



RABINDRA BHARATI UNIVERSITY

Centre for Distance and Online Education

Rabindra Bhawan, EE- 9 & 10, Sector – II, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700091

Phone : (033) 2358 4014/4016/4018, E-Mail: director.cdoe@rbu.ac.in Website: www.rbudde.in

COURSE STRUCTURE OF M.A. IN SUBJECT POLITICAL SCIENCE (CBCS mode)

M.A. SEMESTER – I

Course	Type of course	Credit	Content	Marks		
				Term end examination	Internal assessment	Total
CC 1.1	Theory	5	Enlightenment and Its Critics	40	10	50
CC 1.2	Theory	5	Contemporary Liberalism and Its Critics	40	10	50
CC 1.3	Theory	5	Politics in Ancient and Medieval India	40	10	50
CC 1.4	Theory	5	Colonial India	40	10	50
CC 1.5	Theory	5	Political Theory in Indian Context Since Independence	40	10	50
Total Credits		25				

M.A. SEMESTER – II

Course	Type of course	Credit	Content	Marks		
				Term end examination	Internal assessment	Total
CC 2.1	Theory	5	Concepts and Theories in International Relations	40	10	50
CC 2.2	Theory	5	Constitution and Governance in India	40	10	50
CC 2.3	Theory	5	Governance and Its Critics	40	10	50
CC 2.4	Theory	5	Politics in India	40	10	50
CC 2.5	Theory	5	Politics in West Bengal	40	10	50
Total Credits		25				

M.A. SEMESTER – III

Course	Type of course	Credit	Content	Marks		
				Term end examination	Internal assessment	Total
CC 3.1	Theory	5	Comparative Politics in Developing Countries	40	10	50
CC 3.2	Theory	5	Public Administration	40	10	50
CC 3.3	Theory	5	Public Policy	40	10	50
CEC 3.1	Theory	5	Social Movements in India	40	10	50
CEC 3.2	Theory	5	Human Rights in India	40	10	50
Total Credits		25				



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M.A. SEMESTER – IV

Course	Type of course	Credit	Content	Marks		
				Term end examination	Internal assessment	Total
CC 4.1	Theory	5	India and the Contemporary World	40	10	50
CEC 4.1	Theory	5	Dalit Studies	40	10	50
CEC 4.2	Theory	5	Local Government and Politics in India	40	10	50
OEC 4.1	Theory	5	Women's Studies	40	10	50
OEC 4.2	Theory	5	Politics of Development and Environment	40	10	50
Total Credits		25				
Total Credits of PG Academic Programme		100				



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Synopsis of

*Syllabus offered for MA in Political Science in CBCS Semester Mode
Centre for Distance and Online Education, Rabindra Bharati University*

Semester	CC/CEC/O EC	Course	Course name
Semester I	CC	1.1	Enlightenment and Its Critics
	CC	1.2	Contemporary Liberalism and Its Critics
	CC	1.3	Politics in Ancient and Medieval India
	CC	1.4	Colonial India
	CC	1.5	Political Theory in Indian Context Since Independence
Semester II	CC	2.1	Concepts and Theories in International Relations
	CC	2.2	Constitution and Governance in India
	CC	2.3	Governance and Its Critics
	CC	2.4	Politics in India
	CC	2.5	Politics in West Bengal
Semester III	CC	3.1	Comparative Politics in Developing Countries
	CC	3.2	Public Administration
	CC	3.3	Public Policy
	CEC	3.1	Social Movements in India
	CEC	3.2	Human Rights in India
Semester IV	CC	4.1	India and the Contemporary World
	CEC	4.1	Dalit Studies
	CEC	4.2	Local Government and Politics in India
	OEC	4.1	Women's Studies
	OEC	4.2	Politics of Development and Environment



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Semester wise Courses at the PG level and CBCS structure in Political Science
(CC- Core Course, CEC- Compulsory Elective Course, OEC- Open Elective Course)

Semester -I

CC 1.1: Enlightenment and Its Critics

1. Background to European Enlightenment
2. Rousseau's position on Enlightenment
3. Kant: Notion of Moral Autonomy
4. Hegel: Views on Freedom and State
5. Marx: Views on History and Modernity
6. Nietzsche: Critique of Modernity
7. Foucault: Views on Enlightenment
8. Rorty: Critique of Cartesian-Kantian Foundation

CC 1.2: Contemporary Liberalism and Its Critics

1. Roots of Liberalism: Socio-political and Intellectual
2. Contemporary Liberalism: Rawls and Nozick
3. Marxist Critique of Liberal-Capitalist State: Gramsci and Poulantzas
4. Pocock: Republicanism Revived
5. Martha Nussbaum's Liberal Feminism and its Critics
6. Communitarian Critique of Liberalism: Sandel, Walzer and McIntyre
7. Communication Theory: Habermas
8. Liberal Multiculturalism: Kymlicka and Taylor



