

PROGRAMME SPECIFIC OUTCOME OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

FIRST SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-I: UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL THEORY

Introduction: This course is divided into two sections. Section 'A' introduces the students to the idea of political theory, its history and approaches and an assessment of its critical and contemporary trends. Section 'B' is designed to reconcile political theory and practices through reflections on the ideas and practices related to democracy.

CORE PAPER-II: CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRACY IN INDIA

Introduction: This course acquaints students with the Constitutional design of state structures and institutions, and their actual working overtime. The Indian Constitution accommodates conflicting impulses (of liberty and justice, territorial decentralization and a strong union, for instance) within itself. The course traces the embodiment of some of these conflicts in constitutional provisions, and shows how these have played out in political practice. It further encourages a study of state institutions in their mutual interaction, and in interaction with the larger extra-constitutional environment.

GENERIC ELECTIVE PAPER-I(A1): FEMINISM: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Introduction: The aim of the course is to introduce students to contemporary debates on feminism and the history of feminist struggles. The course begins with a discussion on construction of gender and an understanding of complexity of patriarchy and goes on to analyze theoretical debates within feminism. It offers a gendered analysis of Indian society, economy and polity with a view to understanding the structures of gender inequalities. And the last section aims to understand the issues with which contemporary Indian women's movements are engaged with.

SECOND SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-III: POLITICAL THEORY-CONCEPTS AND DEBATES

Introduction: This course is divided into two sections. Section A helps the student familiarize with the basic normative concepts of political theory. Each concept is related to a crucial political issue that requires analysis with the aid of our conceptual understanding. This exercise is designed to encourage critical and reflective analysis and interpretation of social practices through the relevant conceptual toolkit. Section B introduces the students to the important debates in the subject. These debates prompt us to consider that there is no settled way of understanding concepts and that in the light of new insights and challenges, besides newer ways of perceiving and interpreting the world around us, we inaugurate new modes of Political debates.

CORE PAPER-IV: POLITICAL PROCESS IN INDIA

Introduction: Actual politics in India diverges quite significantly from constitutional legal rules. An understanding of the political process thus calls for a different mode of analysis - that offered by political sociology. This course maps the working of 'modern' institutions, premised on the existence of an individuated society, in a context marked by communitarian solidarities, and their mutual transformation thereby. It also familiarizes students with the working of the Indian state, paying attention to the contradictory dynamics of modern state power.

GENERIC ELECTIVE PAPER-I(B1): FEMINISM: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Introduction: The aim of the course is to introduce students to contemporary debates on feminism and the history of feminist struggles. The course begins with a discussion on construction of gender and an understanding of complexity of patriarchy and goes on to analyze theoretical debates within feminism. It offers a gendered analysis of Indian society, economy and polity with a view to understanding the structures of gender inequalities. And the last section aims to understand the issues with which contemporary Indian women's movements are engaged with.

THIRD SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-V: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Introduction: This is a foundational course in comparative politics. The purpose is to familiarize students with the basic concepts and approaches to the study of comparative politics. More specifically the course will focus on examining politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries.

CORE PAPER-VI: INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Introduction: The course provides an introduction to the discipline of public administration. This paper encompasses public administration in its historical context with an emphasis on the various classical and contemporary administrative theories. The course also explores some of the recent trends, including feminism and ecological conservation and how the call for greater democratization is restructuring public administration. The course will also attempt to provide the students a comprehensive understanding on contemporary administrative developments.

CORE PAPER-VII: PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Introduction: This paper seeks to equip students with the basic intellectual tools for understanding International Relations. It introduces students to some of the most important theoretical approaches for studying international relations. The course begins by historically contextualizing the evolution of the international state system before discussing the agency-structure problem through the levels-of-analysis approach. After having set the parameters of the debate, students are introduced to different theories in International Relations. It provides a fairly comprehensive overview of the major political developments and events starting from the twentieth century. Students are expected to learn about the key milestones in world history and equip them with the tools to understand and analyze the same from different perspectives. A key objective of the course is to make students aware of the implicit Euro-centrism of International Relations by highlighting certain specific perspectives from the Global South.

SIXTH SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-XIII: CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Introduction: Philosophy and politics are closely intertwined. Students will be exposed to the manner in which the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence. Contemporary political philosophy and debates are introduced to the students here.

