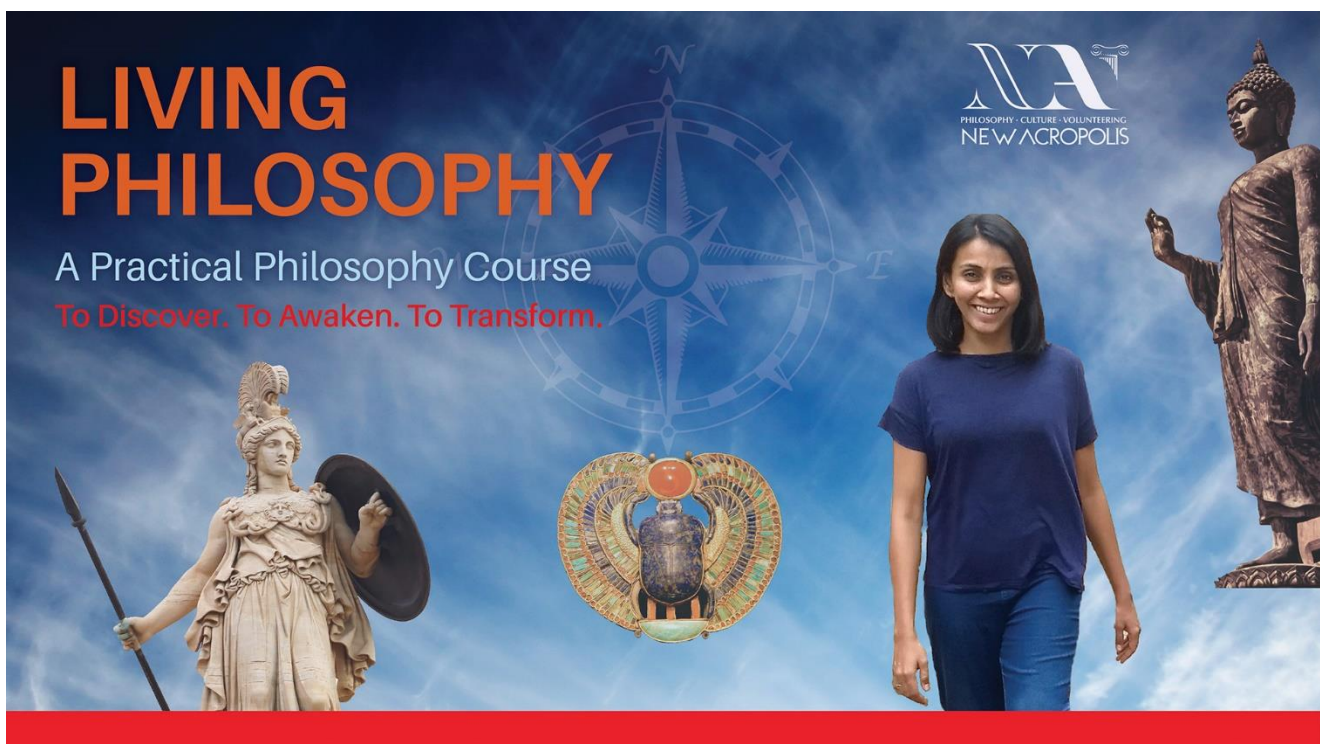


LIVING PHILOSOPHY

To Know. To Transform. To Evolve

Foundations to Practical Philosophy
at New Acropolis International Organization (IONA) - INDIA

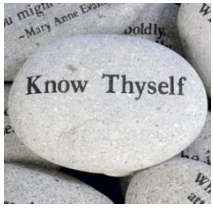


What is the key to happiness? Can we face life and not be overcome by circumstances? Can we learn to recognise what is important and find the right balance between the various facets of our life? Do we have a purpose? All ancient civilizations have this wisdom with the answers we are looking for. Wisdom is not limited merely to gaining knowledge, but it is to be able to practice it.

