SYLLABUS

Paper-IL-202-Political Science (Political Thought)-II

Time Allowed: 03 Hours                  Max. Marks: 60

Attempt six questions selecting one question from each unit. Question No.1 is compulsory. All questions carry equal marks

Course Objective: The political thought constitutes one of the most significant components of undergraduate & post-graduate curriculum in political science in almost all the universities of world. The present course seeks to expose the students to the main currents of the Indian, Islamic and English political thought. The main objective of the said course is to develop the critical understanding towards the different traditions and strands of political thought in India in particular and in world in general.

Unit - I: Ancient Indian Political Thought

1.1 The Hindu Tradition of Political Thought: Characteristic Features.
1.2 The Concept of State in the Ancient Hindu Tradition.
1.3 The Concept of International Relations in the Ancient Hindu Tradition.

Unit- II: Modern Indian Political Thought

2.1. Hindu Nationalism: M.S. Golwalkar and V.D. Savarkar.
2.2. Democratic Socialism: J.L. Nehru.

Unit-III: Muslim Political Thought

3.1 First Principles of Islamic Political Theory
3.2 The Theory of the Caliphate
3.3 The Muslim Modernism - Syed Ahmad Khan &
3.4 The Muslim Separatism - Muhammad Ali Jinnah

Unit - IV: Western Political Thought - I

4.1 The Concept of Justice: John Rawls and Robert Nozick.
4.2 The Concept of Liberty: John Stuart Mill.

Unit - V: Western Political Thought - II

5.1 The Concept of Rulers: Robert Alan Dahl.
5.2 The Concept of Citizenship: Michael Walzer.
5.3 The Concept of Hegemony: Antonio Gramsci.
1. The use of the audio-visual teaching aids like projector is used for the purpose of teaching.
2. The assignments and presentations are spread over the entire semester so as to keep the students continuously involved in the process of learning. In order to hone the debating capability of students the presentations are marked by boisterous & brainstorming question-answer sessions.
3. The screening of educational documentaries is also a regular feature of the teaching and learning process.
4. In order to properly initiate the students in the subject domain, due care is taken to create interest in them to read news papers and watch TV debates both national & international on a daily basis.
5. In view of the strong polarization that has taken place within the world among different communities, every effort is made during the teaching & learning process to make students differentiate between their personal likings/dislikings & the objective facts.
IL – 202: Political Science - II (Political Thought)

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<th>Unit - I</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<td>The Concept of International Relations in the Ancient Hindu Tradition</td>
<td>Lecture, PPT &amp; Discussion</td>
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Learning Outcomes:

After going through this unit student shall be able to:

- Have an idea about the political system of Ancient India
- Relate it with the contemporary political system of India
- Explain the different organs of the Hindu concept of state
- Compare & contrast the Hindu concept of state with the Islamic & western concept of state
- Know and discuss the Doctrine of Mandala and Doctrine of Sarva Bhuama

Activities:

- Preparation of assignments on different themes in this unit;
- Preparation of power point presentations/poster presentations for presentation in the class;

Points for Discussion:

- Why was the Hindu tradition of political thought uncritical of the then established social order and why was it hostile to change?
- Why is the Hindu concept of state organic in its nature and what are its implications?
- What is the relevance of Doctrine of Mandala to the present day world politics?

References:
Core References

- V.R. Mehta, Foundations of Indian Political Thought. Manohar Publisher, New Delhi, 1999.
- M.P. Singh & Himanshu Roy. Indian Political Thought Themes and Thinkers. Pearson.

Suggested Readings

- Rajeev Bhargava. What is Political Theory and Why do We Need it. Oxford University Press.
- V.R. Mehta, Indian Political Thought, Manohar New Delhi, 1996.
Learning Outcomes:

After going through this unit student shall be able to:

- To develop the critical understanding towards the different traditions and strands of political thought in India.
- The recognize the basic features of modern political thought in India.
- To develop the critical understanding of the thought of social emancipation in Modern India.
- To be able to build a conceptual argument around the fundamental political ideas and concepts like modernity, nationalism, liberty, citizenship etc in the Indian context and in comparison with other non-Indian contexts to the west as well.

Activities:

- The organization of simulation exercises over party politics in India.
- Preparation of assignments on different themes in this unit;
- Preparation of power point presentations/poster presentations for presentation in the class;

Points for Discussion:
Why has the Bharatiya Janata Party been able to win a landslide victory over its rivals in the recent elections. What does it tell us about Hindu Nationalism today?

Why is Nehruvian notion of social transformation relevant today with reference to building a socialistic model of society in India?

Has India been able to ensure social justice for its common masses?

