



U. G. SYLLABUS - NEP 2020

Political Science

TDC (NEP) 1st Semester

PLS: DSM 101: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit-3

Course Objectives:

- 1) To familiarize students with the meaning of politics and differentiate it from political science and political theory.
- 2) To understand the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political theory and its relationship to the study of politics.
- 3) To analyze the concept of democracy, including its various forms, characteristics, merits, and demerits, and identify the pre-conditions necessary for the success of democracy.
- 4) To examine the concept of liberty, including its definition, features, and different forms, and understand the safeguards required to protect individual liberties.
- 5) To explore the meaning, features, and different kinds of equality and analyze the relationship between liberty and equality.
- 6) To critically evaluate the principles of fairness in relation to protective discrimination and explore the role of the state in intervening in the institution of the family.

Units	Topics	Lectures
1	Politics: Meaning and Difference with Political Science and Political Theory. Political Theory: Meaning, Nature, Scope and Relevance.	
2	Basic Concepts: I Democracy: Meaning, Forms, Characteristics, Merits and Demerits, The Pre-conditions for the Success of Democracy. Liberty: Definition, Features, Forms of Liberty; Safeguards of Liberty. Equality: Meaning, Features, Kinds of Equality; Relation between Liberty and Equality. Justice: Development of the Idea, Types of Justice, Rawls' Theory of	

	Justice.	
3	Basic Concepts: II Citizenship: Meaning, Features, Genesis and Development; Methods of Acquisition and Loss of Citizenship. Rights- Meaning, Features, Kinds of Rights, Human Rights & the UNO. State: Definition, Evolution, Relationship between State and Civil Society.	
4	Debates in Political Theory: I Is Democracy Compatible with Economic Growth? Is Censorship Justified? Grounds of Censorship and its Limits.	
5	Debates in Political Theory: II Does Protective Discrimination violate Principles of Fairness? Should the State intervene in the Institution of the Family?	

Course Outcomes:

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

- 1) Differentiate between politics, political science, and political theory, and understand their interrelationships.
- 2) Explain the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political theory in the study of politics.
- 3) Analyze and evaluate the various forms, characteristics, merits, and demerits of democracy, and identify the pre-conditions necessary for its success.
- 4) Identify and describe the features and different forms of liberty, and understand the safeguards required to protect individual liberties.
- 5) Analyze the meaning, features, and different kinds of equality and evaluate the relationship between liberty and equality.
- 6) Evaluate the principles of fairness in relation to protective discrimination and analyze the role of the state in intervening in the institution of the family.

References

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6. Marshall, T. H. (1950). *Citizenship and Social Class*. Pluto Press.
7. Shue, H. (1996). *Basic Rights: Subsistence, Affluence, and U.S. Foreign Policy*. Princeton University Press.
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10. Weber, M. (1919). *Politics as a Vocation*. In H. H. Gerth & C. Wright Mills (Eds.), *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*. Routledge.
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