PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY

M. A. POLITICAL SCIENCE

FIRST SEMESTER

1. Political Theory
2. Western Political Thought
3. Public Administration
4. International Relations

SECOND SEMESTER

5. Indian Political System
6. Comparative Politics
7. Indian Political Thought
8. Political Sociology

THIRD SEMESTER

9. Research Methodology
10. International Law
11. Indian Administration
12. India’s Foreign Policy

FOURTH SEMESTER

13. State Politics in India
15. Political Economy
16. Dissertation

Each paper carries 100 marks-75 marks for examination on theory paper conducted by the University and 25 marks for internal assessment.
PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY

M.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLITICAL THEORY
(SEMESTER-I)

Instruction Method : Lecturers and Seminars
Evaluation Method : Written tests, term papers, seminars and book reviews.
Course Duration : One Semester

Course Rationale

This course seeks to introduce students to major approaches to theorizing political life and to key-terms of political discourse. The underlying assumption of this course is that without the support of political ideologies, political action would appear meaningless or direction-less to those who are actively involved in it. Political ideologies, thus will be shown to provide the justification for the people’s allegiance to, or alternatively, resistance against, a given government, movement, programme or policy. Moreover, the inter-relationship between political practice and political theory will be highlighted in the course.

Course Contents

2. Classical, Behavioural and Post-behavioural Approaches.
4. The Nature of State: meaning and elements of state, Liberal vs. Marxist View of state, changing nature of state in the contemporary world.
6. Liberty, Equality and Justice: meaning and classification of Liberty, meaning and classification of Equality; Relation between Liberty and Equality;
7. Political Power, Legitimacy and Authority.
8. Political Obligation, Civil Disobedience and Revolution.
9. Liberalism, Communism, Democratic, Socialism, Fascism, and Anarchism, Nationalism.

Books for Reference

- M.P. Jain, Political Theory, Authors Guild, Delhi,1989.


• Sushil Kumar, (ed), New Globalism and The State, Research Progress, New Delhi, 1999.
WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT  
(SEMESTER-I)

Instruction Method : Lecturers and Seminars  
Evaluation Method : Written tests, term papers, seminars and 
book review,  
Course Duration : One Semester  

Course Rationale

The purpose of this course is to generate political awareness among the students about 
distinctive features of Western Political Thought. Through this course, students are expected 
to learn political theorizing and political reflections and arguments by studying how it has 
been done by the masters of political thought.

Course Contents

1. Plato  
2. Aristotle  
3. St. Thomas Aquinas and Machiavelli  
4. Thomas Hobbes  
5. John Locke  
6. Jean-Jacques Rousseau  
7. Jeremy Bentham  
8. John Stuart Mill  
9. George W.F. Hegel  
10. Karl Marx and Lenin.

Books for Reference

Instruction Method: Lectures and Seminars
Evaluation Method: Written tests, term papers, seminars and book reviews
Course duration: One Semester

Course Rationale

This paper seeks to study Public Administration in its larger systemic milieu. It covers recent trends such as impact of globalization on public administration and impact of ICT on public administration. Besides the theories of organization and bureaucracy, New public administration and New Public Management have also been included in this course.

Course Contents

1. Nature and scope of public administration, approaches to the study of public administration and importance of public administration, relationship between state, society and public administration.
2. Theories of Organization.
4. Public policy analysis, meaning, nature and importance.
5. Impact of Information, Communication Technology (ICT) on public administration, the concept of E.governance.
7. New Public Management, genesis and salient features.
9. Disaster management, meaning and scope, agencies involved in disaster management.
10. Ethical Concerns in Public Administration

Books for Reference

5. Ramesh K. Arora, Public Administration, Fresh Perspective, Alekh publishers, Jaipur.
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
(SEMESTER-I)

Instruction Method : Lectures and Seminars
Evaluation Method  : Written tests, term papers, seminars and book review.
Course Duration   : One Semester

Course Rationale

This paper deals with both the theoretical and practical aspects of international relations and therefore, covers traditional, and modern approaches of studying International Relations as well as its key concepts. It also provides insight into significant issues that are largely the legacies of the Cold War era. It identifies some of the other new problem areas that need critical consideration in the study of current international relations.

