

B .A. HONOURS POLITICAL SCIENCE

Program outcome

The B.A. Honours in Political Science is designed to provide students with both a conceptual and a practical grasp of the discipline, and to encourage them to draw connections between Political Science and other social science disciplines by offering courses of an inter-disciplinary nature.

- The Core Courses offered by the programme are designed to equip the student with a robust foundation in Political Science,
- Discipline-Specific Electives are designed simultaneously around classically important areas of enquiry, and newly emergent ones.
- The Skill-Enhancement Courses acquaint the student with the applied aspects of this fascinating discipline, allowing him or her to use the skills learnt to solve problems that arise in the real world.
- The courses offered in this Programme, taken together, equip the student to pursue higher studies, and also to make his or her way outside academics – whether in the governmental or non-governmental sector.
- On the completion of the programme students are expected to have developed Disciplinary knowledge , Communication Skill , Moral and ethical awareness , Multicultural competence ,Information/digital literacy, Reflective thinking , Cooperation/Team work, Research-related skills and Problem solving and Critical thinking .

SEMESTER 1

PAPER I- Understanding Political Theory

(1.1)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course introduces the various ways of theorizing the political. The idea is to introduce and assess the conventional as well as contemporary approaches to understanding politics.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the various traditions and approaches of political theory and appreciate how they get reflected in organizing social living
- Understand multiple frames by which the idea of political community is debated
- Understand the significance of theorizing and of applying theory into practice.

Paper II- Constitutional Government and Democracy in India

(1.2)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course enables students to develop an understanding of the tenets of Indian constitutionalism by engaging with Constituent Assembly debates. It enables them to understand the working of different organs of government and analyse the interaction amongst them which often involves both conflict and cooperation. Moreover, it enables the students to understand the division of powers in Indian federal set-up and its asymmetrical federal arrangements, with special emphasis on the special provisions for governance in

fifth and sixth schedules of the constitution. The students are also familiarized with the process of rural and urban governance and the dynamics of gender and caste in these domains. The students would also become familiar with challenges of addressing emergency conditions and security concerns within the constitutional framework.

Learning Outcomes

- Be familiarized with the debates around the origin, and evolution of the Indian constitution.
- Become aware of the manner in which government functions through its various organs.
- Understand the division of power between various organs of the government at different levels.

SEMESTER 2

Paper III - Political Theory-Concepts and Debates

(2.1)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course will familiarize students with the basic normative concepts in political theory and encourage them to understand how they manifest in social practices. The course will also help students learn how we make use of these concepts in organizing our social living.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the dimensions of shared living (sociare) through these political values and concepts.
- Appreciate how these values and concepts enrich the discourses of political life, sharpening their analytical skills in the process.

Paper IV- Political Process in India
(2.2)
Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

An understanding of the political process in India calls for a mode of analysis, which takes into consideration social and economic relations in society, and the manner in which they impact upon and are shaped by the institutional frameworks of politics. This course equips students with the tools of studying the political process in India by looking at the relationship between the components of the political system, the social and economic contexts in which they unfold, and the democratic values that they seek to achieve.

Learning Outcomes

- Gain insights into the interconnections between social and economic relations and the political process in India.
- Understand the challenges arising due to caste, class, gender and religious diversities and also analyse the changing nature of the Indian state in the light of these diversities.
- Make sense of the specificities of the political processes in India in the light of changes of
- The state practices, electoral system, representational forms and electoral behavior.

SEMESTER 3

Paper V - Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics (3.1)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:

This course aims to familiarise students to basic concepts, methods and scope of comparative politics, different approaches their strengths and weaknesses. The objective is to provide deeper understanding of structures and functions of institutions in comparative perspective. The course will examine politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries. The historical context of modern state, constitutional development and their political economy could be understood with specific references; such as capitalism with reference to Britain, socialism with reference to China, colonialism and decolonization with reference to Brazil and Nigeria.

This paper would enable student to understand the legacy of the discipline.

Studying different political systems from different continents across the world will introduce students to a range of political regimes, culture and their political economy. Students will learn to delineate ways to understand how state relates to the economy and how culture shapes the political discourse in a particular context. It would enhance the ability of students to use analytical frame of gender, ace, ethnicity and their intersectionality in comparative perspective. Students will develop reflective thinking and ability to ask relevant questions pertinent to the discipline and will also develop aptitude for research.

Learning Outcomes

- Learning what, why and how to compare with an objective to discern Eurocentric bias
- Let student understand the different approaches to study Comparative politics
- Students will learn the emergence and development different forms of government
- Student will study through the examples from the globe

Paper VI - Perspectives on Public Administration

(3.2)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

The course introduces the discipline of public administration. This paper encompasses public administration in its historical context with an emphasis on the various classical and contemporary administrative theories. The course also explores some of the recent trends, including feminism and ecological conservation and how the call for greater democratization is restructuring public administration. The course will also attempt to provide the students a comprehensive understanding on contemporary administrative developments.

