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Department of Political Science

COURSES OFFERED BY DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Category I

[UG Programme for Bachelor in Political Science (Honours) degree in three years]

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE -1 (DSC-1) – : Understanding Political Theory

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Understanding Political Theory DSC-1	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

This course introduces the various ways of theorizing politics. The idea is to introduce and assess the conventional as well as contemporary approaches to understanding politics. The course familiarizes students with central debates in political theory. It investigates various traditions and critical perspectives on political theory. The core aim is to develop critical and analytical skills among students and the development of their understanding to some of the key concepts in political practices.

Learning outcomes

After completion of this course, students will

- Understand the various traditions and approaches of political theory and appreciate how they get reflected in organizing social living
- Understand multiple frames by which the idea of political community is debated
- Understand the significance of theorizing and relating theory to practice

- Acquire the critical analytical vocabulary to address political questions in a reflected and theoretically informed way.
- Know how political theory provides a normative framework to resolve various social and political problems and issues.

SYLLABUS OF DSC-1

UNIT – I (3 Weeks)

What is Politics: Theorizing the 'Political'

UNIT – II (4 Weeks)

Approaches to Political Theory: Normative, Historical and Empirical

UNIT – III (4 Weeks)

Traditions of Political Theory: Liberal, Marxist, Anarchist and Conservative

UNIT – IV (4 Weeks)

Critical Perspectives in Political Theory: Feminist and Postmodern

UNIT – V (3 Weeks)

The Idea of Political Community: Political Obligation

Essential/recommended readings

Unit 1

McKinnon, C. (2008) 'Introduction'. *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16.

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'Why do we need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 17-36.

Unit 2

Glaser, D. (1995) 'Normative Theory', in Marsh, D. And Stoker, G. (eds), *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 21-40.

Sanders, D. (1995) 'Behavioral Analysis', in Marsh, D. And Stoker, G. (eds), *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 58-75.

Ball, T. (2004). 'History and the Interpretation of Texts', in Gerald F. Gaus and Chandran Kukathas (eds), *Handbook of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 18-30.

Unit 3 and 4

Heywood, A. (1992) *Political Ideologies*. Basingstoke: Macmillan
Turner, R. (1993) 'Anarchism: What is it?' *Politics Review* 3 (1): 28-32.

Chapman, J. (1995) 'The Feminist Perspective', in Marsh, D. And Stoker, G. (eds), *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 94-114.

Chambers, C. (2008) 'Gender', in McKinnon, C. (ed), *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 265-288.

Bannett, J. (2004) 'Postmodern Approach to Political Theory', in Kukathas, C. and Gaus G. F. (eds), *Handbook of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Sage, pp. 46-54.

Unit 5

Shorten, A. (2016). 'Political Community', in *Contemporary Political Theory*. Palgrave, pp. 18-45.

Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in McKinnon, C. (ed), *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-264.

Roy, A. (2008) 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 130-146.

Hyums, K. (2008) 'Political Authority and Obligation', in McKinnon, C. (ed), *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 9-26.

Martin, Rex. (2003) 'Political Obligation', in Bellamy, Richard and Mason, Andrew (eds), *Political Concepts*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, pp. 41-51.

Knowles, D. (2001). 'Political Obligation', in *Political Philosophy*. London: Routledge, pp. 239-298.

Suggestive readings

Bellamy, R. (1993) 'Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R.(ed.), *Theory and Concepts of Politics*. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14.

Vincent, A. (2004) *The Nature of Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Jaggar, A. (1983) *Feminist Politics and Human Nature*. Forbes Boulevard: Rowman and Littlefield.

