PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY
B.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE

MAIN PAPERS

First year

First Semester
Paper-I- Principles of Political Science
Paper II- Ancient and Medieval Western Political Thought

Second Semester
Paper-III- Basic Political Concepts and Ideologies
Paper IV- Modern Western Political Thought

Second Year

Third Semester
Paper- V – Indian Constitution
Paper VI- Modern Governments.

Fourth Semester
Paper VII- Politics in India
Paper VIII- Comparative Politics

Third Year

Fifth Semester
Paper- IX- Principles of Public Administration
Paper X - International Relations
Paper XI- Ancient Indian Political Thought
Paper XII –Major Issues in Contemporary Politics
Paper XIII- International Organisation.
Third Year

Sixth Semester

Paper XIV- Development Administration
Paper XV- Human Rights
Paper XVI- Modern Indian Political Thought
Paper XVII- India’s Foreign Policy
Paper XVIII- Local Self Government in India
PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY

B. A. POLITICAL SCIENCE

First Semester

PAPER I- PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Course Rationale

This paper deals with basic concepts and ideas in Political Science. The purpose of this introductory paper is to accustom students at the UnderGraduate level with theoretical background of Political Science.

Course Contents

2. State - definition and elements, origin and development of State, distinction between state and society, state and associations, state and Government, nation, nationalism and citizenship.
3. Government - organs-legislature, executive and judiciary
   Forms of Government - Unitary and Federal, Parliamentary and Presidential forms
4. Sovereignty- nature and kinds, Austin’s theory of sovereignty, pluralistic view, power and authority.
5. Law- definition, sources of law, and kinds of law; Justice - definition and kinds of justice.

Books Recommended


PAPER - II

ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Course Rationale

This paper highlights the classical tradition in political theory in the ancient and medieval era. Through this course the students are expected to learn political theorizing done by masters of western political thought during the ancient and medieval times.

Course Contents.

1. Greek Political thought- features
2. Plato
3. Aristotle
4. Medieval political thought- St.Agustine and St. Thomas Acquinas
5. Transition from medieval to modern period, Machiavelli.

Books Recommended

4. W. A. Dunning, History of Political Theories, Central Publishing House, Allahabad,
5. J. Hampton, Political Philosophy, West View, USA, 1997.
Second Semester

PAPER -III
BASIC POLITICAL CONCEPTS AND IDEOLOGIES

Course Rationale
This paper highlights the role of some basic concepts and political ideologies. The philosophical bases of ideologies have to be studied for better understanding of political theory.

Course Contents

1. Equality and liberty.
2. Democracy- types of democracy, prerequisites for the successful working, democratization as a process.
3. Election process -theories of franchise, minority representation.
5. Spheres of state activity - anarchism ,individualism , idealism ,liberalism, socialism and communism.

Books Recommended

4. J.C. Charlsworth, A Design of Political Science, Scope , Objectives and Methods.
7. S.P. Verma, Modern Political Theory, Vikas Publishing house, New Delhi, 1975
Course Rationale

The study of this paper enables the students at undergraduate level to obtain the classical political tradition in the modern era. The political ideas and thoughts of political philosophers from Thomas Hobbes to Karl Marx have been included in the paper.

Course Contents

1. Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Rousseau
2. Montesquieu and Edmund Burke
3. J.S. Mill and Jeremy Bentham
4. T.H. Green and Hegel
5. Karl Marx.

Books Recommended

2. William Ebenstein, *Great Political Thinkers (from Plato to Present)*
3. ---------------------, *Modern Political Thought, Great Issues*, Oxford & IHB, New Delhi, 1970
Course Rationale

This paper focuses on political processes and functioning of Indian political system within the framework of the Constitution of India. Basic principles of the Constitution and the structure and working of government machinery have been included in this paper.

Course Contents

3. Executive – central and state
4. Legislature- central and state
5. Integrated Judiciary- Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts.

Books Recommended


Course Rationale

The objective of this paper is to impart basic knowledge of the working major modern political systems. This paper includes the study of the governmental systems of U.K, USA, France, Switzerland and China.

Course Contents

1. Constitution of U.K
   Features of the Constitution
   Crown and the King, Prime Minister and the Cabinet
   British Parliament
   Judicial system
   Political parties

2. Constitution of U.S.A
   Features of the Constitution
   The Presidency
   The Congress
   The Judiciary
   Political parties

3. Constitution of France
   Features of the Constitution
   The President of France
   Legislature in France
   French Judiciary, administrative Law
   Multi - Party system in France
4. Constitution of Switzerland
   Features of the Constitution
   Direct Democracy in Switzerland
   The Federal Council
   The Federal Assembly
   The Federal Tribunal

5. Constitution of China
   Features of the Constitution
   Executive China
   Legislature in China
   Judiciary in China
   One–Party system

Books recommended.
5. V. D. Mahajan, Select Modern Governments, S, Chand and o, New Delhi, 1986.
Fourth Semester

PAPER VII- POLITICS IN INDIA

Course Rationale

In the modern system of representative government various elements and forces influence the political process. This paper deals with these matters in the Indian context.

Course Contents

1. Democracy in India- political parties, electoral process, and voting behaviour
2. Pressure group politics in India
4. Issues in Centre – state relations

Books Recommended

Course Rationale

This paper deals with theoretical evolution and approaches to the study of Comparative Politics. It helps to have fundamental grasp over the various theories and explanations regarding political development in various nations.

Course Contents

1. Comparative Politics- meaning, nature and scope.
2. Constitution and Constitutionalism
3. Federalism, Separation of Powers and Judicial review
4. Party systems- features of the three party systems
5. Political Culture and Political socialization

Books Recommended.

