

# Vidyasagar University

## *Curriculum for B.A. (Honours) in Political Science* [Choice Based Credit System]

### Semester-I

Course	Course Code	Name of the Subjects	Course Type/ Nature	Teaching Scheme in hour per week			Credit	Marks
				L	T	P		
CC1		C1T: Understanding Political Theory	Core Course-1	5	1	0	6	75
CC2		C2T: Constitutional Government and Democracy in India	Core Course-2	5	1	0	6	75
GE1		TBD	Generic Elective-1				4/5	75
							2/1	
AECC		English	AECC (Elective)	1	1	0	2	50
<b>Semester Total</b>							<b>20</b>	<b>275</b>

L=Lecture, T=Tutorial, P=Practical, CC- Core Course, TBD - To be decided, AECC- Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course  
Generic Elective (GE) (Interdisciplinary) from other Department [ Paper will be of 6 credits]

**Semester-I**  
**CORE COURSE (CC)**

**CC-1: Understanding Political Theory**

**Credit 06**

**C1T: Understanding Political Theory**

**I: Introducing Political Theory**

**(30 Lectures)**

1. What is Politics: Theorizing the 'Political'
2. Traditions of Political Theory: Liberal, Marxist, Anarchist and Conservative
3. Approaches to Political Theory: Normative, Historical and Empirical
4. Critical and Contemporary Perspectives in Political Theory: Feminist and Postmodern

**II: Political Theory and Practice**

**(30 Lectures)**

**The Grammar of Democracy**

1. Democracy: The history of an idea
2. Procedural Democracy and its critique
3. Deliberative Democracy
4. Participation and Representation

**Suggested Readings**

1. Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16.
2. Bellamy, R. (1993) 'Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R.(ed.) *Theories and Concepts of Politics*. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14.
3. Glaser, D. (1995) 'Normative Theory', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 21-40.
4. Sanders, D. (1995) 'Behavioral Analysis', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 58-75.
5. Chapman, J. (1995) 'The Feminist Perspective', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 94-114.
6. Bhargava, R, 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 17-36.
7. Bannett, J. (2004) 'Postmodern Approach to Political Theory', in Kukathas, Ch. and Gaus, G.F. (eds.) *Handbook of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Sage, pp. 46-54.
8. Vincent, A. (2004) *The Nature of Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004, pp.19-80.
9. Srinivasan, J. (2008) 'Democracy', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 106-128.
10. Owen, D. (2003) 'Democracy', in Bellamy, R. and Mason, A. (eds.) *Political Concepts*. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 105-117.
11. Christiano, Th. (2008) 'Democracy', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 80-96.

12. Arblaster, A. (1994) *Democracy*. (2nd Edition). Buckingham: Open University Press.
13. Roy, A. 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 130-146.
14. Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-258.

## **CC-2: Constitutional Government and Democracy in India**

**Credit 06**

### **C2T: Constitutional Government and Democracy in India**

#### **I. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution (16 lectures)**

- a. Philosophy of the Constitution, the Preamble, and Features of the Constitution
- b. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles

#### **II. Organs of Government (20 lectures)**

- a. The Legislature: Parliament (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)
- b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister
- c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court

#### **III. Federalism and Decentralization (12 lectures)**

- a. Federalism: Division of Powers, Emergency Provisions, Fifth and Sixth Schedules
- b. Panchayati Raj and Municipalities

#### **Suggested Readings:**

1. G. Austin, (2010) 'The Constituent Assembly: Microcosm in Action', in *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 15th print, pp.1-
2. R. Bhargava, (2008) 'Introduction: Outline of a Political Theory of the Indian Constitution', in
3. R. Bhargava (ed.) *Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-40.
4. D. Basu, (2012) *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, New Delhi: Lexis Nexis.
5. S. Chaube, (2009) *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, Delhi: National BookTrust.
6. G. Austin, (2000) 'The Social Revolution and the First Amendment', in *Working a Democratic Constitution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 69-98.
7. A. Sibal, (2010) 'From Niti to Nyaya,' *Seminar*, Issue 615, pp 28-34.
8. *The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes*, (2011) New Delhi: Universal, pp. 4-16.
9. B. Shankar and V. Rodrigues, (2011) 'The Changing Conception of Representation: Issues, Concerns and Institutions', in *The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 105-173.
10. V. Hewitt and S. Rai, (2010) 'Parliament', in P. Mehta and N. Jayal (eds.) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 28-42.