Vattimo, Gianni, 1988 [1985], *The End of Modernity: Nihilism and Hermeneutics in Postmodern Culture*, Jon R. Snyder (trans.), Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Klosko, G. (2005) *Political Obligations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Readings in Hindi

भार्गव, राजीव और अशोक आचार्या (सं.), राजनीतिक सिद्धांत : एक परिचय, दिल्ली : पियर्सन, 2008.
कुमार, संजीव (सं.), राजनीति सिद्धांत की समझ, दिल्ली: ओरिएंट ब्लैकस्वान, 2019.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 2 (DSC-2): Ideas and Institutions in Indian Political Thought

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Prerequisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Ideas and Institutions in Indian Political Thought DSC-2	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

This paper introduces students to certain basic terms of ancient Indian thought. While drawing a historical trajectory of these concepts, students will also be familiarized with theories and philosophy of these ideas. Students will also get knowledge about the ancient institutions that were in place at that time, their functioning and their duties, broader norms, roles and responsibilities which guided the state and its important apparatuses. As it is difficult to bring in all the diverse traditions and institutions, attempts have been made to introduce those ones which have been most talked about. This paper seeks to challenge the hegemonic bias of euro-centric terms that had debunked ancient Indian thought as limiting. It thus aims to re-ignite the quest for learning for Indian political thought.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this course students would have acquired

- The knowledge of ideas of Indian political thought
- Acquaintance with institutions of Indian political thought
- Comprehensive understanding of Indian political thought
- Challenging the colonial mindset of underestimating India's rich historical past

SYLLABUS OF DSC- 2

UNIT – I (3 Weeks)

Statecraft in Ancient India

UNIT – II (3 Weeks)

Dharma, Dhamma, Danda

UNIT – III (3 Weeks)

Nyaya, Niti

UNIT – IV (3 Weeks)

Sabha, Samiti

UNIT – V (3 Weeks)

Rajya, Rashtra

UNIT – VI (3 Weeks)

Varna, Jati

Essential/recommended readings

Statecraft in Ancient India

Benoy Kumar Sarkar, "The Hindu Theory of the State", *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 36, No. 1 (March 1921), pp. 79-90 .

Beni Prasad, *The State in Ancient India: Study in the Structure and Practical Working of Political Institutions in North India in Ancient Times*, The Indian Press, Allahabad, 1928, pp. 1-16

Dharma, Dhamma, Danda

Rupert Gethin, "He who sees Dhamma sees Dhammas: Dhamma in Early Buddhism" in *Journal of Indian Philosophy*. Vol 32, No5/6 (December 2004) pp.513-542

Margaret Chatterjee, "The Concept of Dharma" in M.C.Doerer and J.N.Kraay (eds.) *Facts and Values. Philosophical reflections from Western and Non-Western Perspectives*, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, Dordrecht. 1986, PP177-188

John Ross Carter, Traditional Definitions of the Term "Dhamma" *Philosophy East and West*, Vol. 26, No. 3 (Jul., 1976), pp. 329-337

Donald R. Davis Jr, "rectitude and rehabilitation (*danda*) in The Spirit of Hindu Law, Cambridge University Press, NY, 2010, PP.128-143

Radha Krishna Choudhry, "Theory of Punishment in Ancient India" in *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, Vol 10 1947, PP 166-171.

Nyaya, Niti

Amartya Sen, "Introduction" in *The Idea of Justice*, Harvard University Press. 2009

Sarkar, Benoy Kumar *Political Institutions, and theories of comparative Politics* - pp 158-162

Ghoshal U.N (1983) *A History of Hindu Political theory* OUP: London pp 213- 222, 247-259

Sabha, Samiti

Jagdish P. Sharma, "Non-Monarchical Governments in Vedic India" *Republics in Ancient India*. Brill, Leiden, 1968, pp.15-60

R.S.Sharma, "Sabha and Samiti" in *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*. Motilal Banarsidass Publishers. Delhi 1999, *reprint*. Pp105-118

Rajya, Rashtra

A.S. Altekar, "Origin and Types of the State" in *State and Government in Ancient India*. Motilal Banarsidass, Banaras. 1949 pp. 12-23

Partha Chatterjee, "All Nations are Modern" in *The Truths and Lies of Nationalisms: As narrated by Charvak*. Permanent Black. 2021. Pp.5-25

Varna, Jati

Sudhakar Chattopadhyaya, "Varna-Jati (caste system)" in *Social Life in Ancient India*. Academic Publishers, Calcutta, 1965, Pp.7-29

Dipankar Gupta, "From Varna to Jati: The Indian Caste System, from the Asiatic to the Feudal Mode of Production", *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, Vol-10:3, 2008. pp.249-271

Nicholas B. Dirks, *Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2001, pp. 63-80.

