

Department of Political science

Program outcome:

C-1 Understanding Political Theory

Course Objective:

This course is divided into five units. The units introduce the students to the idea of political theory, its history and approaches, and an assessment of its critical and contemporary trends. Further the last two units tend to reconcile political theory and practice through reflections on the ideas and practices related to State, Citizenship and Democracy.

C-2 Constitutional Government and Democracy in India

Course Objective:

This course acquaints the students with the constitutional design of States' structure and institutions, and their actual working overtime. The Constitution of India accommodates conflicting impulses (of liberty and justice, territorial decentralization, and a strong union, for instance) within itself. The course traces the embodiment of some of these conflicts in constitutional provisions and shows how these have played out in political practice. It further encourages a study of state institutions in their mutual interaction, and in interaction with the larger extra-constitutional environment.

C-3: Political Theory: Concepts and Debates

This course is divided into five units. The Course helps the student familiarize with the basic normative concepts of political theory. Each concept is related to a crucial political issue that requires analysis with the aid of our conceptual understanding. This exercise is designed to encourage critical and reflective analysis and interpretation of social practices through the relevant conceptual toolkit. Further this course introduces the students to the important debates in the subject. These debates prompt us to consider that there is no settled way of understanding concepts and that in the light of new insights and challenges, besides newer ways of perceiving and interpreting the world around us, we inaugurate new modes of political debates.

C-4: Political Process in India

Course objective:

Actual politics in India diverges quite significantly from constitutional legal rules. An understanding of the political process thus calls for a different mode of

analysis - that offered by political sociology. This course maps the working of 'modern' institutions, premised on the existence of an individuated society, in a context marked by communitarian solidarities, and their mutual transformation thereby. It also familiarizes students with the working of the Indian state, paying attention to the contradictory dynamics of modern state power.

C-5 Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics

Course objective: This is a foundational course in comparative politics. The purpose is to familiarize students with the basic concepts and approaches to the study of comparative politics. More specifically the course will focus on examining politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries.

C-6: Perspectives on Public Administration

Objective:

The course introduces the discipline of public administration. This paper encompasses public administration in its historical context with an emphasis on the various classical and contemporary administrative theories. The course also explores some of the recent trends, including feminism and ecological conservation and how the call for greater democratization is restructuring public administration. The course will also attempt to provide the students a comprehensive understanding on contemporary administrative developments.

C-7: Perspectives on International Relations and World History

Course Objective:

This paper seeks to equip students with the basic intellectual tools for understanding International Relations. It introduces students to some of the most important theoretical approaches for studying international relations. The course begins by historically contextualizing the evolution of the international state system before discussing the agency structure problem through the levels-of-analysis approach. After having set the parameters of the debate, students are introduced to different theories in International Relations. It provides a comprehensive overview of the major political developments and events starting from the twentieth century. Students are expected to learn about the key milestones in world history and equip them with the tools to understand and analyze the same from different perspectives. A key objective of the course is to make students aware of the implicit Euro-centrism of International Relations by highlighting certain specific perspectives from the Global South.

C-8: Political Processes and Institutions in Comparative Perspective

Course objective:

In this course students will be trained in the application of comparative methods to the study of politics. The course is comparative in both what we study and how we study. In the process the course aims to introduce undergraduate students to some of the range of issues, literature, and methods that cover comparative political.

C-9: Public Policy and Administration in India

Objective:

The paper seeks to introduce the interface between public policy and administration in India. The essence of public policy lies in its effectiveness in translating the governing philosophy into programs and policies and making it a part of the community living. It deals with issues of decentralization, financial management, citizens and administration and social welfare from a nonwestern perspective.

C-10: Global Politics

Course objective:

This course introduces students to the key debates on the meaning and nature of globalization by addressing its political, economic, social, cultural, and technological dimensions. In keeping with the most important debates within the globalization discourse, it imparts an understanding of the working of the world economy, its anchors and resistances offered by global social movements while analysing the changing nature of relationship between the state and transnational actors and networks. The course also offers insights into key contemporary global issues such as the proliferation of nuclear weapons, ecological issues, international terrorism, and human security before concluding with a debate on the phenomenon of global governance.

C-11: Classical Political Philosophy:

Course objective:

This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes students with the way the political questions were first posed. Machiavelli comes as an interlude inaugurating modern politics followed by Hobbes and Locke. This is a foundation course for students.

C-12: Indian Political Thought:

Course objective:

This course introduces the specific elements of Indian Political Thought

spanning over two millennia. The basic focus of study is on individual thinkers whose ideas are however framed by specific themes. The course is meant to provide a sense of the broad streams of Indian thought while encouraging a specific knowledge of individual thinkers and texts. Selected extracts from some original texts are also given to discuss in class. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

C13: Modern Political Philosophy

Course objective:

Philosophy and politics are closely intertwined. We explore this convergence by identifying five main tendencies here. Students will be exposed to the way the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence.

C14: Indian Political Thought-II

Course objective:

Based on the study of individual thinkers, the course introduces a wide span of thinkers and themes that defines the modernity of Indian political thought. The objective is to study general themes that have been produced by thinkers from varied social and temporal contexts. Selected extracts from original texts are also given to discuss in the class