Course Contents

1. Development of the Study of International Relations as a Discipline: Nature and Scope of International Relations.
2. International Relations Theories: Traditional vs. Behavioural Approaches; Idealist, Liberal and New-Liberal Approaches and World State Theory, Realist and Neo-Realistic Approaches.
4. Foreign Policy: Meaning; Goals and Determinants.
7. Non-State Actors in International Relations.
8. Regional and International Organisations: OAU, OAS, EU, SAARC, ASEAN; The UN: Multilateral Approach to International Peace and Order; Restructuring the UN.
9. Elements of International Economic Relations: Trade, Movement of Capital and Labour, Role of International Financial Institutions; International Inequalities: Widening Gap between Developing and Developed Countries, Process of Divergence leading to Conflict, Process of Convergence including Demand for a NIEO, South-South Con-operation; WTO.

Books for Reference

INDIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM  
(SEMESTER II)

Instruction Method: Lectures and Seminars  
Evaluation Method: Written tests, term papers, Seminars and book reviews  
Course Duration: One Semester

Course Rationale

The study of social and economic processes that underlie the functioning of the political system in India is the focus of the paper. One needs to understand that the Constitution of India has been intended to provide framework for a modern secular and democratic society. The experience of last sixty years and the new challenges ahead in the context of globalisation, liberalization and greater democratic expansion from below needs to be studied.

Course Contents

1. Background of the Constituent Assembly- composition and functioning  
3. Federalism and its working with reference to union-state relations, demand for state autonomy.  
4. Public services and bureaucracy, the issue of downsizing bureaucracy.  
5. Integrated Judiciary – The Supreme Court, High Courts, subordinate courts, independence of judiciary and judicial activism.  
6. Nature of the party system – national parties, regional parties and pressure groups  
7. Political Movements in India - and Peasant Movements, Tribal Movements, Trade Union Movement and Women’s Movements  
8. Elections and voting behaviour  

Books for Reference.  

2. B. K. Sharma, Introduction to the Constitution of India, Prentice Hall of New Delhi, 2002  
COMPARATIVE POLITICS
(SEMESTER-II)

Instruction Method : Lectures and Seminars
Evaluation Method : Written tests, term papers, seminars and book review.
Course Duration : One Semester

Course Rationale

This paper deals with theoretical evolution and approaches to the study of Comparative Politics. It helps the students to have a fundamental grasp over the various theories and explanations regarding political development in the Third World Countries. The paper concentrates specifically on some of the major paradigms or world views, which have elicited different theories of development, underdevelopment in the study of Comparative Politics.

Course Contents

1. Comparative Politics, meaning, nature, and scope.
2. Approaches to the study of Comparative Politics - traditional approach, behavioral approach, structural-functional approach, and systems approach.
3. Constitution and Constitutionalism
4. Political culture and Political Socialisation.
5. Political Participation and Social Mobilization
6. Classes and Political Elites
7. Political Development and Modernization
8. The American Government: President, Congress and Judiciary
10. Direct Democracy in Switzerland.

Books For Reference

10. Nalin Kumar Mahapatra, Political Culture and Democratic Development In Central Asia, Bookwell, New Delhi, 2006
INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT
(SEMESTER II)

Instruction Method : Lectures and seminars
Evaluation Method : Written Tests, term papers, Seminars, and Book reviews.
Course duration : One Semester

Course Rationale

The purpose of this course is to generate a critical awareness among the students about distinctive features and tradition of social and political thought in India. The course will also focus on the continuity and discontinuity between traditional Indian socio political ideas and modern Indian political ideas.

Course Contents

1. Interpretations of Ancient Indian Political Thought: Methodological Issues and Schools of Thought.
2. Political Philosophy of Vedanta : Basic Concepts, Evolution, Character, and Interpretations.
4. Socio-religious and Political ideas in the Ramayana, the Santiparva (Rajdharna) in the Mahabharata and the Bhagavat Geeta,
5. Political Ideas in Manusmiriti and Kautilya’s Arthasastra
6. The Indian Renaissance : Ram Mohan Roy to Vivekananda.
9. Social and Political Thought of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Aurobindo.

Books for Reference

1. V.P. Varma, Study in Hindu Political Thought and Metaphysical Foundations, Delhi, Motilal Banarsidass, 1974.
2. ……., Modern Indian Political Thought., Lakshmi Narain Aggarwal, Agra, 1974.
9. ……. Indian Political Thinking Through the Ages, Khanna Publishers, Delhi,1992.
10. ………, Documents on Political Thought in Modern India, 2 Vols, Oxford University Press, Bombay, 1970.
15. B.A. Saletore, Ancient Indian Political Thought and Institutions, Bombay, University of Bombay, 1963.
POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY
(SEMESTER II)

Instruction Method : Lectures and seminars
Evaluation method : Written tests, term papers, Seminars and book reviews
Course duration : one Semester

Course Rationale

Political Sociology has emerged as a branch of Political Science recently. The emergence of this discipline has broken the barriers between state and society and has helped political scientists to establish an essential identity between social process and political process. This paper seeks to enable the students at P.G. level to study political processes and problems from a sociological perspective.

Course Contents

1. Emergence of Political Sociology.
3. Nature and Scope of political sociology, political sociology and sociology of politics, political sociology and political science
4. The concepts of power, authority and legitimacy
5. Elite theory.
6. The group theory
7. Political culture, political socialization and recruitment
8. Political Modernisation
9. Political Participation
10. Personality in Politics- political man

Books for Reference

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY  
(SEMESTER III)

Instruction Method : lectures and Seminars
Evaluation Method : written tests, term papers, seminars and book reviews
Course duration : one Semester.

Course Rationale

This paper on Research Methodology is a basic introduction to the process and methods of empirical research for achieving scientific knowledge in the subject.

An attempt is made to relate social science research methods to other courses in the syllabi of Political Science. This paper enables the student at P.G. level to learn methods of data collection, sampling procedure, analysis of data, report writing and preparation of bibliography.

Course Contents

1. Meaning and nature of social science research.
2. Types of research-- descriptive, analytical, conceptual, fundamental, applied and historical research. Empirical methods- Case study, Survey research and Evaluation Research.
3. Scientific Method and its applications in social science research.
4. Research design.
5. Formulation of hypothesis.
6. Collection of Data- secondary and primary data.
8. Sampling procedure- methods for designing sample and conduct of field work.
9. Analysis of Data- application of statistical techniques in social science research.

Books For Reference

Instruction Method: Lectures and Seminars  
Evaluation Method: Written tests, term papers, seminars and book review  
Course Duration: One Semester

Course Rationale

International law is usually defined as rules that govern the conduct of states in their relations with one another. This paper traces its origin and development to the contribution of Hugo Grotius. This course studies the nature, content and the different aspects of International Law pertaining to legal principles of recognition, jurisdiction, Law of Sea, diplomatic immunities and privileges, treaty of obligation and crimes against humanity.

Course Contents

1. The Origins and Development of International Law.  
2. Grotius’ Contributions.  
7. International Law and Economic Development: Third World Concerns.  
9. The Limitations and Possibilities of International Law.  
10. Recent trends in International Law.

Books for Reference

INDIAN ADMINISTRATION
(SEMESTER III)

Instruction Method: Lectures, and seminars
Evaluation Method: Written Tests, Term Papers, seminars and book reviews.
Course duration: One Semester.

Course Rationale

The purpose of this paper is to acquaint the students of Political Science with the knowledge of administrative pattern in the Indian federal structure. Major aspects of the present administrative system have been included in the syllabus.

Course Contents

1. Ancient Indian administration- pre-British period and British period.
2. Framework of Indian polity- constitutional framework, parliamentary democracy and federal pattern.
4. Prime Minister’s Office, Central secretariat- relationship between political executive and civil servants.
5. Civil Services in India- recruitment, training, promotion, motivation and morale.
7. District administration. changing role of District Collector.
8. Working of decentralised governance in India, Models/ patterns of PRIS emerged.
9. Ombudsman institutions in India- Lokpal and Lokayukta
10. Recent Trends in Indian Administration

Books for Reference

INDIA’S FOREIGN POLICY  
(SEMESTER III)

Instruction Method : Lecturers and seminars
Evaluation Method : Written tests, term papers, seminars and book review.
Course Duration : One Semester

Course Rationale

India’s foreign policy reflects the philosophy of India as a sovereign democratic nation and the self-image and role she conceives for herself in the global policies. The focus of this paper is the theoretical perspective of the role of compulsions, constraints and conditions, which actually has shaped the country’s foreign policy for the past six decades. It also aims at providing knowledge about continuity and changes in India’s foreign policy towards neighbours and major powers. The paper will also throw light on the emerging challenges confronting India and the world.