Fifth Semester

PAPER IX- PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Course Rationale

This paper is an introductory course in public administration. The essence of public administration lies in its effectiveness in translating government philosophy into policies and programmes. This course highlights the above mentioned aspect and related matters.

Course Contents

1. Definition, nature and scope of public administration, politics – administration dichotomy, public and private administration, public administration and other social sciences.
2. Organisation- types, bases and principles of organization, structure of organization- Chief Executive, Line, staff and auxiliary agencies
3. Personnel administration- civil service, recruitment, training, promotion and retirement. Bureaucracy-meaning and features.
4. Management- policy formulation, planning, decision-making, leadership and communication
5. Financial administration- principles of budgeting, enactment of budget. Control over public administration- legislative, executive and judicial control

Books Recommended


Course Rationale

This paper deals with concepts and dimensions of international relations and makes an analysis of different theories and concepts. This course is designed to acquaint the students with basic orientation in the area of international relations.

Course Contents

1. Nature and scope of international politics, political realism and idealism.
2. Nature of sovereign state system its evolution and post World War I international order.
3. National power and national interest, balance of power and its relevance.
5. Foreign policy- factors influencing formulation of foreign policy and instruments of foreign policy.

Books Recommended

Course Rationale

This is an introductory paper to study the concepts and ideas that developed in ancient India. It highlights main sources of political tradition in ancient India.

Course Contents.

1. Nature and characteristics of ancient Indian political thought,
2. Political philosophy of Vedanta- evolution and basic concepts.
3. Buddhist political thought-evolution and basic concepts
4. Socio-political ideas in Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagavat Gita.
5. Political ideas of Manusmriti and Kautilya’s Arthasastra

Books Recommended

5. A. Appadurai, Indian Political Thought in the Twentieth Century, South Asia Publishers, New Delhi, 1987.
6. ------------, Indian Political Thinking Through Ages, Khanna Publishers, Delhi, 1992.
MAJOR ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

Course Rationale

The end of cold war has seen the emergence of social, economic cultural and humanitarian concerns to the forefront of policy making initiatives. The objective of this paper is to study these concerns and their impact on politics.

Course Contents

1. Process and problems of democratic expansion.
2. State and Civil society
3. Global Politics after 1989 and challenges of terrorism
4. Empowerment of Weaker sections
5. Globalisation and its impact

Books Recommended

1. J.C. Johari, Indian Political System, Anmol Publications, New Delhi, 1996.
Course Rationale

This paper studies the evolution and the development of international organizations from its inception till present times. It also focuses on the problems that confront international organizations.

Course Contents

1. Evolution of international organization- the League of Nations
2. The United Nations: structure and functions, specialised agencies of UNO –
3. WTO, GATT, IMF and World Bank
4. Military Pacts- NATO, SEATO
5. Regional Organizations- SAARC, ASEAN, OPEC and European Union.

Books Recommended

**Sixth Semester**

**PAPER – XIV**

**DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION**

**Course Rationale**

As a branch of public administration, development administration became popular from 1960s. This course has been designed to acquaint the students with various aspects of development administration with special reference to India.

**Course Contents**

1. Development administration- evolution and meaning.
2. Approaches to development administration- area development approach, target group approach, minimum needs approach and people centre approach.
3. Planning process in India, role of Planning Commission, State Planning Boards and NDC.
4. Bureaucracy and development administration- role in policy formulation and implementation.
5. Decentralised governance- role of PRIs in development administration.

**Books Recommended**


PAPER - XV
HUMAN RIGHTS

Course Rationale

Human rights have acquired a new significance since the end of Second World War in shaping relations between countries. This course has been designed to study human rights as part of international relations

Course Contents

1. Evolution of the concept, definition and relation with international relations.
2. Generation of Human rights-
   a) civil and political rights
   b) socio-economic and cultural rights
   c) collective rights
4. International Covenant on Civil and Political rights-1966;

Books Recommended

PAPER - XVI
MODERN INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Course Rationale

This paper deals with classical political tradition in modern India. It emphasizes on the contribution of Indian political thinkers in the modern era to political theorizing.

Course Contents

1. Social reform movements and political ideas in the 19th and 20th century- Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Vivekananda and Dayananda Saraswati.
2. Moderates and Extremists- Ranade, Gokhale, Tilak and Aurobindo.
4. Gandhian thought- satyagraha and sarvodaya

Books Recommended

1. V.P. Verma, Modern Indian Political Thought, Lakshmi Narayan Agarwal, Agra, 1974.
4. -----------, Indian Political Thinking in the 20th Century, South Asia Publishers, New Delhi, 1987.
5. R.A. Sinari, The Structure of Indian Thought, Oxford University press, Delhi, 1989.
Course Rationale

India’s foreign policy reflects the philosophy of India as a sovereign democratic nation and her role in global politics. This paper deals with basic principles of India’s foreign policy and her relation with other nations.

Course Contents

1. Sources and principles of India’s foreign policy
2. Factors determining India’s foreign policy
3. India and Non-Alignment Movement
4. India and her neighbors
5. India and Big powers.

Books Recommended

2. A. Appadurai, Domestic Roots of India’s Foreign Policy, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1981.
5. R. Bradrock, India’s Foreign Policy, Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, 1990.
PAPER - XVIII
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

Course Rationale

India has experimented with local self government from ancient times. However, democratic decentralisation became mandatory only after the passing of 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment. This paper deals with evolution of local self governing institutions in India, working of PRIs and related issues. Study of the PRIs in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been included.

Course Contents

2. Democratic decentralisation and evolution of local self governing institutions in India.
3. 73rd and 74th amendments and working of PRIs in India.
5. Local self governing institutions in the and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, working of the PRIs in the Islands.

Books Recommended