Suggestive readings

Prasad, Beni (1927), *Theory of Government in Ancient India* (post Vedic), Abhijeet publications, New Delhi

Jayaswal, K.P. (2013), *Hindu Polity*, Vishvabharti Publications, New Delhi.

Sharma, R.S. (2005), *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*, Motilal Banarsidass, New Delhi.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE– 3 (DSC-3): Colonialism and Nationalism in India

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Colonialism and Nationalism in India DSC-3	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

The purpose of this course is to help students understand historically the advent of colonialism in India and the emergence of the discourse on nationalism as a response to it. The aim is to engage with theoretical explanations of colonialism and nationalism in India at the same time study the social, political and institutional practices that unfolded in that period, gradually paving way towards independence and democracy in India.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students would be able to:

- Show an understanding of the nature of colonial rule in India and the various developments through which it consolidated itself.
- Demonstrate awareness of the specific impacts of colonialism on Indian economy
- Show knowledge of the gradual emergence of the nationalist movement in India in response to the colonial rule
- Demonstrate an understanding of the distinct periods of the nationalist movement and the nature of resistance politics adopted in different phases
- Show awareness of the various social movements, the kind of questions they raised and their contributions in the nationalist movement

SYLLABUS OF DSC-3

UNIT – I (4 Weeks)

Colonialism and Nationalism:

- Main perspectives on colonialism: Liberalism, Marxism, Postcolonialism
- Approaches to the study of nationalism in India: Nationalist, Imperialist, Marxist, and Subaltern

UNIT – II (3 Weeks)

Colonial Rule in India and its impact:

- Constitutional developments and the colonial state
- Colonial ideology of civilizing mission: Utilitarians and Missionaries
- Impact on agriculture, land relations, industry and ecology

UNIT – III (3 Weeks)

Reform and Resistance:

- The 1857 war of Independence
- Major social and religious movements
- Education and the rise of the new middle class

UNIT – IV (4 Weeks)

Nationalist Politics and Expansion of its Social Base:

- Phases of the Nationalist Movement: Liberal constitutionalist, Swadeshi and the Radicals, Formation of the Muslim League
- Gandhi and mass mobilisation: Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience, and Quit India Movements
- Revolutionaries, Socialists and Communists
- Communalism in Indian Politics
- The two-nation theory, negotiations over partition

UNIT – V (4 Weeks)

Social Movements:

Peasants, Tribals, Workers, Women and anti-caste movements

Essential/recommended readings

1. Colonialism and Nationalism:

Chandra, B. (1999) *Essays on Colonialism*, Hyderabad. Orient Longman, pp.1-22.

Chandra, B. (1988) *India's Struggle for Independence*, New Delhi. Penguin, pp.13-30.

Fulcher, J. (2004) *Capitalism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Datta, G. Sobhanlal. (2007) 'Imperialism and Colonialism: Towards a Postcolonial Understanding', in Dasgupta, Jyoti Bhusan (ed.) *Science, Technology, Imperialism and War*. New Delhi: Centre for Studies in Civilization Publication and DK, pp 423-466.

Guha, Ranajit. (1982). *Subaltern Studies, I*. Oxford University Press. Delhi. pp.1-8.

Metcalf, T. (1995) 'Liberalism and Empire' in Metcalf, Thomas. *Ideologies of the Raj*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp.28-65.