Learning Outcomes

- The student will be able to understand an overview of the discipline and how it is different from private administration.
- The student will be introduced to the evolution of the discipline, its changing contours through a study of the different theories, ranging from the classical, neo-classical and contemporary theories.
- The students will be better equipped to analyse processes of leadership and conflict management that have become increasingly significant in contemporary administration.
- The student learns about major contemporary approaches in public administration.

- The student is specially made sensitive to the feminist perspective in Public administration.

Paper VII- Perspectives on International Relations and World History
(3.3)
Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This paper seeks to equip students with the basic intellectual tools for understanding International Relations. It introduces students to some of the most important theoretical approaches for studying international relations. The course begins by historically contextualizing the evolution of the international state system before discussing the agent-structure problem through the levels-of-analysis approach. After having set the parameters of the debate, students are introduced to different theories in International Relations. It provides a fairly comprehensive overview of the major political developments and events starting from the twentieth century. Students are expected to learn about the key milestones in world history and equip them with the tools to understand and analyze the same from different perspectives. A key objective of the course is to make students aware of the implicit Euro - centricism of International Relations by highlighting certain specific perspectives from the Global South.

Learning Outcomes

- The students will have a comprehensive understanding of both historical processes and contemporary practices in International Relations.
- Major theoretical perspectives will broaden the critical insight and inculcate among students the significance and rigor of the study of international relations.
- The paper will go beyond eurocentrism in international relations and reflect on the global South perspectives.

- It will evolve analytical skills to further explore both theoretical and actual key milestones in international relations.

Paper – Your Laws, Your Rights (Ability Enhancement)

Learning Outcomes

- This course helps students to develop an understanding of law as a source of their rights.
- In-depth understanding of important democratic values such as equality, justice etc.
- Knowledge of various laws enacted for upholding the democratic values.
- An awareness of democratic rights guaranteed to Indian citizens and persons
- Students develop skills related to using ordinary legal procedures to safeguard the rights guaranteed in India
- Basic knowledge of ordinary procedures such as obtaining different kinds of identity documents
- An understanding of the basic structure and principles of the Indian legal system

SEMESTER 4

Paper VIII - Political Processes and Institutions in Comparative Perspective (4.1)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

In this course students will be trained in the application of comparative methods to the study of politics. The course is comparative in both what we study and how we study. In the process the course aims to introduce undergraduate students to some of the range of issues, literature, and methods that cover comparative politics.

Learning Outcomes

- The paper will equip students with an in-depth understanding of different political systems and regime types.
- Students would be able to contrast unitary and federal, democratic and authoritarian systems.
- It will help students to develop analytical skills to reflect institutional structures and their functioning such as party systems, electoral systems.
- It will provide insight into the process of evolution of nation state in the context of West and post-colonial societies.
- Students will develop insights into the process of democratization in post-colonial, post authoritarian and post-communist societies.

Paper IX - Public Policy and Administration in India

(4.2)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

The paper seeks to introduce the interface between public policy and administration in India. The essence of public policy lies in its effectiveness in translating the governing philosophy into programs and policies and making it a part of the community living. It deals with issues of decentralization, financial management, citizens and administration and social welfare from a non-western perspective.

Learning Outcomes

- The student is introduced to theoretical perspectives on public policy, a major sub discipline of public administration.
- This is a paper devoted specially to the Indian context, so the student will become familiar with details of public policy adopted in India.

- Students will recognize the significance of local governance – both rural and urban.
- The students will become familiar with a range of budgetary procedures and practices, aspart of the budget cycle in India.
- The student is exposed to mechanisms of grievance redressal and a range of specific social welfare policies.

Paper X - Global Politics

(4.3)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course introduces students to the key debates on the meaning and nature of globalization by addressing its political, economic, social, cultural and technological dimensions. In keeping with the most important debates within the globalization discourse, it imparts an understanding of the working of the world economy, its anchors and resistances offered by global social movements while analyzing the changing nature of relationship between the state and trans-national actors and networks. The course also offers insights into key contemporary global issues such as the proliferation of nuclear weapons, ecological issues, international terrorism, and human security before concluding with a debate on the phenomenon of global governance.

Learning Outcomes

- The students will have conceptual clarity on meaning, nature and significance of globalization.
- The students will learn about the contemporary debates on the discourse of globalization.
- The students will also learn about the rise of financial networks and major actors of global economy and their impact on state and sovereignty.
- The paper will enhance students' understanding of contemporary global issues like proliferation of nuclear weapons, ecology, international terrorism and human security.

