



CENTRE FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION

SNDT Women's University

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Syllabus for Distance Education Students

(w.e.f. Year – 2013 – 14)

M.A. Part - I

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science Syllabus

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M.A. I

Semester I

1. Political Theory (109001)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

This Course gives a broad overview of the essential character and role of political theory within the larger discipline of Political Science. Student gets an historical overview of the fundamental concerns of the discipline of Political Science. She is equipped with the basic conceptual framework of the discipline.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1. Nature and Significance of Political Theory a. What is theory?: Difference between theory, thought, philosophy and ideology b. Changes in nature of the term 'theory': Little Theories, Grand Theories c. Changes in the content of the term 'political' d. Why do we study political theories?	10
Unit 2	2. Importance and Limitations of the Classical Tradition a. Essential characteristics of Classical Tradition b. Overview of the Contribution of Ancient Political Philosophers to Political Theory with reference to Plato, Aristotle, Polybius, Cicero c. Significance of value based approach d. Medieval Period: Emergence of Christianity and its impact on the Political Theory e. Advent of Positivism and its impact on Political Theory	20
Unit 3	3. Modern Approaches: Behaviouralism, Post-behaviouralism and Marxism a. Positivist Social Sciences, Vienna Circle and Institutionalisation of the discipline of Political Science in the West b. Chicago School and the Search for Universal Theory c. Essential tenets of Behaviouralism d. Post Behaviouralism and Critique of Behavioural assumptions e. Beyond post - behaviouralism f. Behaviouralism vis-à-vis Marxism: Stability versus change & scientism versus humanism debates. g. Decline and Revival of Political theory	30

	h. Marxist approach to Political Theory: i. Variations in Traditional Marxist Approach: Marx, Engels, Lenin & Gramsci j. Introduction to the Frankfurt school	
Unit 4	4. Civil Society and the State a. Historical Evolution of the idea of Civil Society: - Liberal idea, - Political Economy & Civil society, - Hegelian Civil Society, - Marx, Gramsci & Civil Society. b. Contemporary Revival of Civil Society: Global Civil Society c. Difference between State and Civil Society, Difference between State and Nation d. Social Contract and State e. Neutral State, Class State and Patriarchal State f. Challenges to the Sovereignty of State	20
Unit 5	5. Citizenship & Nation a. Historical Evolution of the concept of Citizenship b. Idea of Equal and Universal Citizenship: Marshall & His Critique c. Limits of Liberal Citizenship d. Citizenship in the New Context: Multiculturalism & Globalization e. Objective & Subjective Criteria of Nation.	20

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- Keane, John, Global Civil Society, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- McKinnon, C. Issues in Political Theory. OUP, New Delhi. 2008.
- Nash, Kate (ed.), Readings in Contemporary Political Sociology, Massachusetts, Blackwell, 2000.
- O'Sullivan, Noel, Political Theory in Transition, London, Routledge, 2000.

2. Administrative Theory (109002)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Student is exposed to the evolution of and major approaches prevailing in the sub-field of Public Administration. She is familiarised with the theoretical debates pertaining to the dynamics of bureaucracy and public policy.

No	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.The Study of Administration: Its Nature and Development a. Changing nature of administration – Art Science or Profession, Political nature b.Development of administration – Paradigm by Nicholos Henry c. New Public Management, Public Choice Approach, Governance, Entrepreneurial Government	15
Unit 2	2. Ecological, Decision-Making and Political Economy Approaches a. Modern Approached to Public Administration b. Ecological Approach – Riggs Contribution, Riggs typology and Sala Model c. Decision Making Approach – Simon’s Contribution, Garbage Can Model, Muddling Through Model, Mix Scanning Model d. Political Economy Approach – Meaning, contributions by Anthony Downs	25
Unit 3	3. Development Administration a. Development Administration – Meaning, Emergence, b. Approaches c. Riggs contribution	15
Unit 4	4. Bureaucracy and Society: Weberian, Marxist and Feminist Perspectives a. Weberian argument – Ideal Type Bureaucracy by Weber, Context and Characteristics of Bureaucracy, Criticism of Weberian Model b. Marxist understanding of Bureaucracy c. Feminist Perspective – Feminist argument against bureaucracy, Arguments by Cathy Fergusson, Camilla Stivers	25
Unit 5	5. Public Policy: Theories and Processes a.Stages of Public Policy Making b.Role of Parties c. Role of Pressure Groups d. Role of Public Opinion	20

