SEVENTH SEMESTER:
POLS 0701: Contemporary Debates in Political Theory
POLS 0702: Contemporary Debates in Marxism
POLS 0703: Constitutional Process in India
POLS 0704: Major Issues in Indian Politics
POLS 0781: Sessional

EIGHTH SEMESTER:
POLS 0801: Studies in Comparative Politics
POLS 0802: Theories of International Relations
POLS 0803: Major Issues in Political Sociology
POLS 0804: Public Administration and Public Policy
POLS 0881: Sessional

NINTH SEMESTER:
POLS 0901: Modern Indian Political Thinkers
POLS 0902: Research Methodology
POLS 0903: Optional Paper
POLS 0904: Optional Paper
POLS 0981: Sessional: Graduate Seminar

TENTH SEMESTER:
POLS 1001: Western Political Thinkers
POLS 1002: Indian Political Economy
POLS 1003: Optional Paper
POLS 1004: Optional Paper
POLS 1081: Sessional: Dissertation

Optional Papers:
POLS 0903 a: Nations and Nationalism
POLS 0903 b: Global Political Economy
POLS 0903 c: Peace Studies: Concepts, Issues, Theories
POLS 0903 d: Civil Society: Issues and Debates
POLS 0903 e: Politics of Identity

POLS 0904 a: Culture and Politics in India
POLS 0904 b: Global Security
POLS 0904 c: Indian Foreign policy
POLS 0904 d: Democracy: Theories and Processes
POLS 0904 e: Dynamics of Politics in West Bengal

POLS 1003 a: Introduction to Subaltern Studies
POLS 1003 b: Globalisation and Politics
POLS 1003 c: India, South East Asia and East Asia
POLS 1003 d: Civil Society and Democracy and India
POLS 1003 e: Media and Politics
POLS 1004 a: Politics and Power: Interpreting Select Texts of Political Philosophy
POLS 1004 b: Global Ecologies: Nature, Space and Development
POLS 1004 c: People, Territory and Governance in India
POLS 1004 d: Postcolonial State
POLS 1004 e: Gender and Contemporary Political Theory

All papers carry 50 marks and 4 credits each.
Total Marks: 1000
POLS 0701: Contemporary Debates in Political Theory

1. Individual, society, state and market:
2. Critiques of liberalism:
   a) Communitarian
   b) Feminist
3. Enlightenment and Modernity
4. Critiques of Modernity: Postmodernism
5. Orientalism and Postcolonial Political Theory

References:

A. M. Jaggar and I. M. Young (eds.), *A Companion to Feminist Philosophy*
Amartya Sen, *The Idea of Justice*
Bill Ashcroft, *Postcolonial Studies Reader*
Bronner (ed.), *Political Theory: A Reader*
David Lyon, *Postmodernity*
Gaus and Kukathas (eds.), *Handbook of Political Theory*
John Gray, *Liberalism*
Leela Gandhi, *Postcolonial Theory*
Lessnoff, *Twentieth Century Political Philosophers*
M. Freeden, *Ideologies and Political Theory: A Conceptual Framework*
M. Sandel, *Liberalism and the Limits of Justice*
Peter Barry, *Beginning Theory*
Stephen White, *Political Theory and Postmodernism*
Stuart Hall and B. Gieben, *Formation of Modernity*
Stuart Hall et. al. (ed.), *Modernity and its Future*
Tim Woods, *Beginning Postmodernism*
Will Kymlica, *Contemporary Political Philosophy*
POLS 0702: Contemporary Debates in Marxism

1. Alienation: Marx and Lukács
2. Hegemony: Gramsci
3. Structuralist Perspective: Althusser and Poulantzas
4. Critical Theory: The Frankfurt School
5. Radical Democracy: Laclau and Mouffe
6. Marxism as a Method in Social Sciences