CORE PAPER-XIV: MODERN INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Introduction: Based on the study of individual thinkers, the course introduces a wide span of thinkers and themes that defines the modernity of Indian political thought. The objective is to study general themes that have been produced by thinkers from varied social and temporal contexts. Selected extracts from original texts are also given to discuss in the class. The list of Reference books is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE PAPER-III: INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY IN A CHANGING WORLD

Introduction: This course's objective is to teach students the domestic sources and the structural constraints on the genesis, evolution and practice of India's foreign policy. The endeavour is to highlight integral linkages between the 'domestic' and the 'international' aspects of India's foreign policy by stressing on the shifts in its domestic identity and the corresponding changes at the international level. Students will be instructed on India's shifting identity as a postcolonial state to the contemporary dynamics of India attempting to carve its identity as an 'aspiring power'. India's evolving relations with the superpowers during the Cold War and after, bargaining strategy and positioning in international politics facilitate an understanding of the changing positions and development of India's role as a global player since independence.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE PAPER-IV: WOMEN, POWER AND POLITICS

Introduction: This course opens up the question of women's agency, taking it beyond 'women's empowerment' and focusing on women as radical social agents. It attempts to question the complicity of social structures and relations in gender inequality. This is extended to cover new forms of precarious work and labour under the new economy. Special attention will be paid to feminism as an approach and outlook.

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FIFTH SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-XI: WESTERN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Introduction: This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes students with the manner in which the political questions were first posed. Machiavelli comes as an interlude inaugurating modern politics followed by Hobbes and Locke, Rousseau, Marx. This is a basic foundation course for students.

CORE PAPER-XII: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT (ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL)

Introduction: This course introduces the specific elements of Indian Political Thought spanning over two millennia. The basic focus of study is on individual thinkers whose ideas are however framed by specific themes. The course as a whole is meant to provide a sense of the broad streams of Indian thought while encouraging a specific knowledge of individual thinkers and texts. Selected extracts from some original texts are also given to discuss in class. The list of Reference books is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE PAPER-I: INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS

Introduction: This course attempts to build an understanding of human rights among students through a study of specific issues in a comparative perspective. It is important for students to see how debates on human rights have taken distinct forms historically and in the contemporary world. The course seeks to anchor all issues in the Indian context, and pulls out another country to form a broader comparative frame.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE PAPER-II: DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA

(Project)

Introduction: Under the influence of globalization, development processes in India have undergone transformation to produce spaces of advantage and disadvantage and new geographies of power. The high social reproduction costs and dispossession of vulnerable social groups involved in such a development strategy condition new theatres of contestation and struggles. A variety of protest movements emerged to interrogate and challenge this development paradigm that evidently also weakens the democratic space so very vital to the formulation of critical consensus. This course proposes to introduce students to the conditions, contexts and forms of political contestation over development paradigms and their bearing on the retrieval of democratic voice of citizens.

GENERIC ELECTIVE PAPER-II(A2): GOVERNANCE: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Objectives: This paper deals with concepts and different dimensions of governance highlighting the major debates in the contemporary times. There is a need to understand the importance of the concept of governance in the context of a globalizing world, environment, administration, development. The essence of governance is explored through the various good governance initiatives introduced in India.

FOURTH SEMESTER

CORE PAPER-VIII: POLITICAL PROCESSES AND INSTITUTIONS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Introduction: In this course students will be trained in the application of comparative methods to the study of politics. The course is comparative in both what we study and how we study. In the process the course aims to introduce undergraduate students to some of the range of issues, literature, and methods that cover comparative political.

CORE PAPER-IX: PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA

Introduction: The paper seeks to provide an introduction to the interface between public policy and administration in India. The essence of public policy lies in its effectiveness in translating the governing philosophy into programs and policies and making it a part of the community living. It deals with issues of decentralization, financial management, citizens and administration and social welfare from a non-western perspective.

CORE PAPER-X: GLOBAL POLITICS

Introduction: This course introduces students to the key debates on the meaning and nature of globalization by addressing its political, economic, social, cultural and technological dimensions. In keeping with the most important debates within the globalization discourse, it imparts an understanding of the working of the world economy, its anchors and resistances offered by global social movements while analyzing the changing nature of relationship between the state and trans-national actors and networks. The course also offers insights into key contemporary global issues such as the proliferation of nuclear weapons, ecological issues, international terrorism, and human security before concluding with a debate on the phenomenon of global governance.

GENERIC ELECTIVE PAPER-II(B2): GOVERNANCE: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Objectives: This paper deals with concepts and different dimensions of governance highlighting the major debates in the contemporary times. There is a need to understand the importance of the concept of governance in the context of a globalizing world, environment, administration, development. The essence of governance is explored through the various good governance initiatives introduced in India.