- The paper will develop analytical skills of the students to reflect on the phenomenon of global governance.

Paper 2 – Public Opinion and Survey Research
(Ability Enhancement)

Learning Outcomes

- This course helps the students understand the importance of public opinion in a democracy.
- The important role of survey research in the working of a democratic political system
- Students will learn about the methods used for conducting surveys and interpreting the data collected through surveys
- Acquire basic skills related to understanding public opinion formation and conducting research through the use of samples, making a questionnaire, conducting interviews, etc.
- Students will attain basic skills related to measurement of public opinion such as data analysis using statistical methods.

SEMESTER 5

Paper XI - Classical Political Philosophy
(5.1)
Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes the students with the manner in which the political questions were first posed and are being answered in normative ways.

The aim is to introduce to the students the questions, ideas and values of political philosophy which are being addressed by the political philosophers as part of contemporary political thinking. In this manner students would be familiarized with the theoretical origins of key concepts in political science.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand how to read and decode the classics and use them to solve contemporary socio-political problems.
- Connect with historically written texts and can interpret it in familiar way (the way Philosophers think).
- Clearly present their own arguments and thoughts about contemporary issues and develop ideas to solve them through logical validation.

Paper XII - Indian Political Thought - I

(5.2)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

The primary objective of the course is to make students familiar with the works and studies related to Indian Political Thought. This course introduces the specific elements and diverse spectrum of Indian Political Thought spanning over two millennia. The basic focus of study is on individual thinkers whose ideas are however framed by specific themes and facilitated sociopolitical transformation. The course as a whole is meant to provide a sense of the broad streams of Indian thought, while encouraging a specific knowledge of individual thinkers and texts. The ideas contain classical as well as medieval approaches to the issues in existence in the Indian society. Selected extracts from some original texts are also given to discuss in class. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

Having successfully completed this course, student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic concepts of ancient and medieval Indian political thought that

are relevant traditions of thought in India and develop a comparative understanding of Indian and western political thought. This course will also help students to identify and describe the key characteristics of Indian political thought and develop a strong understanding of selected historical debates.

DSE1 - Citizenship in a Globalizing World

(C.1)

Discipline Specific Elective - (DSE) Credit:6

The aim of this course is to introduce different trajectories of the debates concerning citizenship. It delves into the relationship between the individual and the collective, the meaning of membership, and the distribution of benefits and burdens of that membership and how these normative dimensions of citizenship have changed over time.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop a broad historical, normative and empirical understanding of the idea of citizenship.
- Understand different trajectories of the development/evolution of the concept of citizenship.
- Understand/assess some of the major ethical challenges that citizenship faces in the wake of globalization and the rapidly proliferating idea about the need of accommodating diversity in multicultural political settings.

DSE5 - Colonialism and Nationalism in India

(C.5)

Discipline Specific Elective - (DSE) Credit:6

The purpose of this course is to help students understand historically the imposition of colonialism in India and nationalism as an ideology and movement of resistance against colonial rule. The aim is to study the different theoretical perspectives and historical explanations for colonialism and nationalism in India, the social, political and institutional practices that comprised colonial rule, and the ways in which different kinds of movements, paved the way for independence and democracy in India.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand and engage with the different ways in which colonialism and nationalism have been understood.
- Understand of the nature of colonial rule and the way in which it consolidated itself in India
- Demonstrate awareness of the impact of colonialism on Indian economy and society Show knowledge of the gradual emergence of anti-colonial nationalist movement in India
- Demonstrate an understanding of the distinct periods of the nationalist movement and the nature of resistance politics adopted in different phases Show awareness of the various social movements, the kind of questions they raised and their contributions to the nationalist movement.

SEMESTER 6

Paper XII - Indian Political Thought - II

(6.2)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

The objective of this course is to study important themes through individual thinkers. The course has been designed to give students a glimpse about the richness and diversity within Indian political thought. The thinkers have been consciously selected to represent a wide spectrum of ideologies and vantage points within the modern Indian thought tradition.

Selected extracts from original texts are also given to discuss in the class. This shall help students to have some experience in understanding how these thinkers build up their arguments and developed their views on the respective themes.

Learning Outcomes

- The course is aimed to equip students with critical understanding about modern Indian thought.
- The thematic exploration of ideas is meant to locate the topical debates on important subjects on a historical trajectory and reflect over the diverse possibilities exhibited in the writings of the respective thinkers.
- It is expected that at the end of the course the students will be able to think about issues and debates in contemporary India from multiple vantage points including its historical significance in the Indian tradition.
- It would also help them develop toleration and respect for diverse opinion and at the same time, to admire and appreciate the plurality within the modern Indian intellectual tradition.