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- Arora, K. Ramesh and Kaushik, S.L., The Universe of Public Administration: Essays in Honour of Prof. Sudhes K. Sharma, New Delhi, Associated, 1994.
- Bennis, Warren, Beyond Bureaucracy: Essays in the Development and Evolution of Human Organisation, San Francisco, Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1993.
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- Dubhashi, P.R., Essays in Development Administration, New Delhi, Archives Publishers, 1986.
- Ghosh-Bhattacharya, Ratna, Administrators in a Developing Society, Bombay, Himalaya, 1989.
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- Lynn, B. Naomi and Wildavsky, Aaron (eds.), Public Administration. The State of the Discipline, New Delhi, Affiliated East-West Press, 1992.
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- Savage, Mike and Witz, Anne (eds.), Gender and Bureaucracy, Oxford, Blackwell, 1992.
- Self, Peter, Administrative Theories and Politics, Surrey, George Allen and Unwin, 1977.

3. Theoretical Aspects of International Politics (109003)

Marks 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

This Course focuses on the study of International Politics as a sub-field of Political Science. Student is exposed to the major approaches and concepts in the sub-field. She is familiarised with different perspectives on the organization of the international political system. Student is equipped to explore and analyse the power dynamics at international level.

No	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.The Study of International Politics: Its Nature and Scope a. Evolution of the Discipline: Major Stages b. Sub – disciplines of the discipline of International Politics	15
Unit 2	2. Major Approaches: Realism, Idealism, Systems Theory, Marxism and Feminism a. Realism and Neo - Realism: Basic Assumptions b. Idealism: Major Debates c. Systems Theory: Contribution and Limitations d. Marxism: Nature of the International System, International Political Economy and Dependency Theory e. Feminism: Interrogations about the prevailing conceptual framework of IR	25
Unit 3	3. The Concept of National Power: Its Constituents and Limitations 1. Debates about the constituent of the National Power 2. Limitations of the National Power in the contemporary scenario	15
Unit 4	4. The Management of Power: Balance of Power and Collective Security a. Hans Morgenthau: Basic Assumptions of the Balance of Power b. Types of Balance of Power system c. Debates about the efficacy of Balance of Power d. Essential tenets of Collective security system e. Efficacy of the Collective security	25
Unit 5	5. The Concept of Non-alignment: Bases, Role and Relevance a. Principle Assumptions of Non Alignment b. Role Played by the NAM in the Cold War period c. Relevance of NAM in a the post-Cold War world	20

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- Walker, R B J International Relations as Political Theory, Cambridge, CUP, 2004.
- Wendt, Alexander, Social Theory of International Politics, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

4. Theoretical Aspects of Comparative Politics (109004)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Student is exposed to the evolution of and major approaches within the sub-field comparative politics. Student is equipped to compare various political systems by using different approaches and parameters of comparative inquiry.

No	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.The Study of Comparative Politics: Its Nature and Development a.Origins of Comparative Politics b. Development of Comparative Analysis: Renaissance, Enlightenment, Historicism, c. Emergence of Formal and Legal studies, Evolutionalism, Political Sociology d. Distinction between Traditional and Modern Comparative Politics	20
Unit 2	2. Systems and Structural-Functionalist Approaches a. David Easton's Theory of Political System: Input - Out Put Model b. Gabriel Almond's Theory of Structural Functionalism (Meaning of Political Structure, Functions of Political Systems – Capabilities Functions, System Maintenance and Adaptation Functions and Conversion Functions)	20
Unit 3	3. Marxist and Feminist Approaches a. Class approaches to Comparative Analysis: Stages of Capitalist Development, Dependency Theories b. Gender in Comparative Politics: Patriarchy & State in Comparative perspective	20
Unit 4	4. Strategies for Comparison a. Levels of Analysis & Causal Theories b. Themes for Comparative Analysis: State – Economy – Democratic Ideas – Collective Identity	15
Unit 5	5. Typology of Political Systems a. Almond's Typology (Primitive, Traditional, Modern Systems) b. Blondel's Typology (Liberal Democratic, Authoritarian, Conservative, Radical & Populist Systems) c. Macormiks' Typology (Liberal Democracies, Communist & Post – Communist States, New Democracies, Less Developed States, Islamic States & Marginal States)	25

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- McCormick, J. **Comparative Politics in Transition**, New York, Cenage, 2010.
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5. Indian Political System (109005)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Students is exposed to the historical and structural dimensions of Indian Political System. She is familiarised with the major debates about the structural set up of Indian politics. She is equipped with the terms of reference for analysing contemporary Indian Politics.

