

B.A. SYLLABUS

BODOLAND UNIVERSITY

(HONOURS), CBCS

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sl No	Core Course (14)	Ability Enhancement Com. Course (2)	Skill Enhancement Course (2)	Elective (Discipline Specific: 4)	Elective (Generic: 4)
I	C1 POLITICAL THEORY I C2 POLITICS IN INDIA I	{ENG/Hindi/MIL Communication}			GE 1 FEMINISM
III	C5 COMPARATIVE GOVT & POLITICS C6 PUB. ADMINISTRATION C7 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS		SEC 1 DEMOCRATIC AWARENESS		GE 3 NATIONALISM IN INDIA
V	C11 CLASSICAL POL. THEORY C12 INDIAN POL. THOUGHT I			DSE-1 HUMAN RIGHTS DSE2 WOMEN & POLITICS	---

**CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM
SYLLABI AND READING LIST
BA (HONOURS) POLITICAL SCIENCE**

FIRST SEMESTER

C-1: POLITICAL THEORY-I

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.

I: Introducing Political Theory (30 Lectures)

- a. What is Politics: Theorizing the 'Political'
- b. Traditions of Political Theory: Liberal, Marxist,
- c. Approaches to Political Theory: Normative, Historical and Empirical

II: Political Theory and Practice (30 Lectures)

The Grammar of Democracy

- a. Democracy: The history of an idea
- b. Procedural Democracy and its critique

Essential Readings

I: Introducing Political Theory

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16.

Bellamy, R. (1993) 'Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R. (ed.) *Theories and Concepts of Politics*. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14.

Glaser, D. (1995) 'Normative Theory', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 21-40.

Sanders, D. (1995) 'Behavioral Analysis', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 58-75.

Chapman, J. (1995) 'The Feminist Perspective', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 94-114.

Bhargava, R. 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 17-36.

Bannett, J. (2004) 'Postmodern Approach to Political Theory', in Kukathas, Ch. And Gaus, G. F. (eds.) *Handbook of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Sage, pp. 46-54.

Vincent, A. (2004) *The Nature of Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004, pp. 19-80.

II: The Grammar of Democracy

Srinivasan, J. (2008) 'Democracy', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 106-128.

Owen, D. (2003) 'Democracy', in Bellamy, R. and Mason, A. (eds.) *Political Concepts*. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 105-117.

Christiano, Th. (2008) 'Democracy', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 80-96.

Arblaster, A. (1994) *Democracy*. (2nd Edition). Buckingham: Open University Press.

Roy, A. 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 130-146.

Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-258.

C-2: POLITICS IN INDIA-I

Course objective: This course acquaints students with the constitutional design of state structures and institutions, and their actual working over time. 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.

- I. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution (16 lectures)**
- a. Philosophy of the Constitution, the Preamble, and Features of the Constitution (2 weeks or 8 lectures)
 - b. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles (2 weeks or 8 lectures)
- 2. Organs of Government (20 lectures)**
- a. The Legislature: Parliament (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)
 - b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister (2 weeks or 8 lectures)
 - c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)
- 3. Federalism and Decentralization (12 lectures)**
- a. Federalism: Division of Powers, (2 weeks or 8 lectures)
 - b. Panchayati Raj and (1 week or 4 lectures)

READING LIST

I. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution

a. Philosophy of the Constitution, the Preamble, and Features of the Constitution

Essential Readings:

G. Austin, (2010) 'The Constituent Assembly: Microcosm in Action', in *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 15th print, pp.1-25.

R. Bhargava, (2008) 'Introduction: Outline of a Political Theory of the Indian Constitution', in R. Bhargava (ed.) *Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-40.

Additional Reading:

D. Basu, (2012) *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, New Delhi: Lexis Nexis.

S. Chaube, (2009) *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, Delhi: National Book Trust.

b. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles

Essential Readings:

G. Austin, (2000) 'The Social Revolution and the First Amendment', in *Working a Democratic Constitution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 69-98.

A. Sibal, (2010) 'From Niti to Nyaya,' *Seminar*, Issue 615, pp 28-34.

Additional Reading:

The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes, (2011) New Delhi: Universal, pp. 4-16.

II. Organs of Government

a. The Legislature: Parliament

Essential Readings:

B. Shankar and V. Rodrigues, (2011) 'The Changing Conception of Representation: Issues, Concerns and Institutions', in *The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 105-173.

V. Hewitt and S. Rai, (2010) 'Parliament', in P. Mehta and N. Jayal (eds.) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 28-42.

b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister

Essential Readings:

J. Manor, (2005) 'The Presidency', in D. Kapur and P. Mehta P. (eds.) *Public Institutions in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.105-127.

J. Manor, (1994) 'The Prime Minister and the President', in B. Dua and J. Manor (eds.) *Nehru to the Nineties: The Changing Office of the Prime Minister in India*, Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, pp. 20-47.

