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ADIKAVI SRI MAHARSHI VALMIKI UNIVERSITY, RAICHUR

DETAILED SYLLABUS
for
M.A POLITICAL SCIENCE

I, II, III and IV Semesters

(Under CBCS & CGPA with effect from 2025-26 onwards)

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
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I SEMESTER

HCT 1.1: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY

Course Objective:

The Political Theory course aims to introduce students to the essential concepts, issues and ideologies that form the foundation of political thought. It focuses on:

- Differentiating between Political theory, Political Philosophy and Political Ideology.
- Exploring key Political Issues Such as state, Power, Legitimacy and Alienation.
- Examining central Political Concepts, Including Justice, Liberty, Equality and Rights.
- Engaging with Major Political Ideologies like Liberalism, Socialism, Multiculturalism, Feminism and Green Political theory to analyze their relevance to Contemporary Politics.

Course Content:

Unit I: An Introduction to Political Theory

- Concept and Nature of Political Theory: Meaning, Definition, evolution and characteristics of Political Theory.
- Scope and Significance of Political Theory: Theoretical frame works, relevance to governance and contemporary political systems.
- Distinction between Political Theory, Political Philosophy and Ideology: Comparative analysis of theory, philosophy and ideology in political thought.

Unit II: Key Issues in Political Theory

- The State and Civil Society: State formation, functions and the role of civil society in politics.
- Political Power and Authority: Definitions of power, authority, legitimacy and their impact on governance.
- Political Alienation and Legitimacy: Causes and consequences of political alienation and the need for legitimacy.

Unit III: Key Concepts in Political Theory

- Justice and Equality: Theories of justice, Rawl's theory of justice, distributive justice and political equality.
- Liberty and Rights: Positive and negative liberty, individual rights and their role in governance.
- Political Obligation: Nature of political obligations, citizen duties and justifications for obedience.

Unit IV : Major Political Theories

- Liberalism: Key principles of liberalism, individual rights and collective ownership.
- Multiculturalism and Identity Politics: Cultural-pluralism, identity politics, group rights and diversity.
- Feminism and Green Political Theory: eco-feminism, environmental sustainability, eco-politics and social justice.

Unit V : Major Political Discourses

- Secularism: Concept, Evolution, Relevance and Contemporary Challenges In Indian Context
- Communalism : Nature and Consequences
- Marxism : Class Struggle and Critique of Capitalism

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Course Outcomes:

1. Understand Key Concepts: Grasp core political concepts like justice, liberty, equality and rights.
2. Distinguish Theories and Ideologies: Differentiate between political theory, philosophy and ideology.
3. Analyze Political Issues: Critically assess key issues like state, power, legitimacy and civil society.
4. Evaluate Political Theories: Engage with major ideologies—liberalism, socialism, multiculturalism, feminism and green theory.
5. Apply Theory to Practice: Use political theory to analyze and address real-world political challenges.

References:

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- Dryzek John S. et al (ed.). The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory. OUP, 2008.
- Farrelly, Colin. Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory. Sage Publications, 2004.
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- Rawls, John. A theory of Justice London: OUP, 1972.
- Rawls, John. Political Liberalism. New York: Columbia University Press, 1993
- Shiva, Vandana and Maria Mies. *Ecofeminism*. Zed Books Ltd.,1993.



HCT 1.2: DEBATES ON CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORIES

Course Objectives

- This course seeks to introduce the students to major approaches in the origing political life and to the major concepts in the discourse of politics.
- The course tries to make the students understand how the social and power relations are theorized by various theoretical projects.

Course Content

UNIT I: Debates on freedom

- Freedom as autonomy (Kant, Mill)
- Negative vs. Positive Liberty (Berlin, Mac Callum)
- Freedom as Development (Sen)

UNIT II: Debates on Equality

- Equality of Opportunity and Structural Inequalities
- Gender Equality and Inter sectionality
- Protective Discrimination and Social Justice

UNIT III: Debates on Justice

- Consequentialist vs. Deontological
- Global Justice and Human Rights
- Communitarian and Feminist Conceptions

UNIT IV : Debates on Rights

- Moral vs. Legal conceptions
- Positivist and the Marxist Theories of Rights
- Human Rights vs. Cultural Relativism

