

GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE-2): Making of Post-Colonial 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
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/Practice		
Making of Post-Colonial India	4	3	1	0	XII Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This thematic course introduces the students to various perspectives on India's evolving political, economic, social and cultural conditions from the 1940s to the 2000. The course intends to familiarise the students with some select themes pertaining to the gradual historical transformation of political organizations, the emergence of new forms of socio-political mobilization, the patterns of economic development and cultural representation and peoples' movements in the period under study.

Learning outcomes

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

- Draw a broad outline of the history of the early years of the Indian Republic, focusing on the framing of the Constitution, the integration of princely states, the reorganization of states and the features of our foreign policy.
- Examine critically patterns of economic development in the early years of Independence and the subsequent shifts and the persistent problems of uneven development.
- Trace a broad history of political organizations at the national level and political developments in the regional contexts.
- Examine issues of critical relevance with respect to the assertions and mobilization in the movements on the questions of caste, tribe and women.

SYLLABUS OF GE-2

Unit I: Laying the Foundation of the Nation State

1. Making of Indian Constitution and its salient features;
2. Integration of princely states, delineating provincial boundaries and the formation of newer states;

Unit II: Political Trajectories.

1. Politics and Political Parties: I. Congress hegemony and counter-hegemony, the rise of regional political parties; II. left political parties and Left wing political radicalism; III. J.P. movement / Nav Nirman movement, Emergency and Janta interregnum; and IV. Jansangh and Rise of the BJP.
2. Key features of the foreign policy of India.

Unit III: Socio-Economic Development and underdevelopment

1. Concept of planned economy and the key features of respective five year plans for agrarian, industrial and other sectors;
2. Shift from the model of mixed economy and public sectors to economic liberalization, privatization and globalisation;
3. Discontents amongst peasants and workers and the larger concerns of economic re-distribution, inequality, sustainability and environment.
4. Peoples' Movements for Rights, Liberation and Social Justice: Dalits, Adivasis and women.

Unit IV: Shaping a new public sphere and its discontents

1. Education, science and technology;
2. Language and Literature;
3. Cinema and visual art.

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/recommended readings

Unit I: This unit deals with laying the foundations of the Indian republic by discussing key debates in the framing of the Constitution, some aspects of the finally adopted Constitution and amendments within it particularly focusing upon the questions of citizenship, language, fundamental rights, directive principles and the rights of the minorities. The unit also deals with the integration of princely states and the process of delineating or reorganizing the provincial boundaries. **(Teaching Time: 3 weeks approx.)**

- Agnihotri, Rama Kant (2015), Constituent Assembly Debates on Language, EPW, Feb 21, 2015, pp. 47-56.
- Bhargava Rajiv. (ed.), (2009), Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Khosla, Madhav. (2020), India's Founding Moment. HUP.
- Ahmad, Aijaz. (1992). "Three World Theory: End of the Debate". In Theory. London: Verso.
- Asha Sarangi, Sudha Pai. (2011), Interrogating Reorganisation of States: Culture, Identity and Politics in India, Routledge India
- Austin, Granville (1999). The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of Nation, New Delhi: OUP [relevant sections].
- Damodaran, A.K (1987), "Roots of Indian Foreign Policy", India International Centre Quarterly. Vol.14. No. 3., pp. 53-65
- Dhavan, Rajeev. (2008). "Book Review: Sarbani Sen, Popular Sovereignty and Democratic Transformations: The Constitution of India," Indian Journal of Constitutional Law, Vol.8, pp.204-220.

- Markovits, Claude. (2004), *A History of Modern India*. Anthem Press. (Chapter 21)

Unit II: This unit traces the trends of the emergence of political parties and movements in post-independence India. This unit will also focus on the key features of India's foreign policy in the period under study, including the non-alignment. **(Teaching Time: 4 weeks approx.)**

- Bipan Chandra. *In the name of Democracy: JP Movement and the Emergency*. Penguin Random House India. [Relevant chapters].
- Chatterjee, Partha (ed.). (1997). *State and Politics in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. [pp. 92-124].
- Francine Frankel et al, (eds.). (2002), *Transforming India: Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. [Relevant chapters].
- Hasan, Zoya. (2004). *Parties and Party Politics in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Chapters 9 and 10.
- Jaffrelot, Christophe. (1999). *The Hindu Nationalist Movement and Indian Politics 1925 to 1990s*. New Delhi: Penguin. Chapters 3, 5, 7, 11 to 13.
- Chhibber, Pradeep K (1999). *State Policy, Party Politics, and the Rise of the BJP in Democracy without Associations: Transformation of the Party System and Social Cleavages in India*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. (pp. 159-176).
- Kochanek, Stanley. (1968). *The Congress Party of India: The Dynamics of One-Party Democracy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1 to 4, 13 and 16.
- Kumar, Ashutosh (ed). (2016), *Rethinking State Politics in India: Regions within Regions*. New Delhi: Routledge India. [Relevant chapters].
- Nirija Gopal Jayal and Pratap Bhanu Mehta (2011) *Oxford Companion to Politics in India* Oxford University Press
- Subhash C. Kashyap, *Our Parliament* (National Book Trust) (Chapter 15).
- Tarlo, Emma. (2003) *Unsettling Memories: Narratives of the Emergency in Delhi*, Berkeley: University of California Press. Introduction and C (2017), Chapter (2017), r 2.

