

Sri Sai Raghavendra (SSR) Degree College (Autonomous)

B.A. Political Science

Ist Semester Paper – I(PS101)

Understanding Political Theory

Total Credits : 5

Hours per week : 5

Course Objectives

1. Understanding Political Theory aims to clarify concepts like freedom, Equality, justice and democracy.
2. It seeks to explain the causes and mechanism of political events, behaviors and structures
3. It seeks to understand how political systems work and how to create a better political world.
4. It delves into fundamental questions about government & powers.

Unit-I: Political Theory?

- » What is Political Theory.
- » Political Theory: Evolution, Nature & Significance.
- » Debates on Political Theory.
- a) Normative b) Empirical

Unit- II: What is Political?

- » State: Theories of origin of the State, Divine, Social Contract, Evolution Theories.
- » Power and Authority.
- » Authoritative Allocation of Values.
- » Sovereign State: Challenges.
- » Policy Analysis and Governance.

Unit-III: Political Values and Theoretical Perspective.

- » Liberty: - A) Liberal B) Marxist C) Feminist
- » Equality: - A) Liberal B) Marxist C) Feminist
- » Justice: - A) Liberal B) Marxist C) Feminist
- » Political Decision Making.

Unit-IV: Political Ideologies.

- » Liberalism.
- » Nationalism.
- » Multiculturalism.
- » Identity Politics.

Unit- V: Political Institutions and Functions.

- » Legislature, Executive and Judiciary.
- » Role of Bureaucracy.
- » Political Parties, Pressure Groups.
- » Media and Cyber Security.


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Course Outcomes:

1. Student acquires the basic idea about the discipline.
2. They learn the scope and nature of the discipline.
3. They also get to learn the difference approaches of the subject
4. The best thing about the course is that the students get first-hand information about the political and economic ideologies

Reading List:-

1. Rajeev Bhargava & Ashok Acharya, editions, Political Theory: An Introduction, Pearson, 2019.
2. Sushila Ramaswamy, Political Theory: Ideas and Concept, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd, 2015.
3. O.P. Gauba. An Introduction to Political Theory, Macmillan, 201
4. Michael G. Roskin. Robert L. Cord, James A. Medeiros, Walter S. Jones. Political Science: An Introduction, Pearson, 2018.
5. Hoveyda Abbas. Ranjay Kumar, Political Theory, Person, 2019.
6. John Hottman, Paul Graham, Introduction to Political Ideologies, Person, 2014.
7. A. Appadorul (2000) Substance of Politics, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, India.
8. George H Sabine, Thomas L Thorson, (1973). A History of Political Theory, Oxford & IBH Publishing Co., New Delhi.
9. Heywood, Andrew, (2012). Political Ideologies: An Introduction, Palgrave Macmillan, UK.
10. Heywood, Andrew, (2013). Politics, Palgrave Macmillan, UK.
11. Leon P. Baradat (2011). Political Ideologies, Routledge.
12. Michael Freeden, Lyman Tower Sargent, Marc Stears (eds) (2013), The Oxford Handbook of Political Ideologies, Oxford University Press, UK.
13. Ernest Barker: Principles of Social and Political Theory (London, Oxford University Press 1951).
14. Norman P. Barry: An Introduction to Modern Political Theory (London Macmillan, 1989).
15. Richard Bellamy (ed): Theory and Concepts of Politics (New York, Manchester University Press 1993).
16. Anthony H. Birch: The Concepts and Theories of Modern Democracy (London, Routledge, 2001).
17. Martin Carnoy: The State and Political Theory (Princeton University Press, 1984).


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B.A. Political Science IInd Semester Paper – II Western Political Thought

Total Credits : 5

Hours per week : 5

Course Objectives

1. Understand foundational Western Political ideologies
2. Analyze the evolution of political thought from plato to marx
3. Foster analytical thinking about political systems and ideologies.
4. Connect historical theories to modern political systems

Unit-I: Greek Political Thought.

- » Greek Political Thought - Sophists.
- » Plato: - Concept of Justice, Ideal State, Education and Communism.
- » Aristotle: - Forms of Governments, On Revolutions, Slavery, Best state.

Unit- II: Medieval and Early Modern Thought.

- » Thomas Aquinas: - Christianized Aristotle.
- » Church – State Controversy, Secularism.
- » Niccolo Machiavelli – Human Nature, Statecraft.

Unit-III: Social Contractualists.

- » Thomas Hobbes: - Individualism and Absolute (State) Sovereignty.
- » John Locke: - Natural Right, Limited Government, Civil Liberties – Data PrivacyRight.
- » J. J. Rousseau: - Romanticism, General Will, Popular Sovereignty and Participatory Democracy.

Unit-IV: Utilitarianism & Dialectics.

- » Jeremy Bentham: - Utilitarian Principals, Hedonism.
- » J.S. Mill: - On Liberty, Representative Government.
- » G.W.F. Hegel: - Dialectics, Geist (Sprit), Theory of State.

Unit- V: Marxism and Feminist Thought.

- » Karl Marx: - Historical Materialism, Class Struggle and Proletarian Dictatorship.
- » Feminist Political Thought: - Mary Wollstonecraft, Simone de Beauvoir, Feminism. and political Representation.


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Course Outcomes:

1. Explain core concepts such as liberty, justice and democracy
2. Identify and analyse major thinkers and their contributions.
3. Construct logical arguments and critically assess political texts.
4. Apply theoretical insights to contemporary political issues.

Reading List:-

1. D. Mackenzie Brown, (1959), Indian Political Thought from Manu to Gandhi, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.
2. George Klosko, (2011), the Oxford Handbook of the History of Political Philosophy, Oxford University Press, New York.
3. George Claeys, (eds) (2013), Encyclopaedia of Modern Political Thought, Sage Publication, New Delhi.
4. M.P. Singh and Himanshu Roy, (eds), (2011). Indian Political Thought: Themes and Thinkers, Pearson, New Delhi.
5. N.D. Arora and S.S. Awasthy, (2007). Political Theory and Political Thought. HarAnsnd Publications, New Delhi.
6. S.K. Sarma and Urmila Sharma, (2006), Western Political Thought (from Plato to Burke). Atlantic Publishers, New Delhi.
7. Subrata Mukherjee & Sushila Ramaswamy, (2011), A History of Political Thought: Plato to Marx. PHI Learning Private Limited. New Delhi.
8. Thomas Pantham, Kenneth L. Deutsch, (1986), Political Thought in Modern India, Sage Publication, New Delhi.
9. The Second Sex. "Simon de Beauvoir, 1949.
10. "Mary Wellstone Craft, A revolutionary Life." Janet Todd. The Collected Works 2004, Columbia University, Press.


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