No	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.The Colonial Legacy of the Indian Political System a. Contribution of British Acts and Legislations b. Continuity and Change – Constitutional Framework, Administration, Political Structures	15
Unit 2	Salient Features of the Indian Political System a. Democracy – Substantive or Procedural? b. Secularism and Pseudo Secularism c. Federalism – From Cooperative Federalism to Competitive Federalism d. Independent Judiciary – Issues : Politicization, Judicial	25
Unit 3	Changing Nature of Party and Electoral Politics a. Era of One Party Dominance – ‘Congress System’ b. Decline of Congress System c. National Parties and Regional Parties, d. Post 90s Electoral Politics – Fragmentation of Party System, Impact of Mandir,Market, Mandal issues e. Emergence of Coalition politics	25
Unit 4	4. Contemporary Challenges: Terrorism, Corruption and Regionalism a. Challenges posed by Terrorism and responses of Indian Political System b. Challenges posed by Corruption and response of Indian Political System c. Regionalism – Language Politics, Punjab and Assam Crises, Emergence of regional parties	20
Unit 5	5. India’s Role in World Politics a. Changing nature of World Politics and Changing role of India b. UNO and India’s Role c. Indian’s Role in the developing countries	15

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- Brass, Paul, **The Politics of India since Independence**, New Delhi, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
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Semester II

1. Political Philosophy (209006)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Student is introduced to the debates about the compulsions and predicaments of collective human life as well as to the debates about individual's relationship with the collectivity. She is familiarised with the various patterns of organising collective life. Student is equipped to explore the moral roots of political problems.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1. Grounds of Political Obligation a. Justifications for Authority b. Moral & Prudential Obligations c. Grounds of Political Obligation: Contract, Consent, General Will, Justice & Common Good)	15
Unit 2	2. Political Disobedience and Resistance a. Intellectual Foundations of Political Disobedience: Thoreau, Gandhi, Martin Luther King (Jr.), Russell b. Debate over the objections to the idea of disobedience: Majority rule, Participation in Democratic Rule, Lawful channels of Protest c. Difference between Conscientious Resister and Civil Disobedient d. Theories of Resistance: Althusser, Foucault, Feminist view	15
Unit 3	3. Democracy, Liberty and Rights a. Aspects of Liberal Democracy b. Democracy: Procedural Democracy and Substantive Democracy Debate c. Two concepts of liberty: Positive & Negative d. Isaiah Berlin's concept of liberty e. Theories of Rights: (Theory of Natural Rights, Utilitarian Theory of Rights, Libertarian Theory of Right, Human Rights) f. Individual Rights - Group Rights Debate: Communitarian & Multicultural Perspectives.	25
Unit 4	4. Equality and Justice a. Equality: Evolution of the Concept b. Liberal, Marxist and Feminist understanding of Equality c. Rawls's Libertarian critique of Distributive Justice d. Amartya Sen's views on justice e. Interdependence of Equality and Justice	20
Unit 5	5. Recent trends: Post Modernism & Feminism a. Post Modernism and Changed nature of Knowledge b. Post modernism and Late Capitalism c. Issues raised by Feminism with reference to the nature of Political Theory	25

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- Ball, Terrence and Bellamy, Richard, **The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century Political Thought**, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
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2. Issues in Administration (209007)

Marks: 100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Student is introduced to the key issues pertaining to administrative structures and processes. She is familiarised with the problems that emerge from the interaction of administration with politics and economics.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1. Administration and Politics: Civil Service Neutrality and Integrity a. Relation between Administration and Politics – types of administration and type of political culture b. Neutrality – meaning, Concept of Representative Bureaucracy, Committed Bureaucracy c. Integrity – meaning, administrative corruption, measures to maintain integrity	15
Unit 2	2. Economic Administration in a Planned Economy and Free Market Economy a. Features of Planned System, Role of state in the Planned System, Role of administration in it, Planning Commission b. Planned System – Role of administration in the Russia, Post-Soviet Communist Countries c. Features of Free Market System, Role of state in the Free Market System, Role of Administration in it, Independent Regulatory Commission d. Free Market system – Role of administration in the U.S.A., Advanced Industrialist States	15
Unit 3	3. Administrative Ethics and Accountability a. Importance of Administrative Ethics b. Code of Administrative Ethics c. Ethics as a tool of accountability d. Difference between responsibility and accountability e. Agencies of ensuring accountability	25
Unit 4	4. Governance: Issues and Challenges a. Concept of Governance b. Administrative Reforms and Governance c. Good Governance	20
Unit 5	5. Recent Trends: a. Modernisation of Administration, b. Partnership with Industry c. Non – Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Disaster Management	25

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- Avasthi, A. and Maheshwari, S. **Public Administration**, Agra, L.N. Agarwal, 2004.
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3. Issues in World Politics (209008)

