



U. G. SYLLABUS - NEP 2020

**Political Science**

TDC (NEP) 2nd Semester

PLS: DSM 151: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit-3

**Course Objectives:**

- 1) To understand the meaning of politics and differentiate it from political science and political theory.
- 2) To define and explain the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political theory.
- 3) To analyze and discuss the basic concepts of political theory, including democracy, liberty, equality, and justice.
- 4) To examine the meaning, features, genesis, and development of citizenship and understand the methods of acquisition and loss of citizenship.
- 5) To explore the concept of rights, including their meaning, features, kinds, with a focus on human rights and the role of the United Nations.
- 6) To define the state, understand its evolution, and analyze the relationship between the state and civil society.

<b>Units</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Lectures</b>
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. Define and explain the meaning, nature, scope, and relevance of political theory.
3. Analyze and discuss the concepts of democracy, liberty, equality, and justice, and understand their significance in political theory.
4. Describe and analyze the meaning, features, genesis, and development of citizenship, and understand the methods of acquiring and losing citizenship.
5. Identify and explain the meaning, features, and different kinds of rights, with a specific focus on human rights and the role of the United Nations.
6. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, about the fundamental 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. Bevir, M. (2016). The Logic of the History of Ideas. Cambridge University Press.
3. Dryzek, J. S., Honig, B., & Phillips, A. (Eds.). (2019). The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory. Oxford University Press.
4. Rawls, J. (1971). A Theory of Justice. Harvard University Press.

5. Pateman, C. (1988). *The Sexual Contract*. Polity Press.
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.
8. Cohen, J. (1989). Capitalism, Freedom, and the Proletariat. *Ethics*, 99(4), 906-931.
9. Keane, J. (1998). *Civil Society: Old Images, New Visions*. Stanford University Press.
10. Weber, M. (1919). Politics as a Vocation. In H. H. Gerth & C. Wright Mills (Eds.), *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*. Routledge.
11. Mazumder, Narayan C. (2018). *Introduction to Political Theory*. Amardeep Publications