

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

The B.A. Programme with Honours in Political Science has been designed so as to acquaint the students with the basic concepts of the subjects. The Course will prepare the students to pursue higher studies.

C-1: Course Objective: This course is divided into two sections. Section A introduces the students to the idea of political theory, its history and approaches, and an assessment of its critical and contemporary trends. Section B is designed to reconcile political theory and practice through reflections on the ideas and practices related to democracy.

Course Outcomes:

1. To introduce the idea of political theory and various approaches
2. To enable the students to assess the contemporary trends of political theory
3. To reconcile theory and practice in relation to democracy

C-2: Course objective: This course acquaints students with the constitutional design of state structures and institutions, and their actual working overtime. The Indian Constitution 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To acquaint students with constitutional design of state structures and institutions
2. To understand the conflicts in constitutional provisions
3. To make them comprehend the state institutions in relation to extra constitutional environment.

GE1: Course Objective: This course aims to introduce certain key aspects of conceptual analysis in political theory and the skills required to engage in debates surrounding the application of the concepts.

Course Outcomes:

1. To introduce the key concepts in political theory
2. To make students understand the aspects of conceptual analysis
3. To engage the students in application of concepts and their limitations

C3: Course Objective: This course is divided into two sections. Section A 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. Section B 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.

Course outcomes:

After reading the course, the students would

1. Understand the various concepts in political theory and appreciate how they can be helpful to analyse crucial political issues
2. Understand the significance of debates in political theory in exploring multiple perspectives to concepts, ideas and issues.
3. Appreciate how these concepts and debates enrich political life and issues surrounding it.

C4: 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.

Course outcomes:

1. Understand the working of major political institutions in India
2. Understand the major debates in Indian politics along the axes of caste, gender, region and religion
3. Understand the changing nature of the Indian state and the contradictory dynamics of modern state power .

GE2:

Course objectives:

The course would introduce the students to the major approaches to the study of Indian Politics. The course details the functioning of the major institutions of government while also highlighting the politics of caste, class and patriarchy prevalent in India. The thrust of this course is not to study the national constituents separately but to look at the institutions, processes, problems, and solutions that pertain to the country as a whole.

Course outcomes:

1. To appreciate the approaches to the study of Indian politics and the changing nature of the state
2. To understand the basic features of the Indian constitution and its institutional functioning
3. To examine the changing role of caste, class and patriarchy and their impact on politics
4. To understand the dynamics of social movements in India.

C5: 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To make students understand the basic concepts in comparative politics,
2. To make students classify the different political systems and historical context of modern governments,
3. To enable students to have a comparative analysis of countries related to their political institutions and behaviour

C6: Course Objective: The course provides an introduction to 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To enable students to learn the basic concepts related to public administration and its importance,
2. To make students learn the major theories of public administration,

3. To enable students to have an understanding of public policy and its formulation,
4. To familiarize students with the major approaches and recent debates related to field of public administration.

C7: 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 fairly 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 - centricism of International Relations by highlighting certain specific perspectives from the Global South.

Course outcomes:

1. To make students understand the key theoretical approaches in International relations,
2. To familiarize students with the evolution of International state systems and its importance.
3. To make students aware of the key theoretical debates in International relations
4. To enable students to have an overall understanding of International relations in relation to twentieth century IR history.

SEC1: Course Objective: The Proposed course aims to acquaint student with the structure and manner of functioning of the legal system in India.

Expected Learning Outcome: The student should be aware of the institutions that comprise the legal system - the courts, police, jails and the system of criminal justice administration. Have a brief of the Constitution and laws of India, an understanding of the formal and alternate dispute redressal (ADR) mechanisms that exist in India, public interest litigation. Have some working knowledge of how to affirm one's rights and be aware of one's duties within the legal framework; and the opportunities and challenges posed by the legal system for different sections of persons.

GE3: 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To make students have a basic understanding of comparative political analysis,
2. To make students learn the classification of political systems from a comparative politics framework.
3. To make students learn the classification of governments and the political behaviour of institutions and the changes in the nature of the nation-state.

C8: 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 politics.

Course Outcomes:

1. To understand, comprehend and analyse the complex nature and functioning of the political systems, political institutions and corresponding issues to these both in a country specific case of India and cross-country perspectives.
2. To demonstrate critical thinking about key issues of political system of different forms, political process and public policy.
3. To use the contents and sub-units of the course as yardsticks for comparing these political systems and processes.

C9: Course Objectives: The paper seeks to provide an introduction to 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 non-western perspective.

Course Outcomes:

1. Be familiarised with and gain knowledge about the processes of public policy making in India and their significance in administering the state.
2. Develop the ability to assess the functioning of the government and the administration in ensuring a citizen centric welfare administration in India.

C10: 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 analyzing the changing nature of relationship between the state and trans-national 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To enable students to understand how to approach a wide range of important global political and economic policy problems and participate in public policy debates on the crucial issues facing the world today.
2. To have knowledge of the essential theoretical assumptions underlying globalisation's conceptual frameworks and their relationships to policy interventions.
3. To demonstrate elementary knowledge of major issues and subject-matters surrounding globalisation that decides the international relations- *political, economic and security relations*- among the nations .