Paper XIII - Modern Political Philosophy

(6.1)

Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

This course aims to expose the students to the manner in which the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence in society and is being solved. By introducing the philosophers from different traditions students will be able to answer few fundamental political questions: Why do we live in political communities? What is the 'best' form of government? How human nature influences political decision making? How and in what circumstances we need to resist bad rulers?

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the idea of modernity and establish a connection between societal changes posed through modernity and its prescribed political suggestions.
- Identify various tendencies in political philosophical discourse and manage to answer various fundamental questions through problem-solving aptitude.

**DSE3 - Development Process and Social Movements in Contemporary
India
(C.3)**

Discipline Specific Elective - (DSE) Credit:6

Under the influence of globalization, development processes in India have undergone transformation to produce spaces of advantage and disadvantage and new geographies of power. Such a development strategy has involved high social reproduction costs and dispossession of vulnerable social groups giving rise to conditions of social and political contestations and struggles. A variety of protest movements have emerged to challenge this development paradigm that has also weakened the democratic space so very vital to the formulation of critical consensus. This course proposes to introduce students to the conditions, contexts and forms of political contestation over contemporary development paradigms and the retrieval of democratic voice of citizens.

Learning Outcomes

- Show knowledge of development policies and planning in India since independence.
- Understand the development strategies and their impact on industrial and agricultural sphere.
- Understand the emergence of social movements in response to the development policies adopted by successive governments.

- Demonstrate awareness of the different trajectories of specific social movements in India, their demands and successes.

**DSE6 - India's Foreign Policy in a Globalizing World
(C.6)**

Discipline Specific Elective - (DSE) Credit:6

This course's objective is to teach students the domestic sources and the structural constraints on the genesis, evolution and practice of India's foreign policy. The endeavour is to highlight integral linkages between the 'domestic' and the 'international' aspects of India's foreign policy by stressing on the shifts in its domestic identity and the corresponding changes at the international level. Students will be instructed on India's shifting identity as a postcolonial state to the contemporary dynamics of India attempting to carve its identity as an 'aspiring power'. India's evolving relations with the uperpowers during the Cold War and after, bargaining strategy and positioning in international climate change negotiations, international economic governance, international terrorism and the United Nations facilitate an understanding of the changing positions and development of India's role as a global player since independence.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will learn about India's diplomatic maneuvers in an essentially interest and power seeking global hierarchical relationship.
- Students will also learn about the challenges India faces in securing its interests as a postcolonial state.
- The study of India's ability to engage with powerful nations of the world like USA, Russia and China will help students understand India's perspective on international relations.
- The course will enhance students' understanding of India's strategies in South Asia.

- Students will also learn about India's negotiation strategy in dealing with global trade, environment and security regime.

ALL HONS. GENERIC ELECTIVE

SEMESTER 1

Paper 1- Nationalism in India

Learning Outcomes

- The course will enable students to understand the concept of nationalism in India through various historical contexts and interpretations
- Students will be able to understand different theoretical perspectives on the emergence and development of nationalism in India
- Exhibit knowledge of the historical course of the development of the independence movement in India, and its different phases
- Analyzing the involvement of various social and religious movements in the anti-colonial struggle
- Establish knowledge of the description of partition and the independence of India

SEMESTER 2

Paper 2- Politics of Globalization

Learning Outcomes

- This course enables the students to learn about the meaning, nature, significance and contemporary debates about globalization.
- The study of various methodologies and ideas of globalization and the role played by various international organizations will expand students' knowledge on international political economy.
- A vision of the alternative understanding of globalization and various critical aspects related to it.
- The students will have in-depth knowledge of the impact of globalization on third world countries
- An understanding of contemporary international issues like civil society, social movements and human migration in the context of globalization.

SEMESTER 3

Paper 3- Gandhi and the Contemporary World

Learning Outcomes

- This course will enable student to understand Gandhi in a global framework and elaborate Gandhian thought and examine its practical implications.
- Students analyze Gandhi's continuing influence in the contemporary times and critically evaluate his legacy.
- Students will be able to understand Gandhian philosophy in a critical and analytical way.
- Describe the impact of Gandhian thought on Indian and global politics.
- It will help in pointing out and explaining selected approaches and methods that various scholars have used to study the history of anti-colonial Indian politics.

SEMESTER 4

Paper 4– Governance Issues and Challenges

Learning Outcomes

- The students will learn the concept of good governance.
- This course will help students to get familiar with the changing nature of governance in the era of globalization.
- The most contemporary ideas of sustainable development and green governance.
- Various ideas relating to e-governance.
- The students will become familiar with a detailed introduction to the best practices in India on good governance.