

33. POLITICAL SCIENCE

Preface

About the Programme: The four-year undergraduate programme (FYUG), revised as per the New Education Policy 2020 framework is designed to enhance the basic theoretical, conceptual and analytical skills of the students. The undergraduate Programme in Political Science continues to be among the most sought-after and prestigious programmes offered at the University. The course covers the entire spectrum of the major sub-discipline of Political Science, Multidisciplinary Courses (MDCs), Skill Enhancement Courses (SECs), Ability Enhancement Courses (AECs) and Value Added Courses (VACs).

Programme Outcomes: The students will be able to understand the basic concepts, foundational, theoretical and advanced knowledge in Political Science. Courses on Multidisciplinary, Skill Enhancement, Ability Enhancement and Value Added Courses will broaden their understanding of the issues and problems in addition to their core discipline.

POL-100: POLITICAL THEORY

(Contact Hours: 60, Credits: 4)

Course Objectives:

This course aims to introduce basic concepts, ideas and theories in Political Science. It will also examine the various perspectives, dimensions and relevance of political theory.

Learning Outcomes:

This course will enable students to understand the basic political theory concepts and engage them in critically analyzing the subject. It will also provide an opportunity for the students to familiarize themselves with contemporary interpretations of the theories and views of scholars for a deeper understanding of the subject.

Unit I: Nature, Scope and Significance of Political Theory.

Theories of the Origin of State: Social Contract, Evolutionary and Marxist.
Sovereignty: Nature, Characteristics, Monistic and Pluralistic theories.

Unit II: Rights: Natural, Legal and Marxist Theory of Rights.

Liberty: Negative and Positive.

Equality: Kinds of Equality, Relationship between Liberty and Equality.

Unit III: Law: Natural, Sociological and Marxist Theories of Law.
Justice: Natural, Distributive and Social Justice.
Political Obligation: Grounds of Political Obligation and Resistance.

Unit IV: Dimensions of Democracy: Social, Economic and Political;
Liberal and Marxist Perspectives.

Suggested Readings:

- Barker, E., *Principles of Social and Political Theory*, Calcutta, Oxford University Press, 1976.
Barry, N.P., *Introduction to Modern Political Theory*, London, Macmillan, 1995.
Bercht, A., *Political Theory: The Foundations of Twentieth Century Political Thought*, Bombay, The Times of India Press, 1965.
Bhargava, Rajib and A. Acharya, *Political Theory: An Introduction*, Pearson, 2008
Cunningham, F., *Theories of Democracy – A Critical Introduction*, London and New York, Routledge, 2002.
Dahl, R., *A Preface to Democratic Theory*, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1965.
Engels F., *Origin of Family, Private Property and the State*, 1902 (English Edition)
Dunn, J., *Modern Revolutions*, London, The Clarendon Press, 1989.
Held, D., *Models of Democracy*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1987.
-----, *Political Theory Today*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1991.
Heywood, Andrew, *Political Theory: An Introduction*, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2002.
Johari, J. C., *Contemporary Political Theory*, New Delhi, Sterling, 2004.
-----, *Principles of Modern Political Science*, New Delhi, Sterling, 2004.
Kukathas, C and P. Pettit, *Rawls' A Theory of Justice and its Critics*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1998.
Macpherson, C.B., *Democratic Theory: Essays in Retrieval*, Oxford, The Clarendon Press, 1977.
Macpherson, C.B., *The Real World of Democracy*, Oxford University Press, 1970.
Milliband, R., *Marxism and Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1977
Poggi, G., *The State: Its Nature, Development and Prospects*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1990.
Ramaswamy, S., *Political Theory: Ideas and Concepts*, Delhi, Macmillan, 2002.
Sartori, G., *Democratic Theory*, Oxford University Press, 1974.
Singh, R., *Reason, Revolution and Political Theory*, New Delhi, People's Publishing House, 1997.
Thakurdas, F., *Essays in Political Theory*, New Delhi, Gitanjali, 1992.
Varma, S.P., *Modern Political Theory*, New Delhi, Vikas, 1993.
Vincent Andrew, *The Nature of Political Theory*, OUP, 2007.
Wasby, S., *Political Science: The Discipline and its Dimensions*, Calcutta, Scientific Book Agency, 1970.