

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS & POLITICS, VISVA-BHARATI

POLITICAL SCIENCE (GENERIC ELECTIVE)

B.A., CBCS SYLLABUS

SEMESTER I

PAPER I (SEMESTER I)

Political Theory I (50 Marks)

- 1. Nature and scope of Political Science**
- 2. Approaches to the study of Political Science**
- 3. Origin of the State:** Different Theories
- 4. Nature of the State:** Organic Theory-Idealist Theory-Marxist Theory
- 5. Sovereignty of the State:** Austinian Theory of sovereignty-pluralist theory of sovereignty-Doctrine of popular sovereignty-location of Sovereignty
- 6. Law:** Analytical, Historical and Sociological theories the nature of law-International Law: Meaning and Nature
- 7. Rights:** Theories of Rights: Nature, Legal and Marxist

Readings

1. Ernest Barker: Principal of Social and Political Theories
2. A.R Ball: Modern Politics And Government
3. S.P Varma: Modern Political Theory
4. V.P Varma: Modern Indian Political Thought I
5. Rabindranath Tagore: Nationalism
6. J.Bandopadhyaya: Social and Political Thoughts of Gandhi

SEMESTER II

Paper II: Political Theory II (50 Marks)

1. **Liberty and Equity:** Nature, Meaning and interrelationship
2. **Democracy:** Meaning and conditions of success
3. **Power and Authority:** Meaning and Implications
4. **Nationalism, Internationalism and Civilization** (with particular reference to Tagore's view)
5. **Marxism:** Fundamental Principles
6. **Gandhism:** Basic Principles

Readings

1. Ernest Barker: Principal of Social and Political Theories
2. A.R Ball: Modern Politics And Government
3. S.P Varma: Modern Political Theory
4. V.P Varma: Modern Indian Politica Thought I
5. Rabindranath Tagore: Nationalism
6. J.Bandopadhyaya: Social and Political Thoughts of Gandhi

SEMESTER III

Paper III a: Comparative Government I: (50 Marks)

1. **Constitution** :Meaning, Classification:Written And Un written, Flexible and Rigid
2. **Forms of Government**: Federal/Unitary/ Prliamentary/ Presidential
3. **Political System**: Liberal-Democratic and Socialist
4. **The Legislature**: Functions of the Legislature
5. **The Executive**: Functions of the Executive
6. **The Judiciary**: Functions of the Judiciary

Note: This paper is discusses the concept used in comparing governments

Readings

1. J. Harvey and I. Bather: The British Constitution
2. Ogg and Ray: Essentials of American Government
3. D.J Waller: The Government and Politics of Communist China
4. Ogg and Zink: Modern Foreign Government
5. V.D Mahajan: Select Modern Governments

SEMESTER IV

Paper IV a: Comparative Government II: (50 Marks)

1. **Features of the Constitution:** U.K, USA and China
2. **Legislature:** U.K, USA and China
3. **Executive:** U.K, USA and China
4. **Judiciary:** U.K, USA and China
5. **Political parties:** U.K, USA and China
6. **Rights of the citizens:** U.K, USA and China

Note: This paper deals with the institutions and government of specific countries

Readings

1. J. Harvey and I. Bather: The British Constitution
2. Ogg and Ray: Essentials of American Government
3. D.J Waller: The Government and Politics of Communist China
4. Ogg and Zink: Modern Foreign Government
5. V.D Mahajan: Select Modern Governments

SEMESTER III

Paper III b: Indian Government and Politics I (50 Marks)

- 1. Constitutional Development in India**
- 2. Philosophy of the Constitution:** Preamble to the constitution
- 3. Main Features of the Constitution**
- 4. Citizenship**
- 5. Fundamental Rights and Duties**
- 6. Directive Principles of State Policy**
- 7. Procedure for Amendment of the Constitution**
- 8. Legislative Relation between the Union and the States**
- 9. Administrative Relation between the Union and the State**

Readings

1. N.D Palmer: Indian Political System
2. W.H Morris-Jones: Government and Politics of India
3. D.Basu: An Introduction to the Constitution of India
4. Paul R. Brass: The Politics of India since Independence
5. Rajni Kothari: Politics in India

SEMESTER IV

Paper IV b: Indian Government and Politics I (50 Marks)

1. **President:** position and power
2. **Lok Sabha:** Organisation, Functions, Law-making Procedure, Speaker
3. **Rajya Sabha:** Organisation, Functions
4. **Supreme Court:** position and Jurisdiction
5. **High Court:** position and jurisdiction
6. **Governor:** position and power
7. **Party system**
8. **Panchayati Raj** (with special reference to West Bengal)
9. **Caste in Indian Politics**

Readings

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2. W.H Morris-Jones: Government and Politics of India
3. D.Basu: An Introduction to the Constitution of India
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5. Rajni Kothari: Politics in India