Marks:100 (4 credits)

Objective:

Student is introduced to the mechanism with which nations pursue their interests. She is familiarised with the way they compete, conflict and compromise with each other. She is equipped to analyse and explain the politics at international level.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.Foreign Policy and Diplomacy a. Role of Foreign Policy b. Determinants of Foreign Policy c. Determinants of Diplomacy d. Limitations of Diplomacy	15
Unit 2	2. War, Arms Race and Disarmament a. War: Meaning, Causes, Changes in the nature b. Feminist critique of war c. Arms Race: Causes and Impact d. Disarmament: Means and Efforts	25
Unit 3	3.International Law and Organisation a. Achievements b. Limitations c. Prospects	15
Unit 4	4.Regional Organisations a. Patterns: Economic, Cultural, Strategic, Regional b. Role played in International Relations c. Importance of Regional Organisations	20
Unit 5	5. Contemporary Challenges: Terrorism, Human Rights, Globalisation and Clash of Civilisations a. Terrorism: Phases & Impact on International Relations b. Human Rights: Mechanisms to assure Human Rights, Impact on IR c. Globalisation: Changes in the International Political Economy and consequent implications for international Relations d. Clash of Civilisation: Context, argument and Implications	25

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- Baylis, John and Smith, Steve, **The Globalisation of World Politics. An Introduction**, Oxford University Press, 1997.
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4. Issues in Comparative Politics (209009)

Marks:100 (4 credits)

Objective:

This Course provides a broad overview of the various conceptual frameworks that have been used over the years for comparative political analysis across the paradigms. Student is introduced to the various classificatory schemes that have resulted from such analysis. She is thus equipped to with conceptual tools to undertake comparative political analysis.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1.Political Culture and Socialisation a. Types of Political Culture: Parochial, Subject, Participatory b. Levels of Political Culture: System, Process, Policy c. Agents of Political Socialisation.	20
Unit 2	2. Political Elites and Classes a..Elite Theories: Organisational Approach, Institutional Approach, Economic Approach & Psychological Approach b. Class: Economic class & Social Class: Marxist view & Nicos Poulantzas's views	20
Unit 3	3.Political Parties and Elections a. Determinants & Functions of Political Party b.Typologies of Political Parties: Blondel's Typology, Sartori's Typology & Duverger's Typology c. Electoral Systems for Parliaments & for Presidents d. Elections in Authoritarian Regimes & in Liberal Democracies	20
Unit 4	4.Interest Groups and People's Movements a. Forms of Interest Groups: Anomic, Non – associational, Institutional & Associational. b.Interest Group Systems: Pluralist Interest Group Systems, Democratic Corporatist interest group systems, Controlled Interest Group Systems c. Determinants of People's Movement d. Issues raised by People's Movements	20
Unit 5	5. Political Development and Revolution a. Modernisation as development: Apter's view b. Lucian Pye's view on Political development c. Samuel Huntington's view on Political Development d. Revolution as systemic problem e. Marxist Theory of Revolution f. Skocpol's Theory of Revolution	20

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- Agarwal, Bina, **Structures of Patriarchy**, New Delhi, Kali, 1988.
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- Tornquist, Olle, **Politics and Development: A Critical Introduction**, New Delhi, Sage, 1999.

5. Politics and Society in India (209010)

Marks:100 (4 credits)

Objective:

This Course highlights the dynamics of politics-society interaction in India. Students is familiarised with the impact of social stratification on politics and new forms of popular mobilisation in India. She is equipped with an analytical insight into the political history of the post – independence India.

Unit	Course Content	Marks
Unit 1	1. Salient Features of Indian Political Culture a. People's Participation b. Secularism c. Nationalism d. Voting culture – Political Symbols	15
Unit 2	2. Political Economy of Development in India a. Nehruian Model of Development b. Political Economy of Development in the post – liberalisation period	20
Unit 3	3. Role of Class, Caste and Gender a. Role of Working Class, Agricultural Classes and Middle Class in India b. Dalit Politics & O. B. C. Politics: Pre and Post – Mandal Caste Politics, Regional variations in caste mobilisation c. Issues raised by Women's Movement, Women in Power & Politics of Women's Reservation	25
Unit 4	4. Role of Ethnicity and Religion a. Ethnicity as an aspect of the politics in the North – East b. Factors responsible for communalism, causes of riots & Phases of communal politics.	20
Unit 5	5. Rise of People's Movements a. Context of the rise of people's movement b. Agenda before the people's movements c. Challenges before the people's movements	20

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- Brass, Paul. **The Politics of India since Independence**, New Delhi, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
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