11. J. Manor, (2005) 'The Presidency', in D. Kapur and P. Mehta P. (eds.) *Public Institutions in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.105-127.
12. J. Manor, (1994) 'The Prime Minister and the President', in B. Dua and J. Manor (eds.) *Nehru to the Nineties: The Changing Office of the Prime Minister in India*, Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, pp. 20-47.
13. H. Khare, (2003) 'Prime Minister and the Parliament: Redefining Accountability in the Age of Coalition Government', in A. Mehra and G. Kueck (eds.) *The Indian Parliament: A Comparative Perspective*, New Delhi: Konark, pp. 350-368.
14. U. Baxi, (2010) 'The Judiciary as a Resource for Indian Democracy', *Seminar*, Issue 615, pp. 61-67.
15. R. Ramachandran, (2006) 'The Supreme Court and the Basic Structure Doctrine' in B. Kirpal et.al (eds.) *Supreme but not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 107-133.
16. L. Rudolph and S. Rudolph, (2008) 'Judicial Review Versus Parliamentary Sovereignty', in *Explaining Indian Institutions: A Fifty Year Perspective, 1956-2006: Volume 2: The Realm of Institutions: State Formation and Institutional Change*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 183-210.
17. M. Singh, and R. Saxena (eds.), (2011) 'Towards Greater Federalization,' in *Indian Politics: Constitutional Foundations and Institutional Functioning*, Delhi: PHI Learning Private Ltd., pp. 166-195.
18. V. Marwah, (1995) 'Use and Abuse of Emergency Powers: The Indian Experience', in B. Arora and D. Verney (eds.) *Multiple Identities in a Single State: Indian Federalism in a Comparative Perspective*, Delhi: Konark, pp. 136-159.
19. B. Sharma, (2010) 'The 1990s: Great Expectations'; 'The 2000s: Disillusionment Unfathomable', in *Unbroken History of Broken Promises: Indian State and Tribal People*, Delhi: Freedom Press and Sahyog Pustak Kuteer, pp. 64-91.
20. *The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes*, (2011) New Delhi: Universal, pp 192- 213.
21. R. Dhavan and R. Saxena, (2006) 'The Republic of India', in K. Roy, C. Saunders and J. Kincaid (eds.) *A Global Dialogue on Federalism*, Volume 3, Montreal: Queen's University Press, pp. 166-197.
22. R. Manchanda, (2009) *The No Nonsense Guide to Minority Rights in South Asia*, Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 105-109.
23. P. deSouza, (2002) 'Decentralization and Local Government: The Second Wind of Democracy in India', in Z. Hasan, E. Sridharan and R. Sudarshan (eds.) *India's Living Constitution: Ideas, Practices and Controversies*, New Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 370-404.
24. M. John, (2007) 'Women in Power? Gender, Caste and Politics of Local Urban Governance', in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 42(39), pp. 3986-3993.
25. Raghunandan, J. R (2012) *Decentralization and local governments: The Indian Experience*, Orient Black Swan, New Delhi
26. Baviskar, B.S and George Mathew (eds) 2009 *Inclusion and Exclusion in local governance: Field Studies from rural India*, New Delhi, Sage

**Generic Elective (GE)**  
**GE-1 [Interdisciplinary for other department]**

**GE-1 : Nationalism in India**  
**GE-1 T: Nationalism in India**

**Credit 06**

- I. Approaches to the Study of Nationalism in India** (8 lectures)  
Nationalist, Imperialist, Marxist, and Subaltern Interpretations
- II. Reformism and Anti-Reformism in the Nineteenth Century** (8 lectures)  
Major Social and Religious Movements in 19th century
- III. Nationalist Politics and Expansion of its Social Base** (18 lectures)  
a. Phases of Nationalist Movement: Liberal Constitutionalists, Swadeshi and the Radicals; Beginning of Constitutionalism in India  
b. Gandhi and Mass Mobilisation: Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, and Quit India Movement  
c. Socialist Alternatives: Congress Socialists, Communists
- IV. Social Movements** (8 lectures)  
a. The Women's Question: Participation in the National Movement and its Impact  
b. The Caste Question: Anti-Brahminical Politics  
c. Peasant, Tribals and Workers Movements
- V. Partition and Independence** (6 lectures)  
a. Communalism in Indian Politics  
b. The Two-Nation Theory, Negotiations over Partition

**Suggested Readings:**

1. S. Bandopadhyay, (2004) *From Plassey to Partition: A History of Modern India*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 184-191
2. R. Thapar, (2000) 'Interpretations of Colonial History: Colonial, Nationalist, Post-colonial', in P. DeSouza, (ed.) *Contemporary India: Transitions*, New Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 25-36.
3. A. S. Bandopadhyay, (2004) *From Plassey to Partition: A History of Modern India*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp.139-158, 234-276.
4. A. Sen, (2007) 'The idea of Social Reform and its Critique among Hindus of Nineteenth
5. Century India', in S. Bhattacharya, (ed.) *Development of Modern Indian Thought and the Social Sciences*, Vol. X. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
6. S. Bandopadhyay, (2004) *From Plassey to Partition: A History of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 279-311.
7. S. Sarkar, (1983) *Modern India (1885-1947)*, New Delhi: Macmillan,
8. P. Chatterjee, (1993) 'The Nation and its Past', in P. Chatterjee, *The Nation and its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Histories*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 76-115.
9. S. Bandopadhyay, (2004) *From Plassey to Partition: A history of Modern India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 342-357, 369-381.
10. G. Shah, (2002) *Social Movements and the State*, New Delhi: Sage, pp. 13-31

- A. Jalal, and S. Bose, (1997) *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, and Political Economy*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 135-156.
- A. Nandy, (2005) *Rashtravad banam Deshbhakti* Translated by A. Dubey, New Delhi: Vani Prakashan. pp. 23-33. (The original essay in English is from A. Nandy, (1994) New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-8.)
- B. Chakrabarty and R. Pandey, (2010) *Modern Indian Political Thought*, New Delhi: Sage Publications.
12. P. Chatterjee, (1993) *The Nation and its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Histories*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
13. R. Pradhan, (2008) *Raj to Swaraj*, New Delhi: Macmillan (Available in Hindi).
14. S. Islam, (2006) *Bharat Mein Algaovaad aur Dharm*, New Delhi: Vani Prakashan.