Young, R. (2003) *Postcolonialism: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 9-68.

Thapar, R. (2000) 'Interpretations of Colonial History: Colonial, Nationalist, Post-colonial', in DeSouza, P.R. (ed.) *Contemporary India: Transitions*. New Delhi: Sage, pp. 25-36.

2. Colonial Rule in India and its impact:

Bandopadhyay, S. (2015 revised edition) *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 37-65; 66-138.

Chandra, B. (1999) *Essays on Colonialism*. Hyderabad: Orient Longman, pp. 58-78. Metcalf and Metcalf. (2002) *A Concise History of India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 55-80.

Sarkar, S. (1983) *Modern India (1885-1847)*. New Delhi: Macmillan.

Sen, A.P. (2007), 'The idea of Social reform and its critique among Hindus of Nineteenth Century India', in Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi (ed.) *Development of Modern Indian Thought and the Social Sciences*. Vol X. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Guha, R. and Gadgil, M. (1989) 'State Forestry and Social Conflict in British India', in Guha, R. and Gadgil, M. *Past and Present: A Journal of Historical Studies*. May: 123, pp. 141-177.

Mann, M. (2004) 'Torchbearers Upon the Path of Progress: Britain's Ideology of a Moral and Material Progress in India', in Mann, M. and Fischer-Tine, H. (eds.) *Colonialism as Civilizing Mission: Cultural Ideology in British India*. London: Anthem, pp. 1-26.

3. Reform and Resistance:

Bandopadhyay, S. (2015, revised edition) *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 139-169.

Sen, A.P. (2007), 'The idea of Social reform and its critique among Hindus of Nineteenth Century India', in Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi (ed.) *Development of Modern Indian Thought and the Social Sciences*. Vol X. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Bandopadhyay, S. (2008) Eighteen-Fifty-Seven and Its Many Histories, in *1857: Essays from Economic and Political Weekly*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan. pp.1-22.

4. Nationalist Politics and Expansion of its Social Base

Bandopadhyay, S. (2015 revised edition) *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 227-323; 405-438.

Sarkar, S. (1983) *Modern India (1885-1847)*. New Delhi: Macmillan.

Jalal, A. and Bose, S. (1997) *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, and Political Economy*.

New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 109-119; 128-134; 135-156.

5. Social Movements:

Bandopadhyaya, S. (2015 revised edition) *From Plassey to Partition and After: A History of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 334-381.

Desai, A.R. (2019, reprint- 6th edition) *Crusade Against Caste System*, in *Social Background of Indian Nationalism*, Sage.

Desai, A.R. (2019, reprint- 6th edition) *Crusade Against Untouchability*, in *Social Background of Indian Nationalism*, Sage.

Desai, A.R. (2019, reprint- 6th edition) *Movement for the Emancipation of Women*, in *Social Background of Indian Nationalism*, Sage.

Suggestive readings

Chandra, B. (1988) *India's Struggle for Independence*, New Delhi. Penguin.

Chatterjee, P. (2010) 'A Brief History of *Subaltern Studies*', in Chatterjee, Partha *Empire & Nation: Essential Writings (1985-2005)*. New Delhi: Permanent Black.

Metcalf, T. (1995) *Ideologies of the Raj*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 132- 148.

Islam, S. (2004) 'The Origins of Indian Nationalism', in *Religious Dimensions of Indian Nationalism*. New Delhi: Media House, pp. 71-103.

Islam, S. (2006) 'Rashtravaad: Ek Siddhanthik Pareepksha', in *Bharat Mein Algaovaadaur Dharm*. New Delhi: Vani Prakashan, pp. 33-51.

Pradhan, Ram Chandra. (2008) *Raj to Swaraj*. New Delhi: Macmillan.

Sangari, Kumkun and Vaid, S. (1989) *Recasting Woman: Essays in Colonial History*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Mani, B.R. (2005) *Debrahmanising History, Dominance and Resistance in Indian Society*. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers.