



U. G. SYLLABUS - NEP 2020

**Political Science**

TDC (NEP) 1st Semester

PLS: IDC 101: POLITICAL THEORY – BASIC CONCEPTS

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit-3

**Course Objectives:**

1. To understand the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political science and its relationships with history, economics, and sociology.
2. To examine the concept of the state, including its definition and the elements that constitute it.
3. To explore different theories of the origin of the state, including the divine origin, the social contract, and the evolutionary theories.
4. To analyze various theories regarding the nature of the state, including idealist, organismic, juridical, and Marxian perspectives.
5. To understand the meaning, definition, and different kinds of sovereignty, and analyze Austin's theory and the pluralistic theory of sovereignty.
6. To study different forms of government, including democratic and dictatorial, unitary and federal, as well as parliamentary and presidential systems.

Units	Topics	Lectures
1	Political Science: Meaning, Nature, Scope and Relevance, Relations with History, Economics and Sociology.	
2	Idea of State: Definition, Elements of the State, Theories of Origin of State: The Divine Origin, The Social Contract and The Evolutionary.	
3	Theories of Nature of the State: Idealist, Organismic, Juridical and Marxian.	

4	Sovereignty: Meaning, Definition and Kinds of Sovereignty, Austin's Theory and Pluralistic Theory of Sovereignty.	
5	Forms of Government: Democratic and Dictatorial; Unitary and Federal; Parliamentary and Presidential.	

### **Course Outcomes:**

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

1. Explain the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political science and understand its relationships with history, economics, and sociology.
2. Define the concept of the state and identify its essential elements.
3. Evaluate different theories of the origin of the state, including the divine origin, the social contract, and the evolutionary perspectives.
4. Analyze and compare various theories regarding the nature of the state, including idealist, organismic, juridical, and Marxian perspectives.
5. Define sovereignty, understand its meaning and different kinds, and critically evaluate Austin's theory and the pluralistic theory of sovereignty.
6. Develop research and analytical skills through the study of political theory and its basic concepts.

### **References**

1. Heywood, A. (2021). *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.
2. Dryzek, J. S., Honig, B., & Phillips, A. (Eds.). (2019). *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory*. Oxford University Press.
3. Beetham, D., & Boyle, K. (2019). *Political Theory and the Modern State: Essays on State, Power, and Democracy*. Palgrave Macmillan.
4. Brown, W. (2019). *Undoing the Demos: Neoliberalism's Stealth Revolution*. Zone Books.
5. Cohen, J., & Arato, A. (2017). *Civil Society and Political Theory*. MIT Press.
6. Fraser, N., & Honneth, A. (Eds.). (2021). *Redistribution or Recognition?: A Political-Philosophical Exchange* (2nd ed.). Verso.

7. Sandel, M. J. (2020). *The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good?* Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
8. Shklar, J. N. (2018). *Ordinary Vices*. Harvard University Press.
9. Sen, A. (2017). *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* Penguin Books.
10. Young, I. M. (2018). *Justice and the Politics of Difference*. Princeton University Press.
11. Mazumder, Narayan C. (2009). *Introduction to Political Theory*. Amardeep Publications