OF COURSE: CERTIFICATE COURSE IN BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN SCIENTIFIC AND RELIGIOUS WORLDVIEWS

COURSE CODE: CVAC002

TOTAL HOURS: 30

UNIT-I Evolution of Scientific Worldview (6 HOURS)

A brief history of scientific evolution. Scientific thoughts in India, China, Middle East, Greek and Roman world. Evolution of Modern Science. Discovery of Telescope by Galilei, Different branches of scientific studies

UNIT- II Evolution of Religious Worldview (8 HOURS)

Nature based religions. Evolution of religious thought in India, China, Greek and Roman world. Semitic Religions. Distinction between Spirituality, Religiosity. Importance of ethics in the modern world. Atheistic movements.

UNIT -III Conflicts in History and importance of working together. (8 HOURS)

Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems by Galileo Galilei. Initial encouragement and subsequent resistance to the book. Astrology vs Astronomy conflict. Concepts of pseudoscience. Can science become dangerous. Possibility of Nuclear war. Dangers of Global warming. Artificial Intelligence- Will it overpower the creator (humanity). Rule of Machines. Quest for immortality. Concept of Whole-body transplant. Ethical challenges of Cloning. Genetical modifications: Different types of humans.

UNIT -IV Meeting points (8 HOURS)

Concept of belief, subjective experiences, aesthetics, ethical correctness. Different realms of Truths. Indian concept of Truth and dharma. Gandhian perspective of religion and God. Secularism by Nehru. Importance of religious thoughts as a guiding spirit of humanity. Importance of inner experience. Philosophy of yoga. Importance of inter-religious dialogue. Spirit of humanity and oneness.

Reference Books

- The Beginnings of Western Science: The European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, Prehistory to A.D. 1450, Second Edition, by David C. Lindberg
- A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking
- The Scientists: A History of Science Told Through the Lives of Its Greatest Inventors by John Gribbin
- Exploring the Gap Between Science and Religion by Lee Wimberly
- Beyond the Divide: Bridging the Gap between Faith and Science by Alan Weatherly
- A History of the World's Religions by David S. Noss
- The History of Religions: Understanding Human Experience: by Joseph M. Kitagawa