Course Contents

1. Principles and Objectives of India’s Foreign Policy.
2. Determinants of India’s Foreign Policy: Domestic and External Determinants.
4. Conduct of India’s External Relations with Major Powers: the USA, the Russia and China.
5. Conduct of India’s External Relations with South Asian Neighbours: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives.
6. India’s Policy towards South East Asia, West and Central Asia, Africa and Latin America.
8. India’s Nuclear Policy.
10. India’s approach towards major International Issues: End of Cold War, Globalization, WTO, Disarmament and Arms Race, Terrorism, Human Rights, Environmental Issues.

Books For Reference

2. A. Appadurai, Domestic Roots of India’s Foreign Policy, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1981.
STATE POLITICS IN INDIA  
(SEMESTER IV)  

Course Rationale  
India’s Diversity in terms of socio-economic, political and cultural systems provides an opportunity to study Indian Union –state systems comparatively. This paper attempts to study powers of the union and the autonomy of the states within the framework of federal system.

Course Contents  
1. Theoretical framework for the study of state politics  
2. Patterns of state politics  
3. Socio-economic determinants of state politics  
4. Centre-state political and economic relationship  
5. Regional political parties and its linkage with national parties and the federal set up  
6. Impact of national politics on state politics  
7. Emerging trends in state politics  
8. Panchayati Raj system and its impact on state politics  
9. Human Development Index in different states in comparative perspective  

Books for Reference  
1. A. Awasti, Central Administration, Tata Mc Graw Hill,New Delhi,1980  
11. Rajni Kothari, Politics in India, Orient Logman, New Delhi, 1970  
Instruction Method: Lectures and Seminars  
Evaluation Method: Written tests, term papers, seminars and book reviews  
Course duration: One Semester  

Course Rationale  
The aim of this Paper is to introduce the students at Postgraduate level contemporary political ideas and theories emerged in the field of political science. Emphasis has been given to study the theories emerged in the post Marxian era.

Course Contents  
1. Nature and significance of Contemporary Political Theory  
2. Libertarianism  
3. Existentialism  
4. New left  
5. Euro communism  
6. Theory of Justice- diverse perspectives of justice- Rawl’s theory, Nozicik’s theory and the concept of global justice  
7. Critical Theory –Herbert Marcuse and Habermas  
8. Contemporary Challenges to Sovereignty  
9. Democracy, Civil society and the state.  
10. Politics of Environment

Books for Reference  
8. J.C. Johari, Contemporary Political Theory, Sterling publishers, New Delhi, 1990  
POLITICAL ECONOMY  
(IV Semester)  

Instruction Method: Lectures and Seminars  
Evaluation method: Written tests, term papers, seminars and book reviews  
Course duration: One Semester.

Course Rationale

Political economy has a crucial role to play in conditioning the patterns of politics in a given society. The purpose of this course is to understand the impact of political economy on the political process. This course also intends at acquainting the students with significant political economy issues such as liberalization, changing configuration of class and other related aspects.

Course Contents

1. Political Economy- definition, nature and scope  
2. Classical political economy- the concept of natural law, private property, productive labour and high prices, industrial capitalism of mid 18th century  
3. Institutionalism and varieties of capitalism- emergence of institutions, changing balance of public and private power and varieties of capitalism  
5. Liberalisation – political context of liberalisation, privatisation, critiques of development model.  
6. Intellectual Property Rights and knowledge economy  
7. Globalisation, global governance and civil society  
8. Legitimacy and accountability  
9. India’s Class Structure- agrarian class, middle class, informalisation and dispersal of working class  
10. Hegemony and Democratic Struggles- nature of India’s capitalism, debate over passive revolution, nature and limits of hegemony.

Books for Reference

Dissertation carries 100 marks - 75 marks for the thesis prepared by the student and 25 marks for the viva voce examination. The Dissertation has to be prepared by the student on any area in Political Science under the supervision of a teacher from the Department. Field work is preferable whenever empirical studies are conducted.

In order to inculcate practical orientation regarding various concepts, processes and problems learnt in various papers, visit to higher educational institutions, research organizations and other related institutions (state legislature, Parliament etc.) has been suggested.

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