



INSTRUCTION DIVISION
SECOND SEMESTER 2017-18
Course Handout (Part - II)

Date: 8/01/2018

In addition to part I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : GS F326
Course title : Creative Thinking
Instructor-in-charge : Santosh Mahapatra

1. Scope and objective of the course: The course aims to promote and develop creative thinking and problem solving skills. The main objective is to help learners think outside the box and approach problems in the real world from a fresh perspective. The course employs theories from various fields like psychology, science, philosophy, etc. to engage learners in activities and discussions related to lateral thinking and problem-solving. It enables learners to analyse and evaluate strategies that promote creative thinking. The course makes an effort to connect creativity with critical thinking. It also makes learners aware of risks and failures involved in the process of being creative and introduces them to strategies to fare through such situations.

The main objectives of the course are to enable learners to:

- develop a philosophical understanding of creativity;
- recognize the inherent creativity in themselves and others;
- develop creative thinking and problem-solving skills;
- examine qualities of a creative environment in real world settings;
- evaluate an idea for its creativity.

2. Reference Books:

RB1: Elliot Samuel Paul and Scott Barry Kaufman, “The Philosophy of Creativity: New Essays”, Oxford University Press, 2017.

RB2: Edward De Bono, “Lateral Thinking: A Textbook of Creativity”, Penguin, 2016.

RB3: Dorte Nielsen, “Creative Thinker's Exercise Book”, BIS Publishers, 2016.

RB4: Kathryn P Haydon, “Creativity for Everybody”, Sparkitivity LLC, 2015.

RB5: Irving A. Taylor, Jacob W. Getzels, “Perspectives in Creativity”, Transaction Publishers, 2017

*Considering the nature of the course, prescribing a textbook may be inappropriate. A few essays and journal articles will be used for teaching certain topics.

3. Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning Objectives (At the end of the unit, learners will be able to-)	Topics to be covered	Portions from the Reference Books
1-4	Understand and reflect upon the concepts of creativity and lateral thinking, familiarise themselves with the philosophical foundations of creativity and identify traits of creative people	Definition of creativity, Philosophy of creativity, Lateral thinking, Traits of creative people	I & II from RB1 P. 25-36 & 48-51 from RB2
5-6	Critically evaluate the role of various social factors in promoting creativity	Motivation, Environment, Technology and Training	P. 108-115 from RB2
7-8	Evaluate the role of gender and race in the exhibition of creativity and differentiate between ‘divergent’ and ‘mad’	Characteristic: Is it race and gender specific? Are creative people mad?	Ch. 9 from RB1 and materials from the web

9-10	Understand and appraise what hinders creativity	Challenges to creativity	P. 181-195 from RB2 and materials from the web
11-13	Apply models of problem-solving to real life situations	What is a problem? Problem-solving, models of creative problem solving	P. 240-257 from RB2 and selected exercises from RB3
14-16	Explore and classify traits of creativity in the 'self' and the 'other'	Knowing your creative self, traits congenial to creativity, creative personality	Ch. 1 and 11 from RB5
17-19	Connect theories of psychology to creativity	Psychology of creativity, Role of environment	Ch. 9 from RB1 and Ch. 5 from RB5
20-21	Critique the concept of creative meritocracy	The need, characteristic, elements of creative meritocracy	Materials from the web
22-23	Explore, classify and apply techniques for enhancing creative thinking	Principles and techniques for churning up creative ideas, A comparison of creative techniques	P. 56-92 from RB2 and exercises from RB3 and RB4
24-30	Compare and assess how creativity is displayed in different fields	Creativity in practice: Entrepreneurship, Teaching, Medical, Engineering, Music and Drama, Cinema, Advertising	Exercises from RB3 and RB4
31-34	Understand critical thinking and apply it to real life situations	Critical thinking, What it means to be critical, Why we should be critical	P. 181-185 from RB2 and exercises from RB3 and RB4
35	Understanding and analyzing what constitutes an argument	What is an argument, and what is not an argument	Materials from the web
36-42	Demonstrate ability to think creatively while approaching real life problems and challenges	Application of creativity	Exercises from RB3 and RB4

4. Evaluation Scheme:

EC No.	Evaluation Component (EC)	Duration	Weighting (%)	Marks (Out of 200)	Date & Time	Nature of the Component
1	Assignment 1 and 2		30%	80		Open Book
2	Mid-semester Examination	90 minutes	30%	40	8/3 1.30-3.00PM	Open Book
5	Comprehensive Examination	3 Hours	40%	80	09/05 FN	Open Book

5. Chamber Consultation Hours: Slots will be decided in the classroom.

6. Notices: Notices concerning the course will be displayed on the CMS.

7. Make-up Policy: Make-up will be given only in genuine cases (subject to verification).

8. Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy: Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Santosh Mahapatra (I/C)