UNIT V : Debates on Identity Politics

- Caste Politics : Dalit Assertion and OBC Mobilization
- Regional and Religious Identity
- Gender : Feminist Activism

Course Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students will:

1. Understand Key Concepts: Grasp debates on freedom, equality, justice and rights.
2. Analyze Theoretical Approaches: Critically assess various political theories and their implications.
3. Engage with Contemporary Issues: Connect theoretical frame works to current political challenges and debates.
4. Apply Theory to Practice: Use theoretical insights to inform discussions on social justice and human rights.
5. Appreciate Interdisciplinary Connections: Recognize the interplay between political theory and fields like sociology and economics.

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- Nelson, E.,2005, 'Liberty: One Concept Too Many?' *Political Theory*, 33, pp.58-78.
- G. E. G. Catlin, *Study of the Principles of Politics*, Macmillan, New York, 1930.
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- Cohen, G. A. ,2008, *Rescuing Justice and Equality*, Harvard University Press:1-14.
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- Rawls, John,2001, *Justice as Fairness: are statement*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press (excerpts)
- Walzer, M,1983, *Spheres of Justice*, New York :Basic Books. Hillel, 1994, *An Essay on Rights*, Oxford: Blackwell. (Ch. 3)
- Waldron, Jeremy, 1989, "Rights in Conflict", *Ethics* 99/3:503-19.
- Wenar, Leif, 2005,"The Nature of Rights ",*Philosophy and Public Affairs*,33:223–53.
- Bellamy, Richard, 1999, *Liberalism and Pluralism: Towards a Politics of Compromise*, London: Rout ledge, 1999, Ch. 1.
- Callann, Eamonn,2004, 'Citizenship and Education', *Annual Review of Political Science*, 7: 71- 90.
- Taylor, Charles, etal, 1994,*Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*, Princeton: Princeton University Press

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HCT1.3: THEORIES OF DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Course Objective

This course aims to explore the intricate relationship between democracy and development, focusing on their conceptual foundations, theoretical frameworks and real-world applications. Students will analyze the evolution of democratic thought and the shifting paradigms of development, considering both classical and contemporary perspectives. The course also highlights the global challenges to democracy and development, with special emphasis on case studies from various countries.

Course Content

Unit I: Foundations of Democracy and Development

- Concept and Evolution of Democratic Theory: origins and evolution of democracy.
- Nature and Determinants of Development: the changing nature and key factors driving development.
- Significance of Democracy and Development: Importance of these concepts in shaping political, social and economic landscapes.

Unit II: Core Theories of Democracy and Development

- **Classical and Modern Democratic Theories:** Key principles and models in democratic thought.
- Theories of Development: Modernization, Marxist, Dependency and Structuralism
- Democracy's Core Principles: Political freedom, equality and popular participation.

Unit III: Democracy as a Perpetual Revolution

- Dynamic Nature of Democracy: Evolving process, active citizen engagement and continuous adaptation.
- Key Paradoxes: Popular sovereignty, elite control, inequality tensions.
- Governance Implications: Grass roots participation, cultural relevance, effective democratic practices.

Unit IV: Models of Development

- Socialist Model
- Capitalist Model
- Welfare Model

Unit V: Global Challenges and Contemporary Trends

- Democracy in Practice: India, America and Bangladesh.
- Development Challenges in Globalization: Economic and political struggles in India and Brazil.
- Recent Trends in Development : Sustainable and inclusive development, resistance to displacement and post-structural critiques.

Course Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students will:

This course examines the relationship between democracy and development, providing insights into their theories, principles and global implications.

1. Understanding of Democratic and Development Theories: Students will grasp the origins, evolution and significance of key theories of democracy and development.

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2. Critical Analysis of Core Theories: Learners will critically assess classical and modern theories, including modernization, Marxist and dependency models.
3. Application of Theoretical Knowledge: Students will apply theoretical insights to analyze democratic practices and development challenges in countries like India, America and Brazil.
4. Engagement with Global Trends: Learners will evaluate contemporary trends in sustainable and inclusive development and address the challenges posed by globalization.
5. Asses Contemporary debates in democracy and development including globalization and human development.