Unit III. This unit deals with the history of economic developments from 1950s till 2000. It focuses on planning, agrarian issue and industrialisation in the first two decades of Independence and goes on to explore the subsequent liberalization of the Indian economy and the concomitant uneven development. It also links this history with the unrest amongst peasants and workers as well as with the issues of sustainability and environment. **(Teaching Time: 4 weeks approx.)**

- Bhalla, G.S. (2007). *Indian Agriculture since Independence*, New Delhi: National Book Trust
- Chadha, G.K. Khurana, M.R. (1989). *Backward Agriculture, Unrewarded Labour and Economic Deprivation: Bihar's Contrast with Punjab*. EPW, Nov 25, 1989, pp. 2617 - 2623
- Partha Chatterjee (ed.) (1997) *State and Politics in India*. Delhi: OUP) "Chapter-7: Development Planning and Indian State."

- Roy, Tirthankar. Indian Economy after Independence: Economic History of India 1857- 2010. [Chapter-13].
- Singh, Satyajit K. (2010). "State, Planning and Politics of Irrigation Development: A Critique of Large Dams", in Achin Vanaik and Rajeev Bhargava (eds.), Understanding Contemporary India: Critical Perspective (Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan), pp. 105-148.
- Kohli, Atul (2006). Politics of Economic Growth in India, 1980-2005: Part I & 2 -- The 1980s. EPW, V 41, No 13, April 1-7, 2006, pp 1251-1259; and EPW, Vol. 41, No. 14 (Apr. 8-14, 2006), pp. 1361-1370.
- Frankel, Francine R. (2005). India's Political Economy. New Delhi: OUP. Chapters 1, 3 and 4.
- Prasad, Archana (2003). Preface: Ecological Romanticism and Environmental History. In Against Ecological Romanticism Verrier Elwin and the Making of an Anti-Modern Tribal Identity.
- Sangeeta Dasgupta, Introduction: Reading the Archive, Reframing 'Adivasi' Histories. IESHR, 53, 1, 2016, pp 1-8.
- Gadgil, Madhav and Ramachandra Guha (1994), Ecological Conflicts and the Environmental Movement in India, Development and Change. Vol 25. pp.101-136.

Unit IV. Shaping a new public sphere and its discontents: This unit traces the official policies as well as their contestations and alternatives with regard to some key themes of public sphere in post-independence India, such as Education policy: issues of access and participation; role and nature of the intervention of science and technology; politics over Language; emerging trends in Literature; and representations in Cinema and visual art. **(Teaching Time: 4 weeks approx.)**

- Balaran, Rakhee., Mitter, Partha., Mukherji, Parul Dave. (2021) 20th Century Indian Art: Modern, Post- Independence, Contemporary. Thames & Hudson.
- Brass, Paul R. (2005), Language, Religion and Politics in North India. Cambridge University Press, 1974. (Specially Introduction pp 3-50 and Chapters 3-5 pp 119-275).
- Das Gupta, Jyotirindra. (2018), Language Conflict and National Development: Group Politics and National Language Policy in India. University of California Press. First published, 1970.
- Deshpande Anirudh. (2014), Class, Power and Consciousness in Indian Cinema.
- Dwyer, Rachel. (2002). Cinema India: The Visual Culture of Hindu Film. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.
- Gupta, Vikas. (2014), 'Changing Discourses on Inequality and Disparity: From Welfare State to Neoliberal Capitalism', in Ravi Kumar, (Ed.), Education, State and Market: Anatomy of Neoliberal Impact, Aakaar, pp 19-57.
- Gupta, Vikas. Agnihotri, Rama Kant. and Panda Minati (Ed.), (2021). Education and Inequality: Historical and Contemporary Trajectories. Orient Blackswan. (Relevant Chapters)
- Hasan Zoya. (ed,), (2019), Forging Identities: Gender, Communities, And The State In India. Routledge. Relevant chapters.

- Qaiser, Rizwan. (2013), “Building Academic, Scientific and Cultural Institutions, 1947- 1958”, in his Resisting Colonialism and Communal Politics, Delhi, Manohar, (First published 2011). Pp. 179-240.
- Raina, Dhruv. (2006), “Science Since Independence.” India International Centre Quarterly 33, no. 3/4: 182–95, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23006080>.
- Sahu, Sudhansubala. (2018). “Revisiting Television in India,” Sociological Bulletin, Vol. 67 (2), August, pp. 204-219.
- Sinha Gayatri. (2009), Art and visual culture in India, 1857-2007. Relevant Chapters.
- Vasudevan, Ravi. (2011), The Melodramatic Public: Film Form and Spectatorship in Indian Cinema. Palgrave Macmillan.

Suggestive readings - NIL

- Chandra, Bipan. (2008). India Since Independence. Delhi: Penguin
- Guha, Ramachandra. (2008). India After Gandhi.
- रामचंद्र गुहा. (2016). भारत गांधी के बाबू, राजिल्ली: पेंगुइन बुक्स

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