SYBA

Paper II- Political Theory

Syllabus: Semester-III & IV

With Effect From Academic Year 2017-18

Semester III- Principles and Concepts of Political Theory

Module 1 - Introduction to Political Theory	Explanatory Notes
1.1 Definition and Scope of Political Theory	What is Politics?
	Theorising the 'Political'
	Definitions of Political Theory
	Nature and Scope of Political Theory
	Significance of Political Theory
1.2 Approaches to the Study of Political Theory:	Historical
Traditional	Normative
	Legal-Institutional
1.3 Approaches to the Study of Political Theory:	Empirical Approach
Contemporary	Behavioural Approach
	Post-behavioural Approach
Module 2 – State, Civil Society & Market	
2.1 State: Concept and Perspectives	Theories of Origin of State:
	Divine Origin theory,
	Force Theory,
	Theory of Social Contract,
	Evolutionary Theory
	Perspectives of State: Liberal-
	Individualistic, Welfare
2.2 Nation - State: Meaning and Changing	Concept of Nation- State
Perceptions	Rise and Growth of Modern Nation- State
	Challenges to Sovereignty of Nation-
	States
2.3 State, Civil Society and Market	Concept of Civil Society
_	Emergence of Civil Society
	Changing Nature of State ,Civil
	Society and Market

Module 3 – Power, Authority and Legitimacy	
3.1 Power	Concept, Sources and Forms of Power
3.2 Authority	Definitions, Sources and Types of
	Authority
3.3 Legitimacy	Meaning, Sources and Types of
	Legitimacy
	Weberian Classification
Module 4 : Concept of Law and Political Obligation	
4.1 Concept of Law	Meaning, Features and Sources
4.2 Political Obligation	Meaning and Grounds of Political
	Obligation
4.3 Right to Resist	Liberal and Radical Arguments (with
	reference to John Locke, T.H. Green
	and Harold J. Laski)
	Forms of Resistance
	Gandhian Techniques of Resistance
	to Authority

Semester IV- Political Values and Ideologies

Module1 – Rights	Explanatory Notes
1.1 Meaning and Nature of Rights	Definition and Meaning of Rights
	Positive and Negative concept of
	Rights
1.2 Theories of Rights	Theory of Natural Rights
	Historical Theory
	Legal Theory
	Idealist Theory
1.3 Classification of Rights	Civil, Political, Economic, Social,
	Cultural and Group Rights
Module 2 – Basic Political Values	
2.1 Liberty	Negative and Positive Concept of
	Liberty
	Types of Liberty
	Safeguards of Liberty

2.2 Equality	Development of the concept of
	Equality
	Dimensions of Equality (Civil, Legal,
	Political, Economic)
	Relation between Liberty and
	Equality
2.3 Justice	Meaning of Justice,
	Changing nature of the concept,
	Procedural and Distributive Justice
Module 3 – Democracy	
3.1 Theories of Democracy	Classical, Elitist, Pluralist,
3.1 Theories of Democracy	Participatory Democracy
	Participatory Democracy
3.2 Principles of Liberal Democracy	Salient features, Merits and Demerits
3.3 Conditions for the Successful Working of	Challenges to Democracy
Democracy	Safeguards of Democracy
Module 4 – Political Ideologies	
4.1 Marxism	Tenets of Marxism
	Critical Appraisal of Marxism
4.2 Fascism	Basic Tenets
	Critical Appraisal
4.3 Feminism	Origin and Types
	Three Waves of Feminism

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Semester III- Principles and Concepts of Political Theory

Module 1 - Introduction to Political Theory

[11 lectures]

- 1.1 Definition and Scope of Political Theory
- 1.2Approaches to the Study of Political Theory: Traditional
- 1.3 Approaches to the Study of Political Theory: Contemporary

Module 2 – State, Civil Society & Market

[12 Lectures]

- 2.1 State: Concept and Perspectives
- 2.2 Nation State: Meaning and Changing Perceptions
- 2.3 State, Civil Society and Market

Module 3 – Power, Authority and Legitimacy

[10 Lectures]

- 3.1 Power
- 3.2 Authority
- 3.3 Legitimacy

Module 4 : Concept of Law and Political Obligation [12 Lectures]

- 4.1 Concept of Law
- 4.2 Political Obligation
- 4.3 Right to Resist

Semester IV- Political Values and Ideologies

Module1 - Rights

[10 Lectures]

- 1.1 Meaning and Nature of Rights
- 1.2 Theories of Rights
- 1.3 Classification of Rights

Module 2 – Basic Political Values

[12 Lectures]

- 2.1 Liberty
- 2.2 Equality
- 2.3 Justice

Module 3 – Democracy

[11 Lectures]

- 3.1 Theories of Democracy
- 3.2 Principles of Liberal Democracy
- 3.3 Conditions for the Successful Working of Democracy

Module 4 – Political Ideologies

[12 Lectures]

- 4.1 Marxism
- 4.2 Fascism
- 4.3 Feminism

References:

- 1. Abbas, Hoveyda and Ranjay Kumar, *Political Theory*, Pearson, 2012
- 2. Bhargava, Rajeev and Ashok Acharya (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*, Pearson Longman, 2008

- 3. Bhargava, Rajeev and Helmut Reifeld (eds), *Civil Society, Public Sphere, and Citizenship: Dialogues and Perception*, Sage Publications, New Delhi, 2005
- 4. Chandhoke, Neera, *State and Civil Society: Explanations in Political Theory*, Sage Publications, New Delhi, 1995
- 5. Gauba, O.P., *An Introduction to Political Theory*, Macmillan Publishers India Ltd., 2011
- 6. Heywood, Andrew, *Politics*, Palgrave Foundations, New York, 2002
- 7. Hoffman, John and Paul Graham, Introduction to Political Ideology, Pearson, 2006
- 8. Marsh David and Gerry Stoker (ed), *Theory and Methods in Political Science*, Macmillan Press Lts, 1995
- 9. Mckinnon, Catriona (ed), *Issues in Political Theory*, New York Oxford University Press, 2008
- 10. Verma, S.P., Modern Political Theory, Vikas, New Delhi, 1982