

DRAFT SYLLABUS UNDER AUTONOMY

POLITICAL SCIENCE

SEMESTER I

COURSE : A.POL.1.01

INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS [60 LECTURES]

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand the basic concepts.
2. To build a foundation for SYBA and TYBA students

Unit 1: The study of Politics

[14 Lectures]

1.1 Definitions of Political Science

(reflecting the changing understanding of politics)

1.2 Changing nature of Politics

(Is it a science, or an art, or both?)

1.3 Scope of Politics

(Study of the state, the government, power, political institutions & processes, resolution of conflicts, international relations)

1.4 Different approaches to the study of Politics:

- Normative Approach : Traditional, Philosophical approach. It is value laden & stresses upon 'what ought to be'
- Empirical Approach : Modern, scientific approach. It is realistic, value neutral, interdisciplinary and lays stress on 'what is'.
- Feminist Approach : advocates equal rights for men & women. Gender inequalities are neither natural nor necessary & can be altered so that both men & women can lead free & equal lives. Background (waves of feminism), different schools of thoughts on feminism.

Unit 2 : The changing nature, meaning and interrelationship of the state, the civil society & the market.

[16 lectures]

2.1 The State: Definition (reflecting different points of view)

- Constituent Elements of the State (Population, territory, sovereignty and government)
- Distinction between the State and the Government.

2.2 The Civil Society : Definition and Meaning

- Relationship between the State and the Society.

2.3 The Market : Meaning

- Changing role of the State corresponding to the evolving socio-economic order (mercantilism laissez, fair capitalism, welfarism, socialism)
- Relationship between the State & the market (liberal view, Marxist view, Mixed economy, impact of globalization on the market economy in the Indian context)

Unit 3: Power, authority and legitimacy

[14 lectures]

3.1 Power : Concept, its dimensions

3.2 Authority : Concept, kinds of authority, distinction between power and authority

3.3 Legitimacy : Concept, Sources of legitimacy/ factors which guarantee continued legitimacy .

Unit 4: Select Concepts

[16 lectures]

4.1 Law : Meaning & definitions

Sources of law (Customs, religion, adjudication, legislation, equity, scientific commentaries)

4.2 Political Obligation: Concept, grounds of political obligation (various theories); Views of thinkers like T. H. Green and Harold Laski, Various political obligations in a democracy.

4.3 Resistance: Violent forms of disobedience (Bloody revolution, insurgency, military intervention)

- Non – Violent forms of resistance (Satyagraha – Concept and techniques)

CIA: Assignment and Presentation

SEMESTER II COURSE : A.POL.2.01

POLITICAL THEORY

[60 LECTURES]

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce the basic framework of Political Theory and ideologies.
2. To understand Rights and it's Kinds, Basic Political Values and Democratic Models.

Unit 1 : Rights

[16 lectures]

1.1 Definition, Meaning

1.2 Various theories of rights (Theory of natural rights, legal theory, historical theory, social welfare theory, idealistic theory of rights)

1.3 Classification of rights

1.4 Civil Rights: Right to life, liberty, property, right to freedom of religion, of speech & expression, of association etc.

Political Rights: Right to vote, to contest elections etc.

Social Rights: Right to practice any religion, right against exploitation etc.

Economic Rights: Right to work, right to equal pay for equal work, to minimum wages etc.

Unit 2: Basic Political Ideals

[16 lectures]

2.1 Meaning and role of political ideals

2.2 Liberty : Concept

- Kinds of liberty
- Safeguard of liberty
- Relation between law and liberty

2.3 Equality : Concept

- Types of equality
- Relationship between liberty and equality

2.4 Justice : Concept

- Various dimensions of justice
- Distributive justice

Unit 3 : Democracy

[14 lectures]

3.1 Meaning, basic assumption of democracy

3.2 Classical Democracy – Athenian, direct democracy

3.3 Liberal Democracy – Origin and growth, as a form of government (features)

3.4 Participatory Democracy

3.5 Strengths and weaknesses of democracy

3.6 Conditions necessary for the success of democracy

3.7 Challenges to democracy

Unit 4 : Ideologies

[14 lectures]

4.1 Meaning & Role of Ideology

4.2 Ideology of Nationalism : Features, factors promoting nationalism

4.3 Communism : Basic tents of Marxism appraisal, Marxism after Marx (Leninism, Stalinism, Maoism)

4.4 Gandhism : Sources of Gandhi's thoughts, his fundamental ideas (spiritualization of politics, philosophical anarchism, satyagraha, sarvodaya etc)

CIA: Assignment and Presentation

REFERENCES

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2. Ball, Terence and Dagger. Richard, Political Ideologies and the Democratic Ideal, Fourth Edition, Longman, 2003.
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4. Bird, Colinn, A Introduction to Political Philosophy, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2007.
5. Farrelly, Colin, An Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory, Sage, London, 2003.
6. Gaus, Gerald F., Political Concepts and Political Theories, Westview Press, Boulder, 2000.
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9. Hawkesworth, Mary and Kogan, Maurice (Eds.), Encyclopedia of Government, vols. I, II Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1992.
10. Held, David, Political Theory and the Modern State, Polity Press, Cambridge, 1989..
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12. Heywood, Andrew. Political Theory-An Introduction, Third Edition, Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke, 2004.
13. Hoffman, John, and Graham, Paul, Introduction to Political Theory, Longman, Harlow, 2006.
14. Kaviraj, Sudipta and Khilnani, Sunil, Civil Society: History and Possibilities, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2001.
15. MacKenzie, I., Political Concepts: A Reader and Guide, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh, 2005.

16. Marsh, David and Stoker, Gerry, Theory and Methods in Political Science, Macmillan, Houndmills, 1995.
17. Mohanty, Manoranjan, Contemporary Indian Political Theory, Sanskriti, New Delhi, 2002.
18. Okin, S. M. Justice, Gender and the Family, Basic Books, New York, 1989.
19. Plant, R., Modern Political Thought, Blackwell, Oxford, 1991.
20. Varma, S. P., Modern Political Theory, Vikas, New Delhi, 1983.
21. Vincent, A., Modern Political Ideologies, Blackwell, Oxford, 1992.

Text Books

1. An introduction to Politics by Manohar R. Wadhvani
2. Introduction to Politics by Ashok Jain