

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE-14 (DSE-14) : Media, Polity and Democracy

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		
DSE-14: Media, Polity and Democracy	4	3	0	1	Passed Class XIIth with English	NIL

Learning Objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- To understand the evolution of media's role in Indian politics.
- To explore media's influence in democracy and agenda-setting.
- To analyse media's relationship with governance and national security.

Learning Outcomes

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

- By the end of this course, students will be able to analyse the relationship between media and key state institutions, including the government, judiciary, and security forces.
- The course will enable students to apply theoretical and practical knowledge to real-world case studies reflecting the media-politics-democracy interface.

Syllabus of DSE – 14

Unit I: Media relationship with Polity (15 hours)

- Historical Perspective: Colonial period, Post-Independence India, Emergency era and the rise of private news media (1990s onward)
- Digital media and new political engagement (post-2010)
- Relevance of media in shaping political discourse today

Essential Readings:

1. *Handbook of Journalism and Mass Communication*, Vir Bala Aggarwal, VS Gupta, Concept Publishing, 2002 (Pages 1-178)

2. *The Political Web: Media, Participation and Alternative Democracy*, Peter Dahlgren, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013 (Pages 1-47)
3. Dahlgren, Peter (2012) 'Public Intellectuals, Online Media and Public Spheres: Current Realignments'. *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society* 25(4), (Pages 95-110)

Unit II: Role of the Media in a Democracy (15 hours)

- Democracy and Freedom of the Press
- Role of the media in agenda setting
- Critical review of the Media in India
- Role of media in safeguarding democratic values

Essential Readings:

1. *Indian Media: Global Approaches*, Adrian Athique, Polity Press, 2012 (Pages 13-31)
2. *The Handbook of Media and Mass Communication Theory*, edited by Robert S. Fortner and P. Mark Fackler, Wiley Blackwell (Pages 251-268)
3. *Rich Media, Poor Democracy: Communication Politics in Dubious Times*, Robert McChesney, University of Illinois Press, 2015 (Pages 1-14)

Unit III: Media and the Governance (15 hours)

- Media – Government relationship
- Media-Judiciary interactions
- National Security Concerns and Freedom of the Press

Essential Readings:

1. *Mass Media and Related Laws in India*, B. Manna, Academic Publishers, 2006, (Pages 54-167)
2. *Media And Judiciary: Revitalization of Democracy*, Sudhanshu Ranjan, Journal of the Indian Law Institute, Vol. 57, No. 3 (July-September 2015), pp. 415-436
3. *Satellites Over South Asia*, David Page and William Crawley, Sage, 2001. (Pages 35-71)
4. *Freedom of the Press: The Pentagon Papers Fifty Years on*. Lee C. Bollinger and Geoffrey R. Stone, Oxford University Press, 2021 (Pages 39-73)

Unit IV: Project Work (15 hours)

Students will conduct an in-depth case study examining a real-world intersection of media, polity, and democracy in 2500-3000 words.

Suggested Readings:

- *Necessary Secrets: National Security, The Media and the Rule of Law*, Gabriel Schoenfeld, W.W. Norton & Company, 2010
- Iyengar, Shanto, and McGrady, Jennifer A., *Media Politics: A Citizen Guide*, New York: W.W. Norton, 2011.

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- Lippman, Walter. *Public Opinion*. New York: Macmillan, 1922.
- Mitchell, Amy et al. “ *Millennials and Political News: Social Media the local TV for the next generation?*”, Pew Research Center Journalism & Mass Media, 2015.
- Snowden, Edward. “ *The World say No to Surveillance*”. The New York Times, 2015.
- Toobin, Jeffrey.” *Edward Snowden is No Hero*”. The New Yorker, 2013.
- Young, Dannagal Goldwaite, *The Daily Show as the New Journalism: In Their Own words*”, *Laughing Matters: Humor and American politics in the Media Age*, New York: Routledge, 2008