OR

## **GE-1 : Feminism: Theory and Practice**

**Credit 06**

### **GE-1 T: Feminism: Theory and Practice**

#### **I. Approaches to understanding Patriarchy**

**(22 Lectures)**

- Feminist theorising of the sex/gender distinction. Biologism versus social constructivism
- Understanding Patriarchy and Feminism
- Liberal, Socialist, Marxist, Radical feminism, New Feminist Schools/Traditions

#### **II. History of Feminism**

**(22 Lectures)**

- Origins of Feminism in the West: France, Britain and United States of America
- Feminism in the Socialist Countries: China, Cuba and erstwhile USSR
- Feminist issues and women's participation in anti-colonial and national liberation movements with special focus on India

#### **III. The Indian Experience**

**(16 Lectures)**

- Traditional Historiography and Feminist critiques. Social Reforms Movement and position of women in India. History of Women's struggle in India
- Family in contemporary India - patrilineal and matrilineal practices. Gender Relations in the Family, Patterns of Consumption: Intra Household Divisions, entitlements and bargaining, Property Rights
- Understanding Woman's Work and Labour – Sexual Division of Labour, Productive and Reproductive labour, Visible - invisible work – Unpaid (reproductive and care), Underpaid and Paid work,- Methods of computing women's work , Female headed households



## Suggested Readings:

1. Geetha, V. (2002) *Gender*. Calcutta: Stree.
2. Geetha, V. (2007) *Patriarchy*. Calcutta: Stree.
3. Jagger, Alison. (1983) *Feminist Politics and Human Nature*. U.K.: Harvester Press, pp. 25-350.
4. Ray, Suranjita. *Understanding Patriarchy*. Available at: [http://www.du.ac.in/fileadmin/DU/Academics/course\\_material/hrge\\_06.pdf](http://www.du.ac.in/fileadmin/DU/Academics/course_material/hrge_06.pdf)
5. Lerner, Gerda. (1986) *The Creation of Patriarchy*. New York: Oxford University Press.
6. Rowbotham, Shiela. (1993) *Women in Movements*. New York and London: Routledge, Section I, pp. 27-74 and 178-218.
7. Jayawardene, Kumari. (1986) *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World*. London: Zed Books, pp. 1-24, 71-108, and Conclusion.
8. Forbes, Geraldine (1998) *Women in Modern India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-150.
9. Eisentein, Zillah. (1979) *Capitalist Patriarchy and the Case for Socialist Feminism*. New York: Monthly Review Press, pp. 271-353.
10. Funk, Nanette & Mueller, Magda. (1993) *Gender, Politics and Post-Communism*. New York and London: Routledge, Introduction and Chapter 28.
11. Chaudhuri, Maiyatree. (2003) 'Gender in the Making of the Indian Nation State', in Rege, Sharmila. (ed.) *The Sociology of Gender: The Challenge of Feminist Sociological Knowledge*. New Delhi: Sage.
12. Banarjee, Sikata. (2007) 'Gender and Nationalism: The Masculinisation of Hinduism and Female Political Participation', in Ghadially, Rehana. (ed.) *Urban Women in Contemporary India: A Reader*. New Delhi: Sage.
13. Roy, Kumkum. (1995) 'Where Women are Worshipped, There Gods Rejoice: The Mirage of the Ancestress of the Hindu Women', in Sarkar, Tanika & Butalia, Urvashi. (eds.) *Women and the Hindu Right*. Delhi: Kali for Women, pp. 10-28.
14. Chakravarti, Uma. (1988) 'Beyond the Altekarian Paradigm: Towards a New Understanding of Gender Relations in Early Indian History', *Social Scientist*, Volume 16, No. 8.
15. Banerjee, Nirmala. (1999) 'Analysing Women's work under Patriarchy' in Sangari, Kumkum & Chakravarty, Uma. (eds.) *From Myths to Markets: Essays on Gender*. Delhi: Manohar.
16. Gandhi, Nandita & Shah, Nandita. (1991) *The Issues at Stake – Theory and Practice in Contemporary Women's Movement in India*. Delhi: Zubaan, pp. 7-72.
17. Shinde, Tarabai (1993) 'Stri-Purush Tulna', in Tharu, Susie & Lalita, K. (eds.) *Women Writing in India, 600 BC to the Present. Vol. I*. New York: Feminist Press.
18. Desai, Neera & Thakkar, Usha. (2001) *Women in Indian Society*. New Delhi: National Book Trust.