



U. G. SYLLABUS – NEP 2020

Political Science

TDC (NEP) 7th Semester

PLS: DSC 404: HUMAN RIGHTS: CONCEPTS AND ISSUES

Full marks- 100

(ESE- 70 Internal- 30)

Credit- 4

1. To introduce students to the concept of human rights, their historical evolution, and their significance in promoting dignity, equality, and justice.
2. To familiarize students with the three generations of human rights, including civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights, and collective rights, and understand their interdependence and indivisibility.
3. To explore the role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting human rights, with a focus on key documents such as the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
4. To examine international conventions and covenants that elaborate on specific human rights, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).
5. To study the enforcement agencies in India that are responsible for safeguarding human rights, including the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), SC Commission, ST Commission, and Minority Commission.
6. To analyze specific issues and challenges related to human rights in India, including women and children's rights, the rights of indigenous communities (Adivasis), refugee rights, caste conflicts, ethnic conflicts, and the impact of terrorism on human rights.
7. To foster effective communication skills in articulating and advocating for human rights principles, both orally and in written form.

Units	Topics	Lectures
1	Human Rights: i. Meaning, Evolution and Development; ii. Three Generations of Rights; iii. Immanuel Kant on Rights: Perpetual Peace.	
	The United Nations and Human Rights	

2	i. The UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). ii. Later Developments- International Conventions and Covenants- ICCPR, ICESCR.	
3	Enforcement Agencies in India: i. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), ii. SC Commission, iii. ST Commission iv. Minority Commission.	
4	Issues and Challenges in India: I i. Women and Children ii. Adivasis iii. Refugees	
5	Issues and Challenges in India: II i. Caste conflicts ii. Ethnic conflicts iii. Terrorism	

Course Outcomes:

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

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the concept of human rights, their historical development, and the principles underlying their protection.
2. Identify and analyze the three generations of human rights and their relevance in promoting individual and collective well-being.
3. Evaluate the role of international instruments, such as the UDHR, ICCPR, and ICESCR, in promoting and protecting human rights at the global level.
4. Assess the functions and effectiveness of enforcement agencies in India, including the NHRC, SC Commission, ST Commission, and Minority Commission, in addressing human rights violations.
5. Analyze specific human rights issues and challenges in the Indian context, such as women and children's rights, indigenous rights, refugee rights, caste conflicts, ethnic conflicts, and the impact of terrorism on human rights.

7. Evaluate ethical dilemmas and complexities associated with human rights protection and promotion and develop an ethical framework for addressing human rights challenges.

8. Apply knowledge and understanding of human rights concepts and issues to contribute to informed discussions and debates on human rights at local, national, and international levels.

References

1. Sen, A. (2020). *The Idea of Justice*. Penguin Books.
2. Donnelly, J. (2019). *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*. Cornell University Press.
3. Shue, H. (2019). *Basic Rights: Subsistence, Affluence, and U.S. Foreign Policy*. Princeton University Press.
4. Bhagwati, J. N., & Panagariya, A. (Eds.). (2021). *The Human Rights Regime in India: Theory, Practices, and Global Standards*. Oxford University Press.
5. Freeman, M. (2018). *Human Rights: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. Polity Press.
6. Ignatieff, M. (2021). *Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*. Princeton University Press.
7. Dershowitz, A. (2020). *Rights from Wrongs: A Secular Theory of the Origins of Rights*. Basic Books.
8. Langlois, A. J. (Ed.). (2020). *Gender, Human Rights and Law in a Global Perspective*. Routledge.
9. An-Na'im, A. A. (2019). *Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspectives: A Quest for Consensus*. University of Pennsylvania Press.
10. Jaume, L. (2021). *The Right to Difference: French Universalism and the Jews*. Princeton University Press.
11. Yasin, Adil-ul, Upadhyay Archana (2018). *Human Rights*. Akansha Publishing House