

Govt. Degree College Baramulla.

Syllabus: Political Science 6th Semester (Major/Minor) under NEP 2020

Total Credits: 6 (4 Theory+2 Tutorials) Contact Hours: Theory 64; Tutorials 32

Course Title: CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

PLSC1622M

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the goals and methods of various political ideologies in organizing society and achieving their objectives.
- Analyze and critically evaluate the central themes, development, and key thinkers of major political ideologies such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, fascism, communism, etc.
- Apply political ideologies to analyze real-world political, economic, and social institutions, and to compare and contrast different ideological traditions.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After the end of the course, the students shall be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the central themes of the political ideologies examined.
- Critically read and analyze modern and contemporary texts by key thinkers.
- Apply political ideologies to the analysis of real-world political, economic, and social institutions.

Unit 1: Liberal Tradition

1.1 Origins and Foundational Principles of Liberalism

- (a) John Locke's Social Contract
- (b) John Stuart Mill's Harm Principle

1.2 Classical Liberalism vs. Modern Liberalism

1.3 John Rawls and Contemporary Liberal Thought

1.4 Communitarian Critique of Liberalism

Unit 2: Marxist Tradition

2.1 Core Tenets of Marxist Ideology

- (a) Historical Materialism
- (b) Class Struggle

2.2 Key Neo-Marxist Theorists:

- (a) Antonio Gramsci's Concept of Consent and Hegemony
- (b) Louis Althusser on Ideology and State Apparatuses

Unit 3: Beyond Traditional Paradigms –I

- 3.1 Feminism: Gender Perspectives in Political Ideologies
 - (a) Simone de Beauvoir and Second wave Feminism
 - (b) Judith Butler's Gender Performativity
- 3. Muslim Feminism: Fatema Marnesi & Amina Wadud
- 3.2 Multiculturalism: Core tenets
 - (a) Bhiku Parekh
 - (b) Will Kymlicka

Unit 4: Beyond Traditional Paradigms –II

- 4.1 Nationalism: Concepts and Variations
 - (a) Benedict Anderson's Imagined Communities
 - (b) Ernest Gellner's Modernization Theory of Nationalism
- 4.2 Conservatism: Principles and Evolving Forms
 - (a) The Concept of the Political and the Critique of Liberalism and State of Exception
- 4.3 Radical Critique of Liberalism: Giorgio Agamben on Biopolitics and Homo Sacer

TUTORIALS: PROJECT WORK / PRESENTATION/ DEBATES/ TERM PAPER (2 CREDITS)

TUTORIAL 1

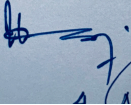
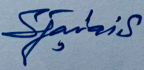
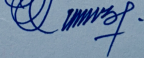
- (c) Understanding Political Spectrum
- (d) Discussion on End of Ideology Thesis

TUTORIAL 2:

- (a) Book Review of Tyranny of Merit (M. Sandel)
- (b) Debating tensions between Multiculturalism & Neo-conservatism
- (c) Field trip to a community for understanding Patriarchy and Exclusion

REFERENCES:

1. John Locke, Two Treatises of Government.
2. John Stuart Mill, On Liberty.
3. John Rawls, A Theory of Justice.
4. Michael J. Sandel, Liberalism and the Limits of Justice.
5. Will Kymlicka, Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction.
6. Charles Taylor, The Ethics of Authenticity.
7. Alasdair MacIntyre, After Virtue.
8. Robert Nozick, Anarchy, State, and Utopia.
9. Isaiah Berlin, Four Essays on Liberty.
10. Gerald Gaus, The Order of Public Reason.
11. Antonio Gramsci, Prison Notebooks.
12. Herbert Marcuse, One Dimensional Man.
13. Nancy Fraser, Unruly Practices: Power, Discourse, and Gender in Contemporary Social Theory.
14. Val Plumwood, Feminism and the Mastery of Nature.
15. Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities.
16. Ernest Gellner, Nations and Nationalism.
17. Roger Scruton, The Meaning of Conservatism.

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Govt. Degree College Baramulla

Syllabus Political Science 6th Semester (Minor) under NEP 2020

Total Credits: 6 (4 Theory+2 Tutorials) Contact Hours: Theory 64; Tutorials 32

Course Title: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

COURSE OBJECTIVES

PLSC2622M

1. To analyze the key concepts and principles in the early Indian political thought, as articulated by prominent Indian Social and Political thinkers
2. To evaluate the influence of early Indian political thought on the socio-political landscape of India, including its impact on governance, nationalism, social justice, and cultural identity.
3. To examine the evolution of political institutions and ideologies in early Indian history, and their relevance to contemporary political discourse and policymaking.
4. To critically assess the diverse and at times conflicting perspectives within early Indian political thought, and to develop a nuanced understanding of the historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts that shaped these ideologies.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students are expected to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the foundational texts and ideas in early Indian political thought, and their significance in shaping the political, social, and cultural fabric of India.
2. Critically analyze and interpret the primary and secondary sources related to early Indian political thought, and articulate well-reasoned arguments about the complexities and nuances of these ideologies.
3. Evaluate the contemporary relevance of early Indian political thought, and its implications for issues such as governance, social justice, nationalism, and cultural pluralism in India.

Unit 1:

- 1.1 Kautilya's Arthashastra: Statecraft and Governance
- 1.2 Gandhi's Concept of Swaraj, Sarvodya and Non-Violence
- 1.3 Nehru's Vision of Nationalism and Democracy

Unit 2:

- 2.1 Ambedkar's views on Social Justice and Caste
- 2.2 Savarkar on Hindutva and Cultural Nationalism
- 2.3 Vivekananda's Vision of a Spiritual Nation

Unit 3:

- 3.1 Dadabhai Naoroji's Economic Nationalism
- 3.2 M. N. Roy: Radical Humanism

3.3 Maulana Azad's Composite Nationalism

Unit 4

4.1 Tagore's Critique of Nationalism

4.2 M A Jinnah on Two Nation Theory

4.3. Pandita Ramabai on Gender

TUTORIALS: PROJECT WORK / PRESENTATION/ DEBATES/ TERM PAPER (2 CREDITS)

TUTORIAL 1

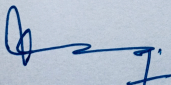
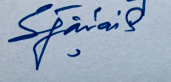
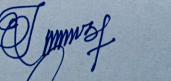
- Cultural Nationalism (Savarkar) vs Civil Nationalism (Nehru)
- Relevance of Gandhian political philosophy in modern times

TUTORIAL 2:

- Kautilya's statecraft in contemporary India
- Quotable Quotes and Collage of the Prominent Indian Political Thinkers

SUGGESTED READINGS:

1. Austin, Granville. Dr Ambedkar and the Indian Constitution. PHI Learning, 2013.
2. Azad, Maulana Abul Kalam. India Wins Freedom. Orient BlackSwan, 2008.
3. Boesche, Roger, Kautilya's Arthashastra: An Intellectual Portrait. Columbia University Press, 2016.
4. Chakrabarty, Bidyut. The Political Thought of the Indian National Congress. Routledge, 1999.
5. Gandhi, Mahatma, Hind Swaraj. Cambridge University Press, 2009.
6. Mehta, V. R. Indian Political Thought.
7. Noorani, A.G. Savarkar and Hindutva: The Godse Connection. Left Word Books, 2002.
8. Pantham, Thomas and Kenneth L. Deutsch. Modern Indian Political Thought.
9. Rangarajan, L.N, The Arthashastra. Penguin Books, 1992.
10. Sen, Amartya. The Argumentative Indian.
11. Sil, Narasingha P. Swami Vivekananda: A Reassessment.

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