H. Khare, (2003) 'Prime Minister and the Parliament: Redefining Accountability in the Age of Coalition Government', in A. Mehra and G. Kueck (eds.) *The Indian Parliament: A Comparative Perspective*, New Delhi: Konark, pp. 350-368.

c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court

Essential Readings:

U. Baxi, (2010) 'The Judiciary as a Resource for Indian Democracy', *Seminar*, Issue 615, pp. 61-67.

R. Ramachandran, (2006) 'The Supreme Court and the Basic Structure Doctrine' in B. Kirpal et.al (eds.) *Supreme but not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 107-133.

Additional Reading:

L. Rudolph and S. Rudolph, (2008) 'Judicial Review Versus Parliamentary Sovereignty', in *Explaining Indian Institutions: A Fifty Year Perspective, 1956-2006: Volume 2: The Realm of Institutions: State Formation and Institutional Change*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 183- 210.

III. Federalism and Decentralization

a. Federalism: Division of Powers, Emergency Provisions, Fifth and Sixth Schedules Essential Readings:

M. Singh, and R. Saxena (eds.), (2011) 'Towards Greater Federalization,' in *Indian Politics: Constitutional Foundations and Institutional Functioning*, Delhi: PHI Learning Private Ltd., pp.166- 195.

V. Marwah, (1995) 'Use and Abuse of Emergency Powers: The Indian Experience', in B. Arora and D. Verney (eds.) *Multiple Identities in a Single State: Indian Federalism in a Comparative Perspective*, Delhi: Konark, pp. 136-159.

B. Sharma, (2010) 'The 1990s: Great Expectations'; 'The 2000s: Disillusionment Unfathomable', in *Unbroken History of Broken Promises: Indian State and Tribal People*, Delhi: Freedom Press and Sahyog Pustak Kuteer, pp. 64-91.

The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes, (2011) New Delhi: Universal, pp 192- 213.

Additional Readings:

R. Dhavan and R. Saxena, (2006) 'The Republic of India', in K. Roy, C. Saunders and J. Kincaid (eds.) *A Global Dialogue on Federalism*, Volume 3, Montreal: Queen's University Press, pp. 166-197.

R. Manchanda, (2009) *The No Nonsense Guide to Minority Rights in South Asia*, Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 105-109.

b. Panchayati Raj and Municipalities

Essential Readings:

P. deSouza, (2002) 'Decentralization and Local Government: The Second Wind of Democracy in India', in Z. Hasan, E. Sridharan and R. Sudarshan (eds.) *India's Living Constitution: Ideas, Practices and Controversies*, New Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 370-404.

M. John, (2007) 'Women in Power? Gender, Caste and Politics of Local Urban Governance', in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 42(39), pp. 3986-3993.

Raghunandan, J. R (2012) *Decentralization and local governments: The Indian Experience*, Orient Black Swan, New Delhi

Baviskar, B.S and George Mathew (eds) 2009 *Inclusion and Exclusion in local governance: Field Studies from rural India*, New Delhi, Sage.

GE-1: POLITICAL THEORY

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.

1. a. What is Politics? b. What is Political Theory ? (11 lectures)

2. Concepts: Democracy, Liberty, Equality, Justice, Rights and Citizenship

(36 lectures)

3. Debates in Political Theory:

a. Is democracy compatible with economic growth?

b. Does protective discrimination violate principles of fairness? (13 lectures)

Essential Readings:

Topic I

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-17.

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 18-37.

Topic 2

Sriranjani, V. (2008) 'Liberty', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 40-57.

Acharya, A. (2008) 'Equality', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 58-73.

Menon, K. (2008) 'Justice', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 74-82.

Talukdar, P.S. (2008) 'Rights', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 88-105.

Srinivasan, J. (2008) 'Democracy', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 106-128.

Roy, A. 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 130-147.

Das, S. (2008) 'State', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 170-187.

Singh, M. (2008) 'Civil Society', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 188-205.

Menon, N. (2008) 'Gender', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 224-235.

Shorten, A. (2008) 'Nation and State', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 33-55.

Christiano, Thomas. (2008) 'Democracy', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 80-96.

Riley, J. (2008) 'Liberty', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 103-125.

Casal, P. & William, A. (2008) 'Equality', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 149- 165.

Wolf, J. (2008) 'Social Justice', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 172-193.

- Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-259.
- Chambers, C. (2008) 'Gender', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-288.
- Swift, A. (2001) *Political Philosophy: A Beginners Guide for Students and Politicians*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Topic 3

- Sen, A. (2003) 'Freedom Favours Development,' in Dahl, R., Shapiro, I. and Cheibub, A. J. (eds.) *The Democracy Sourcebook*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, pp. 444-446.
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- Prezowski, A., et al. (2003) 'Political Regimes and Economic Growth,' in Dahl, R., Shapiro, I. and Cheibub, A. J. (eds.) *The Democracy Sourcebook*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, pp. 447-454.
- Sethi, A. (2008) 'Freedom of Speech and the Question of Censorship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 308-319.
- Acharya, A. (2008) 'Affirmative Action', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 298-307.
- Frances E O. (1985) 'The Myth of State Intervention in the Family', *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform*. 18 (4), pp. 835-64.
- Jha, M. (2001) 'Ramabai: Gender and Caste', in Singh, M.P. and Roy, H. (eds.) *Indian Political Thought: Themes and Thinkers*, New Delhi: Pearson.