

5. Political Institutions

Learning Objectives: The student will have a vivid picture of various political institutions like legislature, executive, judiciary, forms of government, democratic system, and pressure groups.

Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of the course the students will be able to:

- Understand the organs of the government.
- Learn the theory of separation of powers.
- Comprehend the forms of government.
- Know the rights and its theories.
- Acquaint with political ideologies.

Unit – I: Organs of Government:

- July
- ✓ 1. Legislature: Unicameral and Bicameral
 - ✓ 2. Legislature: Power and Functions
 - ✓ 3. Executive: Types, Powers, and Functions
 4. Judiciary: Powers and Functions

Unit – II: Separation of Powers:

- Aug
1. Theory of Separation of Powers: Meaning, Nature
 2. Montesquieu's doctrine of separation of powers
 3. Advantages & Disadvantages
 4. Case study of USA & UK

Unit – III: Forms of Government:

- Aug
1. Unitary form of Governments: Merits and Demerits
 2. Federal form of Government: Merits and Demerits
 3. Parliamentary form of Government: Merits and Demerits
 4. Presidential form of Government: Merits and Demerits

Unit – IV: Democracy:

- Sep
1. Democracy: Meaning, Definition, Significance
 2. Theories and Principles of Democracy
 3. Types of Democracy
 4. Condition for the success of democracy

Unit – V: Political Parties, Pressure Groups and Public Opinion:

- Oct
1. Political Parties: Meaning, Definition, Classification of Political Parties: National
 2. Classification of Political Parties: Regional, Functions of Political Parties.
 3. Pressure Groups: Meaning, Definition, and Types
 4. Public Opinion: Meaning, Definition, and Significance

Unit-wise proposed activities & evaluation:

Celebrations on International Day of Democracy

1. **Quiz Program:** Marks scored by teams.
2. **Debate:** Faculty evaluation.
3. **Essay writing:** Based on understanding and scores.
4. **Classroom Seminar:** Peer evaluation.
5. **Study Project:** Faculty evaluation.

References:

1. Modern Political Theory: S.P. Varma
2. Principles of Political Science: A.C. Kapoor
3. Contemporary Political Theory: J.C. Johari
4. An Introduction to Political Theory: O.P. Gauba
5. Political Theory: R.C. Agarwal

6. Indian Constitution

Learning Objectives: The student will understand the intricacies of the Constitution, its evolution, development, and insights of feature of Indian Constitution with due stress on fundamental rights, duties, and directive principles of state policy.

Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of the course the students will be able to:

- Know the origin and evolution of the Constitution.
- Understand of Constitutional Development of India.
- Comprehend the feature of Indian Constitution.
- Identify the rights and duties.
- Understanding the notion of theory of basic structure.

Unit – I: Constitution:

- July
1. Constitution: Meaning, Definition, & Origin
 2. Evolution of Constitution
 3. Classification of the Constitutions: Written and Unwritten
 4. Classification of the Constitutions: Rigid and Flexible

Unit – II: Ideological Base of the Indian Constitution:

- Aug
1. Constitutional Development in India during British Rule
 2. Minto-Morley Reforms, 1909
 3. Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919
 4. Government of India Act, 1935

Unit – III: Features of Indian Constitution:

- Aug
1. Constituent Assembly: Nature, Composition,
 2. Constituent Assembly: Socio-Economic, Philosophical Dimensions
 3. Indian Constitution: Preamble
 4. Indian Constitution: Salient Features

Unit – IV: Rights & Duties:

- Sep
1. Fundamental Rights
 2. Directive Principles of State Policy
 3. Differences between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy
 4. Fundamental Duties

Unit – V: Theory of Basic Structure:

- Oct
1. Doctrine of Basic Structure of the Constitution: Origin & Growth
 2. Judicial Interpretations: Golaknath Case, 1967
 3. Judicial Interpretations: Kesavananda Bharathi Case, 1973
 4. Judicial Interpretations: Minerva Mills Case, 1980

Unit-wise proposed activities & evaluation:

Celebrations on Indian Constitutional Day.

1. **Assignment:** Marks obtained.
2. **Discussion:** Faculty evaluation.
3. **Essay writing:** Based on understanding and scores.
4. **Classroom Seminar:** Peer evaluation.
5. **Debate:** Evaluation by faculty.