The answers are simple and profound, practical and intriguing. We explore these options in the course. Here is a quick look at the sessions:

PART ONE - ETHICS (Man and the Self)

Know Thyself



Know what is transient and what is eternal within us. How can we bring about change? Do ethics play a role in the process? We look at the ancient Greek and Indian understanding of the constitution of man and the way this understanding can lead to change and transformation.

The Peaceful Warrior



The story of Arjuna, the warrior, from the Bhagavad Gita, describes the battles and dilemmas of life. The Gita also offers us tools to win this battle. We discuss the laws of Dharma, Karma, and ways to finding your own path, to identify and implement the right action.

Liberation - Inspiration from the Buddha



Explore the life of the Buddha and his teaching through the Dhammapada. We learn about The Buddha's path to liberation and transformation. Ways we can use Buddha's practical advice on overcoming pain and suffering through the Middle Path and the Four Noble Truths.

The Inner Voice and the Mysteries of Ancient Tibet



The focus of this session is the mysterious and deeply fascinating Trans-Himalayan wisdom. Perspectives from Tibetan Buddhism, through which we learn about the nature of the world. We also explore the wisdom of H.P. Blavatsky through her profound esoteric work 'The Voice of the Silence'.

The Artist, The In Love And The Philosopher



Who are you? Discover the wisdom of the ancient Romans through the Stoic philosophers. Epictetus, Seneca and Marcus Aurelius teach us simple and practical philosophy, of developing virtues as a path for inner growth and evolution of consciousness.



Tools for Life from The Ancient World - Egyptian, Chinese and Greek Philosophy

Explore the wisdom of the ancient Egyptians, the idea of justice. From ancient China comes Confucius' expounding the importance of an ethical social order. Then comes Aristotle, teaching us how to activate Virtues for everlasting happiness.

PART TWO - SOCIO-POLITICS (Man and Society)

Ethical Leadership



Here we start to look at the relationship between man and society, the different components of civilization. What is the identity of a philosopher, the true leader and the role of the true politician? The metaphor of Plato's Allegory of the Cave, the Grand Illusion and how we can free ourselves from it. What is the Philosophical Ideal? What is a political Ideal?

The essence of Ethical Politics and Governance



More keys from Plato and Pythagoras that shed light on the essence of politics and justice. New Acropolis as an 'Ideal' in this context, and its role in society today. We find tools for a sustainable way forward, as a civilisation. This session looks at what society is formed of, the various forms of governance, and the forms of leadership. Using Plato's work 'The Republic' we look at the nature of Democracy as well as its challenges.

From Philosophy to Mystery



What is the path towards the mysteries of Life? Can philosophy be the bridge to reach them? We look at our traditional roles in society, forms of Esoteric education, tribal initiation processes and Discipleship that pave the way to the deeper mysteries and Wisdom. Unveiling the relations between disciple and the master.

Know Thyself Practical Seminar

An experiential session of group exercises and activities, aimed to help the students practically experience aspects of Know Thyself and Sociopolitics



PART THREE - THE PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY (Man and the world)

Myth, History and the Wheel of Life



For a deeper understanding of our present we turn to history, we look at the reliability and pragmatism of history. What is Mythology? Is there any truth to it? We look at the concept of time and how 'the myth' propels history. A continued understanding of our past and future through cycles in nature and the cycles of time that come to us from ancient Indian esoteric doctrines and the cycles that Plato describes. This helps us understand the present, recognise the challenges and points the way to a positive global change if we want it.



The Divine Spark in Man- Evolution & Destiny of Humanity

Rekindling the light within us. Answers to some of the questions that haunt us.' Who are we?', 'Where do we come from? 'Where are we going?' The answers to these are related to the evolution of Human Consciousness and the path of Discipleship.



Summary

A synthesis and a glimpse into what comes next (next level of Practical Philosophy teachings)