References:

Core References
- M. S. Golwalkar. We or Our Nationhood Defined. Bharat Publications.
- Ramchandran Guha. Makers of Modern India Penguini Viking.
- V.R. Mehta, Foundations of Indian Political Thought. Manohar Publisher, New Delhi, 1999.

Suggested Readings
- B. Parekh & T. Pantham (Eds.), Political Discourse: Exploration in Indian and Western Political Thought Sage, New Delhi, 1987.
- Bhargava, Rajeev. What is Political Theory and Why do We Need it. Oxford University Press.
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<td>The Theory of the Caliphate</td>
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<td>The Muslim Separatism - Muhammad Ali Jinna</td>
<td>Lecture, Discussion &amp;</td>
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**Learning Outcomes:**

After going through this unit student shall be able to:

- Know how Islam is a religion of *Din wa Dawla* (Religion & State).
- Recognize the basic features of Islamic political thought both in its universality as well as within the specificity of Indian political matrix.
- Develop the critical understanding towards the different traditions and strands of political thought in India.
- Fit in the Muslim factor in the modern south Asian politics.

**Activities:**

- Preparation of assignments on different themes in this unit;
- Preparation of power point presentations/poster presentations for presentation in the class;
- Discuss the logic of partition. Organization of a group discussion on Kashmir as an 'unfinished agenda of partition'.
- Discuss the perspectives on Two-Nation, Three -Nation & Four-Nation theories.

**Points for Discussion:**

- Discuss the concerns of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan with regard to Muslim backwardness in the light of recent reports on the socio-economic status of Muslims in India especially the Sachar Committee Report of 2006.
- Discuss the genesis of the so-called *Islamic State of Iraq & Levant* (ISIS) & the model of Caliphate established by it & juxtapose it with the model of
Caliphate as conceived by Khulafa-e-Rashideen – The Rightly Guided Successors.
- Discuss the role of Jinnah in the creation of Pakistan and its efficacy in the resolution of problems of Muslims in south Asia.

References:

Core References
- Ramachandran Guha. Makers of Modern India, Penguin Viking.

Suggested Readings
- B. Parekh & T. Pantham (eds.), Political Discourse: Exploration in Indian and Western Political Thought, Sage, New Delhi, 1987.
- Bhargava, Rajeev. What is Political Theory and Why do We Need it. Oxford University Press.

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<td>Lecture &amp; Discussion</td>
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Learning Outcomes:

After going through this unit student shall be able to:
- Critically analyze the debate on the different perspectives of justice.
- Build a conceptual argument around these diverse perspectives of justice.
- Know & appreciate the value of liberty and the debates around it.
Activities:

- Preparation of assignments on different themes in this unit;
- Preparation of power point presentations/poster presentations for presentation in the class;
- Organization of a mock constituent assembly of students in order to give them a feel of operationalization of the concepts of Original Position & Veil of Ignorance for the formulation of the principles of principles of justice and codification of laws.

Points for Discussion:

- What are the different versions of liberalism? Compare and contrast libertarianism and egalitarian liberalism.
- What is 'political' about Rawlsian political liberalism?
- Why are policy makers expected to put on a veil of ignorance during policy making.
- How can we relate Robert Nozick's principle of rectification to resolution if conflicts in the world today?
- How is freedom of expression important for the evolution of a tolerant society?

References:

Core References

- Norman Barry An Introduction to Modern Political Theory.. Palgrave Macmillan
- J.S. Mill On Liberty. 1859.

Suggested Readings

- C.L. Wayper. Teach Yourself Political Thought. Surjeet Publications.
- Shefali Jha. Western Political Thought. Pearson.

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Learning Outcomes:

After going through this unit student shall be able to:

- Debate & discuss the moral competence of rulers. Why rulers are supposed to be instrumentally knowledgeable?
- Understand the difference between the model of citizenship as rights & the model of citizenship as civic virtue & community membership.
- Understand the difference between Marxism & Neo-Marxism & the non-coercive ways of manufacturing of consent.

Activities:

- Preparation of assignments on different themes in this unit;
- Preparation of power point presentations/poster presentations for presentation in the class;
- Screening of different advertisements in the classroom for understanding the non-coercive ways of manufacturing of consent.

Points for Discussion:

- Evaluate the personalities of different top-brass world leaders and discuss their leadership roles.
- How has atomism depreciated the values of social capital?
- What is the concept of false consciousness & how is it related to Marxism? How is false consciousness related to freedom in the present day consumerist society?
References:

Core References


Suggested Readings

- B. Parekh & T. Pantham (Eds.), Political Discourse: Exploration in Indian and Western Political Thought, Sage, New Delhi, 1987.
- Bhargava Rajeev. What is Political Theory and Why do We Need it. Oxford University Press.