References:

1. An Introduction to the Constitution of India: D. D. Basu
2. Constitutional Government in India: M. V. Pylee
3. Politics in India: Rajani Kothari
4. Indian Government and Politics: B.L. Fadia
5. Concise Encyclopedia of Indian Constitution: Subhash Kashyap

10. Western Political Thought: Ancient & Medieval

Learning Objectives: The student gets a holistic understanding of the ancient and medieval times prevailed in Europe and, influence of religion on the State.

Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of the course the students will be able to:

- Understand the fundamental contours classical, western political philosophy,
- Understand the concepts of Plato and Aristotle
- Understand the basic features of medieval political thought and shift from medieval to modern era.
- Understand the influence of religion and its impact on the State.
- Critically analyse the evolution of western political thought.

Unit: I:

- July
1. History of Western Political Thought
 2. Plato: Rule of Philosopher Kings
 3. Theory of Justice
 4. Ideal State and Education

Unit: II:

- Aug
1. Aristotle: Theory of State
 2. Classification of Governments
 3. Citizenship and Slavery
 4. Theory of Revolutions

Unit: III:

- Aug
1. Cicero: On Law and Justice
 2. Cicero: Influence on Western Political Thought
 3. St. Augustine of Hippo: Religious and Political conditions in Europe & Africa
 4. St. Augustine of Hippo: Theory of Two Cities

Unit: IV:

- sp
1. St. Thomas Aquinas: Political Philosophy
 2. St. Thomas Aquinas: Four Cardinal Principles
 3. William of Ockham: Political Philosophy
 4. William of Ockham: Influence and legacy

Unit: V

- oct
1. Niccolo Machiavelli: Conditions of Europe and Italy
 2. Niccolo Machiavelli: Human Nature
 3. Niccolo Machiavelli: Suggestions to Prince
 4. Niccolo Machiavelli: State and Statecraft

Unit-wise proposed activities & evaluation:

1. **Assignment:** Marks obtained.
2. **Discussion:** Faculty evaluation.
3. **Essay writing:** Based on understanding and scores.
4. **Classroom Seminar:** Peer evaluation.
5. **Debate:** Evaluation by faculty.

References:

1. A History of Political Theory: George H. Sabine
2. A History of Political Thought-Plato to Marx: S. Mukherjee & Sushila Ramaswamy
3. Ancient and Medieval Political Thinkers-From Plato to Peta: P.B.Rathod
4. Political Thought: C.L. Wayper
5. Western Political Thought: B.N.Ray

8. Indian Federal System

Learning Objectives: The student will get awareness on Union – State relations, federal process, electoral system, constitutional development in the local governments with 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts.

Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of the course the students will be able to:

- Know the importance of Centre – State Relations.
- Learn the Indian federal process.
- Assess the electoral process in India.
- Estimate the Panchayat Raj System.
- Understand 73rd & 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts.

Unit – I: Centre - State Relations:

- July
1. Features of Indian Federal System
 2. Centre-State Relations: Legislative
 3. Centre-State Relations: Administrative
 4. Centre-State Relations: Financial

Unit – II: Federal Processes:

- Aug
1. Emerging Trends in Centre-State Relations
 2. Recommendations of Sarkaria Commission
 3. Recommendations of M.M.Punchi Commission
 4. Role of Governor

Unit – III: Electoral Processes:

- Aug
Sep
1. Election Commission of India: Powers and Functions
 2. Issues of Electoral Reforms
 3. Determinants of Voting Behaviour
 4. Problems of Defections: Anti-Defection Law

Unit – IV: Panchayati Raj System:

- Sep
1. Evolution of Panchayati Raj System
 2. Recommendations: Balwanta Rai Committee, Ashok Mehta Committee
 3. Rural Governments: Structure, Powers, and Functions
 4. Urban Governments: Structure, Powers, and Functions.

Unit – V: Constitutional Amendment Act: 73rd & 74th :

- 2
1. Democratic Decentralization
 2. 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act
 3. 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts
 4. Challenges and Prospects

Unit-wise proposed activities & evaluation:

Celebrations on Panchyat Raj Day.

Collection of Election statistics.

1. **Assignment:** Marks obtained.
2. **Discussion:** Faculty evaluation.
3. **Essay writing:** Based on understanding and scores.
4. **Classroom Seminar:** Peer evaluation.
5. **Debate:** Evaluation by faculty.

References:

1. An Introduction to the Constitution of India: D. D. Basu
2. Democratic Political Process: M.R. Biju
3. Indian Polity: Laxmikanth
4. Democratic Decentralisation and Grassroot Leadership in India: Subharata Dutta
5. Panchayatraj System and Development Planning: Hari Prasad Chhetri