SEC2: Course Objective: The objective of an undergraduate application course for common students in Peace and Conflict Studies will cover in-depth knowledge of conflict analysis, conflict resolution, conflict prevention, as well as the historical and cultural context of organized violence. Peace and Conflict addresses the sources of war, social oppression and violence and the challenges of promoting peace and justice internationally and domestically. It also introduces more equitable, cooperative and nonviolent methods that can be used to transform unjust, violent or oppressive world situations. This course provides students with an overview of the Peace and Conflict Studies discipline, including key concepts and related theories. The course is designed to familiarize students with the historical background of various peace movements, to analyze principles used to resolve conflict, and to provide a view of how peace and conflict resolution are being pursued today. The course will also cover extensive understanding of current research and development within the field of peace and conflict studies and perspective of the environment, gender, migration, and ethnicity.

Course Outcomes:

1. To familiarise the students regarding Peace and Conflict Studies.

2. The course will provide understanding of current research and development within the field of peace and conflict studies.
3. To give the students knowledge regarding the challenges of promoting peace and justice internationally and domestically.

GE4: Course Objective: This Course is designed to give students a sense of some important theoretical approaches to understand international relations; a history from 1945 onwards to the present; and an outline of the evolution of Indian foreign policy since independence and its possible future trajectory.

Course Outcomes:

1. To demonstrate basic understanding of scientific methods of inquiry in international relations.
2. To understand how international relations influence societies.
3. To demonstrate a basic understanding of the foundational theories and concepts in international relations.
4. To analyse the current world events and their implications on the Indian Foreign policy decision making process by applying prominent theories of international relations and generate substantial research question on the topics.

C11: Course objective: This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes students with the manner in which the political questions were first posed. Machiavelli comes as an interlude inaugurating modern politics followed by Hobbes and Locke. This is a basic foundation course for students.

Course Outcomes:

1. To interpret ideas underlying traditions in classical political philosophy
2. To analyze the debates and arguments of leading political philosophers belonging to different traditions of the period
3. To appraise the relevance of classical political philosophy in understanding contemporary politics .

C12: 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 as a whole 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.

Course Outcomes:

1. To underline themes and issues in political traditions of pre-colonial India.
2. To compare and contrast positions of different political traditions those were present in pre-colonial India.
3. To evaluate the relevance of political thought of pre-colonial India for contemporary politics.

DSE1: Course objective: This course attempts to build an understanding of human rights among students through a study of specific issues in a comparative perspective. It is important for students to see how debates on human rights have taken distinct forms historically and in the contemporary world. The course seeks to anchor all issues in the Indian context, and pulls out another country to form a broader comparative frame. Students will be expected to use a range of resources, including films, biographies, and official documents to study each theme. Thematic discussion of sub-topics in the second and third sections should include state response to issues and structural violence questions.

Course Outcomes:

1. To describe the basic concepts of human rights
2. To comprehend different approaches regarding human rights
3. To familiarise the role of UNO in the growth and development of human rights
4. To describe different measures taken for the protection of human rights

DSE2: Course objective: This course opens up the question of women's agency, taking it beyond 'women's empowerment' and focusing on women as radical social agents. It attempts to question the complicity of social structures and relations in gender inequality. This is extended to cover new forms of precarious work and labour under the new economy. Special attention will be paid to feminism as an approach and outlook. The course is divided into broad units, each of which is divided into three sub-units.

Course Outcomes:

1. To explain key concepts that offers an understanding of gender inequality.
2. To appraise the historical evolution of the Women's movement in India and issues addressed by it.

3. To underline the contemporary issues that affect women's participation in politics.

C13: Course objective: Philosophy and politics are closely intertwined. We explore this convergence by identifying four main tendencies here. Students will be exposed to the manner in which the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence.

Course Outcome:

1. To interpret ideas underlying traditions in modern political philosophy
2. To analyze the debates and arguments of leading political philosophers of different philosophical traditions
3. To appraise the relevance of modern political philosophy in understanding contemporary politics.

C14: 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. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

Course Outcomes:

1. To underline themes and issues in political thought of modern India.
2. To compare and contrast positions of leading political thinkers in India on issues those are constitutive of modern India.
3. To assess the relevance of political thought of modern India in understanding contemporary politics.

DSE3:

Course Objective: The course introduces the historical legacies and geopolitics of South Asia as a region. It imparts an understanding of political regime types as well as the socioeconomic issues of the region in a comparative framework. The course also apprises students of the common challenges and the strategies deployed to deal with them by countries in South Asia.

Course Outcomes:

1. To identify geo-political and historical construction of South Asia as a region.
2. To analyse the politics and socio-economic issues of the South Asian Region.
3. To assess the relevance of regionalism in South Asia and India's position in the region.

DSE4: Course Objective: This course's objective is to teach students the domestic sources and the structural constraints on the genesis, evolution and practice of India's foreign policy. The Endeavour is to highlight integral linkages between the 'domestic' and the 'international' aspects of India's foreign policy by stressing on the shifts in its domestic identity and the corresponding changes at the international level. Students will be instructed on India's shifting identity as a postcolonial state to the contemporary dynamics of India attempting to carve its identity as an 'aspiring power'. India's evolving relations with the superpowers during the Cold War and after, bargaining strategy and positioning in international climate change negotiations, international economic governance, international terrorism and the United Nations facilitate an understanding of the changing positions and development of India's role as a global player since independence.

Course Outcomes:

1. To highlight integral linkages between the 'domestic' and the 'international' aspects of India's foreign policy.
2. To identify India's attempt to carve its identity as an 'aspiring power'.
3. India's evolving relations with the superpowers during the Cold War and as well as after independence.