References:

- Dahl, R.A.(1998). On democracy. Yale University Press.
- Sen, A.(1999). Development as freedom. Knopf.
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- Huntington, S.P.(1991).The third wave: Democratization in the late twentieth century. University of Oklahoma Press.
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- Nussbaum, M. C. (2011). Creating capabilities: The human development approach. Belknap Press.
- Giddens,A.(1990).The consequences of modernity. Stanford University Press.
- Cornwall, A. ,& Coelho,V.S.P.(2007). Spaces for change ? The politics of citizen participation in new democratic arenas. Zed Books.
- Escobar, A.(1995).Encountering development: The making and unmaking of the third world. Princeton University Press.

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HCT 1.4: ADMINISTRATIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT THEORIES

Course Objective

The course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the foundational and contemporary administrative and organizational management theories. It focuses on the evolution of administrative thought, the principles of effective management and the impact of emerging trends such as good governance, social equity, e-governance and globalization. The objective is to equip students with analytical tools to critically engage with administrative practices in both historical and modern contexts, fostering their ability to apply these concepts in real-world public administration and management scenarios.

Course Content:

Unit I: Foundations of Administrative Theory

- Concept and Nature of Administrative Theory: Meaning, definitions and characteristics.
- Scope and Importance in Public Administration
- Historical Evolution of Public Administration: Development of public administration as an academic discipline.

Unit II : Principles of organization

- Hierarchy
- Unity of Command
- Span of Control

Unit III : Foundations of Administrative Thought and Practice

- Kautilya's Principles of Governance: Insights from ancient Indian political philosophy.
- Scientific Approach: Wilson, F.W. Taylor and Elton Mayo
- Chester Bernard, M.P. Follet and Max Weber

Unit IV: Classical and Modern Management Theories

- Gulick & Urwick's Organizational Insights: organizational structure and management principles
- Herbert Simon, Rensis Likert
- Peter Drucker, Chris Argyris, Douglas McGregor

Unit V: Emerging Trends in Public Administration

- New Public Administration Paradigm: Focus on social equity and responsive governance (Dwight Waldo, George Frederickson)
- Principles of Good Governance: Robert Dahl, Amartya Sen
- E-Governance and Globalization Impact: Influence of technology and global dynamics on public administration (Manuel Castells, Jane Fountain)

Course Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students will:

1. Grasp key concepts, nature and evolution of administrative theory.
2. Analyse classical and modern administrative thinkers like Kautilya, Wilson and Chester Bernard.
3. Apply management theories from thinkers like Gulick, Herbert Simon and Peter Drucker.
4. Understand emerging trends such as New Public Administration, Good Governance and E-Governance.
5. Develop a critical understanding of social equity and responsive governance in public administration.

References:

- Stillman, R.J.(2010).Public administration: Concepts and cases(9thed.). Cengage Learning.
- Fadia,B.L.(2011).Principlesofpublicadministration.SahityaBhawanPublications.
- Kautilya. (1915). Kautilya's Arthashastra (R. Shamasastri, Trans.).Bangalore Government Press. (Original work published circa 300 BCE)
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- Frederickson, H.G.(1980).New public administration. University of Alabama Press.
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SCT 1.1 (A): COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Course Objective:

This course aims to provide an in-depth understanding of Comparative Politics by exploring its theoretical foundations, methodologies and practical applications. The course addresses variations in political systems and processes, focusing on political development in Third World countries. It emphasizes alternative theoretical models, paradigms of development and underdevelopment in Comparative Politics.

Course Content:

Unit I: Foundations of Comparative Politics

- Evolution of Comparative Politics: Meaning, Nature and Scope
- Approaches to Comparative Politics: Political Sociology, Political Economy and structural functionalism approaches.
- Core Concepts: State, Nation and Democracy: Theoretical understanding in comparative context.

Unit II: Approaches to Comparative politics:

- Behavioral Approach
- System Approach
- Marxist Approach

Unit III: Comparative Political Systems and Institutions

- Constitutions and Political Institutions: Comparative analysis of India, UK & USA
- Political Culture and Socialization: Meaning and components
- Party Systems and Political Participation: Types of party systems and their role in democratic participation.

