



U. G. SYLLABUS - NEP 2020

Political Science

TDC (NEP) 2nd Semester

PLS: DSC 151: POLITICAL THEORY – CONCEPTS AND DEBATES

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit-3

Course Objectives:

1. To understand the importance of freedom and analyze different conceptions of liberty, including negative liberty and positive liberty.
2. To examine the significance of equality and explore different perspectives on equality, including formal equality, political equality, and egalitarianism, with a focus on the Indian context and the concept of differential treatment.
3. To study the idea of justice and analyze different types of justice, including procedural justice, distributive justice, and global justice.
4. To explore the universality of rights and understand the concepts of natural rights, moral rights, and legal rights, as well as the three generations of rights.
5. To engage in major debates on human rights and multiculturalism, including the debate between universalism and cultural relativism regarding human rights, and the concept of multiculturalism and its relationship with the idea of toleration.

Units	Topics	Lectures
1	Core Concepts: Importance of Freedom: Negative Liberty, Positive Liberty.	
2	Significance of Equality: Formal Equality, Political and Egalitarianism with reference to Indian Concept and Differential Treatment.	
3	Idea of Justice: Procedural, Distributive and Global.	
4	Universality of Rights: Natural, Moral and Legal, The Three Generations of Rights.	
	Major Debates on Human Rights and Multiculturalism:	

5	Human Rights- Universalism Vs Cultural Relativism. Multiculturalism and the Idea of Toleration.	
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Course Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze and evaluate different conceptions of freedom, including negative liberty and positive liberty, and understand their significance in political theory.
2. Critically evaluate the concept of equality, including formal equality, political equality, and egalitarianism, in the context of the Indian concept of differential treatment.
3. Understand and analyze different types of justice, including procedural justice, distributive justice, and global justice, and evaluate their implications in political theory.
4. Explain the universality of rights and understand the concepts of natural rights, moral rights, and legal rights, as well as the three generations of rights.
5. Develop critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate different arguments and perspectives on political theory concepts and debates.
6. Enhance research skills through the study of political theory concepts and debates, and engage in independent research to explore relevant topics.
7. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, about the core concepts and debates in political theory, demonstrating a clear understanding of the subject matter.

References

1. Heywood, A. (2017). Political Theory: An Introduction. Palgrave Macmillan.
2. Berlin, I. (2002). Four Essays on Liberty. Oxford University Press.
3. Dworkin, R. (2011). Justice for Hedgehogs. Harvard University Press.
4. Sen, A. (2009). The Idea of Justice. Harvard University Press.
5. Rawls, J. (2009). A Theory of Justice. Harvard University Press.
6. Raz, J. (1986). The Morality of Freedom. Clarendon Press.
7. Nussbaum, M. C. (2011). Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach. Harvard University Press.

8. Ignatieff, M. (2002). *Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*. Princeton University Press.
9. Kymlicka, W. (1995). *Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights*. Oxford University Press.
10. Taylor, C. (1994). *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*. Princeton University Press.
11. Johari, Gupta (2020-21). *Political Theory- Concepts & Debates*. Vishal Publishing Co