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CC 1.3: Politics in Ancient and Medieval India

1. Politics of Dharma: Moral Dilemmas and unresolved Conflicts in the Epics
2. Politics of Reigning/Kingship
3. Politics of Rituals: *Yajna* through the Ages
4. Politics of *Danda*: From a Narrative of Punishment to a Narrative of resistance
5. Kautilya's Saptanga Theory
6. Kautilya's Mandala Theory
7. Contrasting views of Kingship in Islamic Period
8. Akbar's Concept of Din-i-ilahi

CC 1.4: Colonial India

1. Modernity and its Early Reception : Rammohun Roy and Akshay Kumar Dutt
2. Early Debates on Socio-Political Reforms: Vidyasagar and Keshab Chandra Sen
3. Discourse on Nationalism: Bankimchandra, Tagore, and Gandhi
4. Community and Politics: Iqbal, Savarkar and Jinnah
5. Religion, State and Society: Tagore and Gandhi
6. Socialist Tendencies: Bhupendranath and Narendra Dev
7. Caste Debate; Gandhi and Ambedkar
8. National Construction: Vivekananda, Nehru and Subhash Chandra Bose

CC 1.5: Political Theory in Indian Context since Independence

1. Democracy in Indian Context
2. Civil Society and Political Society with special reference to Partha Chatterjee
3. State and Political Culture in India with special reference to Ashish Nandy and Sudipta Kaviraj



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4. Multiculturalism in Indian Context with special reference to Rajni Kothari
5. Secularism in Indian Context with special reference to Ashish Nandy and TN Madan
6. Eco-Feminism with special reference to Vandana Shiva
7. Development and Democracy with special reference to Atul Kohli and Amartya Sen
8. Subaltern Studies with special reference to Spivak and Ranajit Guha

Semester II

CC 2.1: Concepts and Theories of International Relations

1. Scientific Approach to International Relations: The Debate between 'Tradition' and 'Science'
2. Realism and its Critiques
3. Systems Theory and Decision-making
4. Approaches to the Political Economy of International Relations
5. Conflict and Cooperation in International Relations: Communications and Game Theory
6. Post-Positivist Interventions in the Study of International Relations I: Normative Theory and Critical Theory
7. Post-Positivist Interventions in the Study of International Relations II: Constructivism, Postmodernism and Feminism
8. Post-Cold War Era and the Debate on Unipolarity

CC 2.2: Constitution and Governance in India

1. Philosophy of the Indian Constitution: Major shifts
2. Federalism and State Autonomy
3. Social Justice, Patriarchy and the Indian State



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4. Politics of Defection and anti-defection Law
5. Judicial activism and PIL
6. Indian Bureaucracy: Role and Neutrality
7. Elections and Electoral Reforms in India
8. Coalition Politics in India: Prospects and Challenges

CC 2.3: Governance and Its Critics

1. Early Views on Liberal Governance: Pastoral Power and Reason of state
2. Bio-politics and Liberal Governance
3. Background to the Recent Rise of Governance to Prominence
4. Recent theories of Liberal Governance
5. Illiberality and Liberal Governance
6. Advance Liberal Governance
7. Popular and Political Society in Mass Democracies
8. Politics of the Governed

CC 2.4: Politics in India

1. Religion and Politics
2. Politics of Language
3. Caste and Politics of Reservation
4. Tribal Issues: Land, Forest and Underdevelopment
5. Ethnicity and Ethnonationalism
6. Regionalism: Regional Politics
7. Corruption: Civil Society Movements
8. Criminalization of Politics



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CC 2.5: Politics in West Bengal

1. Partition: Socio-Economic and Political impact on West Bengal- Problems of Migration and Displacement.
2. Parties and Politics: The Indian National Congress: Power, Politics and changing Role – Emergence of Trinamool Congress
3. The Left in West Bengal:– Left in Power/ Left in Opposition
4. Politics of Left Radicalism: Naxalite Movements- Recent Trends.
5. Agitational Politics—Workers’ Movements, Peasants’ Movements, Students’ Movements
6. Movements for Regional Autonomy
7. Power, Politics and Decentralization: Panchayati Raj in West Bengal
8. Culture and Politics of West Bengal

Semester –III

CC 3.1: Comparative Politics in Developing Countries

1. Comparative Politics: Approaches and Methods
2. Media, Communication and Political Culture
3. Political Participation, Political Institution and State of Democracy
4. Politics of Development/ Underdevelopment and relevance of Developing Countries
5. Decolonization, Nation building and the Post-colonial State
6. Cultural Pluralism and Ethnic Conflict
7. Globalization and the Developing World
8. New Social Movements and Politics of Alternative Development



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CC 3.2 Public Administration