References:
B. Ollman, Marxian Theory of Alienation
Bob Jessop, State Theory
Chantal Mouffe, Dimensions of Radical Democracy
David Held, Introduction to Critical Theory: Horkhimer to Habermas
David Mclellan, The Thought of Karl Marx
Erich Fromm (ed.), Socialist Humanism
Erich Fromm, Marx’s Concept of Man
G.H.R. Parkinson (ed.), George Lukacs: The Man, His Work and His Ideas
I. Meszaros, Marx’s Theory of Alienation
J. Femia, Gramsci’s Political Thought
L. Kolakowski, Main Currents of Marxism (3 volumes)
Laclau and Mouffe, Hegemony and Socialist Strategy
Perry Anderson, Considerations on Western Marxism
Philip, Post Marxist Theory
Tom Bottomore (ed.), Dictionary of Marxist Thought
POLS 0703: Constitutional Process in India

1. Constitutionalism and the Indian State
2. Constituent Assembly Debates
3. Federalism
4. Implementation of Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles
5. Secularism, Minority Representation and the Indian State
6. Reservation Policy and the Indian State
7. Constitutional Amendments
8. Judicial Activism

References:

A. G. Noorani, *Constitutional questions and Citizens’ Rights*

Ashis Nandy, *The political culture of the Indian State*

Ashoke Chanda, *Federalism in India: A study of Union-State relations*

B. R. Ambedkar, *Writings and speeches, Vol. 1*

*Constituent Assembly debates: Vol. 1 (pp. 91-98), Vol. 3 (pp. 506-518), Vol. 7, (pp. 38-41)*

D.D. Basu, *Shorter Constitution of India*

D.N. Sen, *From Raj to Swaraj*

Granville Austin, *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*

Ivor Jennings, *Some characteristics of the Indian Constitution*

J.D. Sethi, *Character of the Indian State: A non-Marxist view*


Partha Chatterjee, ‘Secularism and Tolerance’, in Rajeev Bhargava (ed.) *Secularism and its critics*

Pran Chopra (ed.), *The Supreme Court Versus the Constitution*

Sudipta Kaviraj, ‘The modern state in India’, in Zoya Hasan (ed.), *Politics and the State in India*

Rajni Kothari, *State against Democracy*

Suhas Palshikar, ‘The Indian State: Constitution and beyond’, in Rajeev Bhargava (ed.), *Politics and Ethics of The Indian Constitution*

POLS 0704: Major Issues in Indian Politics

1. Understanding Indian Politics: Various Approaches
2. Indian Democracy and its Discontents
3. Caste and Politics in India
4. Religion and Indian Politics
5. Language and Region in Indian Politics
6. Party System in India

References:


Atis Dasgupta (1999) "Ethnic Problems and Movements for Autonomy in Darjeeling", *Social Scientist*, Vol. 27, No. 11/12, pp. 47-68

Atul Kohli (ed.), *The Success of Indian Democracy*.

Christophe Jaffrelot,"The Rise of the Other Backward Classes in the Hindi Belt"


Frankel, Hasan, Bhargava and Arora (eds.), *Transforming India: Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy*.


Joya Chatterjee, *Spoils of Partition: Bengal and India*.


L. Rudolph and S. Rudolph (eds.), *Explaining Indian Democracy- A Fifty Years Perspective, 1956-2006* (3 vols.)


Niraja Gopal Jayal and Pratap Bhanu Mehta (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*. 


Partha Chatterjee (ed), State and Politics in India.


Paul Brass: The Politics of India since Independence.

Paul R Brass and Marcus Franda, Radical Politics in South Asia.

Prabhat Patnaik, (1992) "A Note on the Political Economy of the 'Retreat of the State'", Social Scientist, Vol. 20, No. 11, pp. 44-57

Pratap Bhanu Mehta and Devesh Kapoor (eds.), Public Institutions in India.

Rajeev Bhargava (ed.), Secularism and its Critics.

Rajni Kothari, Caste in Indian Politics

Rajni Kothari, Writings of Rajni Kothari.


