

**B. A. (H) Sociology**  
**Discipline Specific Core (DSC) 08**  
**Political Sociology**

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE -08: POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY**

**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		
<b>DSC 08 Political Sociology</b>	4	3	1	0	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Class Pass</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To introduce the sub-field of political sociology
2. To provide students the basic conceptual tools for a sociological analysis of political phenomena.
3. To outline classical and contemporary sociological traditions that analyse political institutions and processes.
4. To discuss original sociological writing on interface between politics and society and their divergent theoretical and empirical contexts..
5. To locate the fundamental questions of politics and power in an age of global transformations through an engagement with the three cornerstones of contemporary societies- the state, nation and democracy.

**Learning outcomes:**

1. *Delineate* the history of sociological study of politics.
2. *Identify and compare* the different perspectives in the sociological study of politics.
3. *Analyse* how political phenomena are embedded in the social and historical contexts of societies.
4. *Apply* the concepts learnt to *formulate* problematics emerging out of their own situations and historical circumstances.

**SYLLABUS OF DSC-08**

## **Unit 1. Introducing Political Sociology (3 Hours)**

*This unit introduces students to the sub-discipline of political sociology, its origins and analytical concerns.*

## **Unit 2. Concepts, Institutions and Processes (42 Hours)**

*This unit teaches students the fundamental concepts in political sociology and enables them to understand the workings of political institutions and processes.*

### **a. Power and Authority (18 Hours)**

### **b. Classes, Elites, States and Nations (12 Hours)**

### **c. Democracy, Citizenship and Local Politics (9 hours)**

### **d. Politics, Identities and Technology (6 Hours)**

**Practical component (if any) – NIL**

## **Essential/Recommended Readings:**

### **Unit 1: Introducing Political Sociology**

Bottomore, Tom. (1983). *Political Sociology*, Bombay: BI Publications, Introduction, pp. 7-19.

### **Unit 2. Concepts, Institutions and Processes**

#### **a. Power and Authority**

Weber, Max. (1994). *Sociological Writings*. United Kingdom: Continuum. Pp. 9-13, 23-24,28-46, 59-67.

Piven, Frances Fox and Richard A. Cloward. (2005). Rule Making, Rule Breaking, and Power in Thomas Janoski (Ed.), *The Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Civil Societies, and Globalization*. United States: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 33-53.

Foucault, Michel. (2021). Two Lectures, in *Culture/Power/History: A Reader in Contemporary Social Theory*. United States: Princeton University Press. Pp. 200-221.

#### **b. Classes, Elites, States and Nations**

Miliband, Ralph. (1983). *Class Power and State Power*. United Kingdom: Verso. Chapter 4. State Power and Class Interests. Pp. 63-77.

Albertoni, Ettore A. (1987). *Mosca and the Theory of Elitism*. United Kingdom: B. Blackwell. Chapter 9. The Italian School of Elitism: Between Myth and Reality. Pp. 109-119.

Bourdieu, Pierre. (1994). *Rethinking the State: Genesis and Structure of the Bureaucratic Field*.

*Sociological Theory* 12(1): 1-18.

Chatterjee, Partha. (2010). The State. In *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*. India: Oxford University Press. Pp. 3-14.

Smith, Anthony D. and John Hutchinson (Ed.) (1994). *Nationalism*. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 1994. Pp. 21-25, 29-35.

### **c. Democracy, Citizenship and Local Politics**

Bobbio, Norberto. (1987) *Future of Democracy*. United Kingdom: Wiley. Chapter 1. The Future of Democracy. pp. 23-42

Marshall, T. H. (2014) Extracts from Citizenship and Social Class. In Richard Belamy et al. eds. *Citizenship: Volume I, what is Citizenship? Theories of Citizenship: Classic and Contemporary Debates*. London: Routledge. Pp.58-64.

Brass, P. R. (1984). National Power and Local Politics in India: A Twenty-year Perspective. *Modern Asian Studies*, 18(01). Pp.89-118.

### **d. Politics, Identities and Technology**

Weiner, Myron. (2001), The Struggle for Equality: Caste in Indian Politics, in A. Kohli (ed.), *The Success of India's Democracy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 193-225.

Howard, P. N. (2005). Deep Democracy, Thin Citizenship: The Impact of Digital Media in Political Campaign Strategy. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 597(1), 153–170.

### **Suggested Readings:**

Bailey, F. G. (2019). *Stratagems and Spoils: A Social Anthropology of Politics*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis Group.

Balibar, Étienne and Immanuel Wallerstein. (1991). *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities*. United Kingdom: Verso.

Brown, Donald Mackenzie. (1953). *The White Umbrella: Indian Political Thought from Manu to Gandhi*. United States: University of California Press.

Chakravarti, Anand. (1975) *Contradiction and Change: Emerging Patterns of Authority in a Rajasthan Village*. India: Oxford University Press.

Gledhill, John. (2000), *Power and its Disguises: Anthropological Perspectives on Politics*, 2nd Ed., London: Pluto Press, 2000. Pp.1-22.

Habermas, Jürgen, Sara Lennox, and Frank Lennox. (1964). The Public Sphere: An Encyclopedia Article. *New German Critique*, no. 3 (1974): 49–55.

Macpherson, C. B. (1966). *The Real World of Democracy*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Marshall, T.H. (1950). *Citizenship and Social Class and Other Essays*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Piven, Frances Fox., Cloward, Richard. (2012). *Poor People's Movements: Why They Succeed, How They Fail*. United States: Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group.

Rothermund, Dietmar. (2013). *Empires in Indian History and Other Essays*. India: Manohar Publishers & Distributors.

Rudolph, Lloyd I. (1992). The Media and Cultural Politics, *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. 27, No. 28, pp. 1489-1495.

Spencer, Jonathan. (2007). *Anthropology, Politics, and the State: Democracy and Violence in South Asia*. United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.

Steinmetz, George. (2014). The Sociology of Empires, Colonies, and Postcolonialism. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 40(1), Pp. 77–94.

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