1. Development of Public Administration as an academic discipline : its Stages; Impact of Globalization in the modern era: Idea of Global Governance
2. New Public Administration: Minnowbrook I; Blacksbury Manifesto; Minnowbrook II
3. Comparative Public Administration: Concept and significance
4. Theories of Bureaucracy: Marxist, Weberian, Post Weberian
5. Development Administration and its Challenges: Role of non-state actors in administration
6. Radical Challenges to developmentalism: New indicators of development, Controlling post development
7. Contemporary approaches: Public Choice, New Public Management, Critical, Feminist, Postmodern.
8. Concept of Governance: Good Governance, Gender and Governance, Green Governance, E-governance and Corporate Governance

CC 3.3: Public Policy

1. The Public and its Policies
2. Institutional and Historical Background
3. Modes of Policy Analysis
4. Producing public policy
5. Constraints on Public Policy
6. Policy Intervention
7. Politics of Policy Evaluation
8. Democratizing the Policy Process



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CEC 3.1: Social Movements in India

1. Human Rights Movements
2. Women's Movements
3. Dalit Movements
4. Tribal Movements
5. Ethnic Movements
6. Regional Movements
7. Peasants Movements
8. Trade Union Movements

CEC 3.2: Human Rights in India

1. Human Rights: Conceptual Framework
2. Human Rights: National and International Dimensions
3. Human Rights and Constitutional Framework in India , a. Fundamental Rights b. Directive Principles of State Policy
4. Human rights and Legal Framework in India- Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
5. Human Rights: Issues and Challenges - Caste, Tribe, Minorities and Women, LGBT, Terrorism
6. Human Rights and the Indian State - Role of Police, Administration, , Judiciary, and Affirmative Action for Weaker Sections
7. Role of Civil Society in Human Rights
8. NHRC and Other state Commissions



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Semester –IV

CC 4.1: India and the Contemporary World

1. Post-Cold War Era and the ‘Crisis’ of the Sovereign State: Evolution of Regionalism
2. Globalization and its Impact: From International Relations to World Politics
3. Human Rights and Humanitarian Interventions
4. Environmental Challenges – Climate Change and Environmental Disasters – Evolution of Environmental Regimes
5. Migration in the Age of Globalization – Refugees and IDPs – International Refugee Protection Regimes and UN Guiding Principles
6. Resource Crisis and Resource Politics with special reference to Africa
7. Terrorism as a Global Challenge – ‘War on Terror’ and Global anti-Terror Initiatives
8. Security Threats in the Contemporary World: From national to human security

CEC 4.1: Dalit Studies

1. Conceptualizing Dalits
2. Dalit Development Discourses
3. Dalit Literature
4. Dalits and Globalization
5. Dalits and Human Rights
6. Dalits and Diaspora
7. Dalit Feminism
8. Dalit Politics in India



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CEC 4.2: Local Government and Politics in India

1. Approaches to the study of Local government: Liberal, Marxist, Neo Marxist, Public choice approach; Gandhian perspective of Local Government
2. Colonial approach to Local Self Government- Post colonial development of Local Government; Constitutional Amendment and local government - Emerging trend in India
3. Approach to the Panchayati Raj System in West Bengal: Left Front and Trinamool Congress government
4. Rural politics in West Bengal – Emerging trend and the social background of the Panchayat leaders in West Bengal
5. Accountability of the PRIs: People's participation in Panchayat with special reference to West Bengal
6. Urbanization in India – a historical outline; Classification of Urban government: Structure and functions – Politics of People's participation in Urban government
7. Municipal Personnel – Relations between State government and Municipality; Ward Committee – Composition, role and function;
8. Election to Local Government: the Constitutional provision and role of the State Election Commission

OEC 4.1: Women's Studies

1. Rise of Women's Studies--- Women's Studies to Gender Studies
2. Key Issues of feminism: sex, gender, patriarchy, private and the public, personal and the political
3. Birth and evolution of Feminist thought: An overview of the transition from the first to the third wave feminism.



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4. Some representative debates: Liberal, Marxist, Socialist and Radical Feminist debates; postcolonial and postmodern feminist debate.
5. Women and politics, Human Rights and Women's Rights,— Women and Political Participation— 'Representation' and the 'reservation' debate
6. Feminism and Citizenship—Toward an Informal Politics, Transforming the nature of politics
7. Feminist Indian Historiography
8. Women and Movements in India: Phases and Issues

OEC 4.2: Politics of Development and Environment

1. Political Economy of Development: Contending Perspectives and Issues
2. Neo-Liberal Policies, Structural Adjustment Programmes and Challenges to Governance
3. Globalization and its impact on development
4. Development and Displacement: Areas, Issues and Resistance
5. Political Ecology: Concepts and Issues
6. Conservation, Sustainable Development and Environmental Governance
7. Environmental Movements: Ideologies, Typologies and Issues
8. Climate Change: Global Initiatives, Impacts and Resistance from Below