



U. G. SYLLABUS – NEP 2020

Political Science

TDC (NEP) 6th Semester

PLS: DSC 353: POLITICAL PROCESSES AND INSTITUTIONS IN COMPARATIVE
PERSPECTIVE

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit- 4

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the field of comparative politics, its definition, nature, and scope, and the reasons for comparing political institutions across different countries.
2. To provide an understanding of electoral systems, including their definition, procedures, and various types such as first past the post system, proportional representation, and mixed representation.
3. To explore the concept of party systems, including their historical background and different types of party systems.
4. To examine the emergence and characteristics of modern nation-states, including the elements that define a nation-state in the contemporary world.
5. To analyze the concept of federalism, its historical context, and different models of federation and confederation.

Units	Topics	Lectures
1	Comparative Politics: Definition, Nature and Scope; Reasons, Types and Problems of Comparing Political Institutions.	
2	Electoral System: Definition and Procedures; Types of Election system- First Past the Post System, Proportional Representation and Mixed Representation.	
3	Party System: Historical Background and Types.	
4	Nation- State: Emergence of Modern Nation- State, Elements of Modern Nation-State.	
5	Federalism: Historical Context of Federation and Confederation: Models of Federation.	

Course Outcomes:

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

1. Understand the field of comparative politics and its significance in analyzing political institutions across different countries.
2. Describe and explain the characteristics, procedures, and functioning of different electoral systems.
3. Analyze the historical background and types of party systems and evaluate their impact on the political dynamics of different countries.
4. Evaluate the emergence and features of modern nation-states and understand the elements that define a nation-state in the contemporary context.
5. Compare and contrast different models of federalism and confederation and analyze their strengths and weaknesses.
6. Apply comparative perspectives to analyze and interpret political processes and institutions in different countries.
7. Develop effective communication skills to present comparative analyses of political processes and institutions.

References

1. Lijphart, A. (2012). *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries* (2nd ed.). Yale University Press.
2. Sartori, G. (2012). *Parties and Party Systems: A Framework for Analysis*. ECPR Press.
3. Duverger, M. (2012). *Political Parties: Their Organization and Activity in the Modern State*. Transaction Publishers.
4. Elazar, D. J. (2004). *Exploring Federalism*. University of Alabama Press.
5. Lijphart, A. (1999). *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. Yale University Press.
6. Horowitz, D. L. (2002). *Constitutional Design: Proposals versus Processes*. Princeton University Press.
7. Colomer, J. M. (2018). *Political Institutions: Democracy and Social Choice*. Oxford University Press.
8. Caramani, D. (2017). *Comparative Politics* (4th ed.). Oxford University Press.
9. Cheibub, J. A., Gandhi, J., & Vreeland, J. R. (Eds.). (2010). *Democracy and Dictatorship Revisited*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
10. Watts, R. L. (2017). *Comparing Federal Systems* (4th ed.). McGill-Queen's University Press.
11. Mazumder, Narayan C. (2019). *Comparative Government and Politics*. Amardeep Publication