Unit IV: Political Development and Modernization

- Political Development: Lucian Pye and Marxian perspectives.
- Modernization and Social Change: theories and their relevance to social change in politics.
- Elite Theory and Political Change: Analysis of elite theory by Pareto, Mosca, Michels and C. Wright Mills.

Unit V: Comparative Political Movements and Emerging Trends

- Comparative Perspectives on Regimes: Analysis of parliamentary, military and communist regimes in global contexts.
- Political Movements: Women's (Suffragette Movement, The Women's March), Environment(Climate Change) and Human Rights(Civil Rights Movement, Anti-Apartheid Movement)
- Emerging Trends in Comparative Politics : Democratization, Globalization and the resurgence of democracy.



Course Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students will:

1. Gain a comprehensive understanding of the evolution, nature and scope of comparative politics.
2. Develop analytical skills to compare political systems, constitutions and institutions across countries like India, the UK and the US.
3. Understand key political theories, including modernization, elite theory and political development and their relevance to social change.
4. Analyze global political movements such as women's rights, environmental activism and human rights campaigns, while exploring emerging trends like democratization and globalization.
5. Apply Comparative Politics analysis to examine contemporary global issues such as globalization and identity politics.

References:

- Lucian W. Pye, Aspects of Political Development, Amerind Publications, New Delhi, 1966.
- M. Curtis, Comparative Government & Politics: An Introductory Essay in Political Science, Harper & Row, New York, 1978.
- Jean Blondel, Comparative Government: A Reader, Macmillan Press, London, 1975.
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- Classes Movement in India, Manohar Publications, New Delhi, 1987.
- Roy C. Maeridis, The Study of Comparative Govern



SCT1.2 (B): DEBATES ON CONTEMPORARY INDIAN POLITICS

Course Objective

- To understand the dynamics of contemporary Indian politics, focusing on governance, electoral reforms and participatory democracy.
- To explore the role of women in Indian politics and their contribution to social movements and policy reforms.
- To critically examine key social issues such as communalism, secularism and affirmative action in India.
- To analyze India's foreign policy, nuclear disarmament and its international relations with major global powers.

This course aims to equip students with an in-depth understanding of Indian politics, governance and India's evolving global role.

Course content

Unit I: Governance, Political Participation and Electoral Dynamics

- **Government and Governance:** Role of participatory Governance in Promoting inclusive Decision-Making.
- **Political Participation and Women:** Political Participation and representation of women in Indian political institutions.
- **Electoral System and Reforms:** India's electoral processes, reforms and challenges

Unit II: Institutional Frame work and Judicial Reforms

- **Parliament and Executive:** Roles, structures and challenges in Indian Legislative and Executive branches.
- **Judiciary and Judicial Activism:** judicial activism and its role in promoting social justice.
- Federalism and Parliamentary Democracy

Unit III: Democracy in India

- Nature and Structure of Indian Democracy: Elections and Election Commission
- Process of Indian Democracy: Party System and Interest Groups
- Women in the Political Process and Electoral Politics

Unit IV: Social Movements, Affirmative Action and Policy Reforms

- Challenges to the Reservation Policies in India
- **Women's Movements in India:** key women's movements and their influence on policy reforms (e.g., women's rights, education, gender equality).
- **Affirmative Action and Reservation Policies:** caste and gender-based reservations and their role in achieving social justice.

Unit V: Political Mobilization Affirmative Action and Policy Reforms

- Party based Mobilization
- Issues based Mobilization
- Movement based Mobilization



Course Outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students will:

1. Explain the major debates and emerging issues in contemporary Indian politics .
2. Students will gain insights into the participatory nature of governance and the significance of electoral reforms in India.
3. Understand the impact of women's political participation and social movements on policy-making in India.
4. Critically evaluate social justice mechanisms like affirmative action and reservations within the context of Indian politics..
5. Analyse India's international relations, foreign policy and global diplomatic engagements.

References:

- Austin, G.(1999). *The Indian Constitution: Cornerst one of a Nation*. Oxford University Press.
- Chatterjee,P.(2006).*The Politics of the Governed: Reflections on Popular Politics in Most of the World*. Columbia University Press.
- Dreze, J., & Sen, A. (2013). *An Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contradictions*. Princeton University Press.
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