

SEMESTER-III

COURSE 5: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Learning Objectives:

To understand and critically analyze the key ideas and contributions of major Western political thinkers—from Plato and Aristotle to Marx and Mill—and their influence on the development of modern political ideologies, institutions, and concepts such as justice, liberty, equality, and the state.

Learning Outcomes:

- 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: Ancient Greek Political Thought

1. Plato - Rule of Philosopher Kings -Theory of Justice - Ideal State and Education
2. Aristotle -Theory of State - Classification of Governments-Citizenship, Slavery and Theory of Revolutions

Unit- II: Medieval and Modern Political Thought

1. St. Augustine-Theory of Two Cities
2. Niccolo Machiavelli-State and Statecraft

Unit- III: Contractual Political Thought

1. Thomas Hobbes- Human Nature, Social Contract and Absolute Sovereignty
2. John Locke- Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, Natural Rights and Limited Government.
3. Jean Jacques Rousseau- Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, General Will and Popular Sovereignty.

Unit- IV: Utilitarian Political Thought

1. Jermey Bentham-Theory of Utility, Law and Reforms
2. J.S.Mill-Theory of Liberty and Representative Government.

Unit- V: Marxist Political Thought

1. Karl Marx - Dialectical Materialism, Theory of Surplus Value and Class Struggle
2. Antonio Gramsci - Hegemony and Civil Society
3. John Rawls -Theory of Justice

SEMESTER-III

COURSE 6: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the foundational concepts and principles of political thought in ancient and medieval India, such as Dharma, Rajadharma, Artha, and the role of kingship.
- Analyze the contributions of key thinkers and texts, including Kautilya's *Arthashastra*, Manusmriti, and medieval Islamic political ideas within the Indian context.
- Evaluate the evolution of political institutions and governance systems across different historical periods and their relevance to contemporary political discourse.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of key political concepts and traditions from ancient and medieval Indian sources, including texts like the *Arthashastra* and *Manusmriti*.
2. Critically evaluate the political philosophies of major thinkers such as Kautilya, Manu, and medieval Islamic scholars in the Indian context.
3. Apply historical political ideas to understand the development of governance systems and their influence on modern Indian political thought.

Unit -I: Basis of Ancient Indian Political Thought

1. Sources of Ancient Indian Political Thought (Vedas, Upanishads)
2. Ramayana and Maha Bharata- Political Perspective
3. Features of Ancient Indian Political Thought

Unit -II: Early Political Thought

1. Contributions of Brihaspati, Sukra and Yajnavalkya on Political Ethics
2. Manu Smriti - Elements of State - Duties of the King – Manu Dharma – Varna System

Unit -III: Later Political Thought

1. Jainism – Decentralised Governance – Social Equality – Ethics and leadership
2. Buddhism – Democracy – Dhamma – Ethical Conduct – Social Justice

Unit -IV: Kautilya

1. Kautilya's Arthashastra - King & Kingship, Saptanga Theory
2. Foreign Policy– Raja Mandal Theory – Spy System
3. Shadgunya Theory
4. Relevance to the Contemporary Political System

Unit V: Medieval Political Thought

1. Basaveswara – Egalitarian Society- Administration
2. State Craft in Vijayanagara Empire
3. Panchatantra- lessons on Political Strategies

SEMESTER-III

COURSE 7: INDIAN GOVERNMENT

Theory

Credits: 4

4 hrs/week

Learning Objectives:

The student gets a glimpse of the nominal and real executive, legislatures of the Union and the States, and the judiciary system.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Know the President and Parliament of India.
2. Understand the Prime Minister & Council of Ministers.
3. Assess the Governor and his role.
4. Reflect the role of Chief Minister and Council of Ministers.
5. Judge the role of Judiciary.

Unit – I: President and Parliament

1. President of India: Mode of Election and Impeachment
2. President of India: Powers and Functions
3. Parliament: Composition, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
4. Parliament: Powers and Functions

Unit – II: Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

1. Prime Minister: Powers and Functions
2. Prime Minister: Role in Coalition Politics
3. Council of Ministers: Powers and Functions
4. Legislative Committees: PAC, Estimates Committee, Committee on Public Undertakings

Unit – III: Governor and Legislature

1. Governor: Powers and Functions
2. Governor: Role and Significance
3. Legislature: Composition – Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly
4. Legislature: Powers and Functions

Unit – IV: Chief Minister and Council of Ministers

1. Chief Minister: Powers and Functions
2. Council of Ministers: Powers and Functions
3. Business Advisory Committee
4. Standing Committees

Unit – V: Judiciary

1. Supreme Court-Composition and Appointments
2. Powers, and Functions
3. Judicial Review, Judicial Activism
4. National Judicial Appointments Commission and Judicial Reforms