Rakhahari Chatterjee (ed.), Politics India- The State Society Interface.


Sudipta Kaviraj (ed.), Politics in India.


POLS 0801: Studies in Comparative Politics

1. Theories of Comparative Politics
2. The Comparative Methods: Advantages and Problems
3. Trends in Contemporary Political Systems
4. Theories of Modernization and Development
5. State, Society and Democracy in South Asia
6. Religion, Ethnicity and Conflict in South Asia

References:

Hogue, Harrop and Breslin, *Comparative Government and politics: An Introduction*

Gabriel Almond et.al. (ed.), *Comparative Politics Today-A World View.*

Judith Bara and Mark Pennington (eds.), *Comparative Politics.*

December, Green and Laura Luehrmann (eds.), *Comparative Politics of the Third World.*


Rakhahari Chatterjee, *Introduction to Comparative Political Analysis.*

Samuel P. Huntington, *Political order in Changing Societies.*

Gabriel A. Almond, *Political Development.*

Rehman Sobhan, *Bangladesh-Problems of Governance.*


William B. Millan, *Bangladesh and Pakistan- Flirting with Failure in South Asia.*


J. C. Johari (ed.), *Governments and Politics in South Asia.*

Achin Vanaik and Paul Brass (eds.), *Competing Nationalism in South Asia.*

Carles Boix and Susan Stokes (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics.*

Mahendra Lawoti (ed.), *Contentious Politics and Democratization in Nepal.*
POLS 0802 Theories of International Relations

The course introduces the students to varied theoretical traditions in the International Relations. The objective is to deal with the major theoretical orientations in the discipline and to equip students with tools available to them in analysing international relations.

1. Emerging context of International Relations
2. Revisiting traditional theories of International Relations
3. Alternative Approaches to IR
4. Post-Colonial and Non Western IR Theory

References:


Kenneth N. Waltz, “Realist Thought and Neorealist Theory”, *Journal of International Affairs* 44 (1) (Spring-Summer 1990), pp. 21-37.


Waltz, “Political Structures”, *Theory of International Politics*, pp. 79-101
POLS 0803: Major issues in Political Sociology

1. Social Bases of Power and Politics: Major Perspectives
2. Society, State and Public Sphere
3. Identity and Politics
4. ‘New’ Social Movements
5. Politics of Violence

References:

Adam Roberts and T. G. Ash, Civil Resistance and Power Politics: The experience of nonviolent action from Gandhi to present

Anthony Giddens, Durkheim on Politics and State

Charles Tilly, Contentious Performances

Irving Louis Horowitz, Behemoth: Main Currents in the History and Theory of Political Sociology

Irving Louis Horowitz, Foundations of Political Sociology

Judith M Blau (Ed), The Blackwell Companion to Sociology [ Mike Savage,’ Political Sociology’]

Kate Nash and Alan Scott, The Blackwell Companion to Political Sociology

Kate Nash, Contemporary Political Sociology: Globalization, Politics, and Power

Manuel Castells, The Power of Identity

N. Jayaram, On Civil Society

Rajendra Singh, Social Movements, Old and New: A post-modernist critique

Sudipta Kaviraj, Civil Society: History and Possibilities

Thomas Janoski et al, The Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Civil Societies and Globalization, [Political Sociology in the New Millennium]

Tom Bottomore, Elites and Society

Sinisa Malesevic, The Sociology of Ethnicity
POLS 0804: Public Administration and Public Policy

1. Stages and Growth of Public Administration
2. New Public Administration and Development Administration
3. Emerging Issues
4. Concept of Governance
5. Public Policy: Meaning, Nature and Significance
6. Public Policy Analysis

References:
Dhameja, *Contemporary Debates in Public Administration*
F.L. Goel, *Public Administration: Theory and Practice*
Fadin and Fadin, *Public Administration: Administrative Theories and Concepts*
G. Grant, *Development Administration - Concepts, Goals, Methods*
Hughes and Owen, *Public Management and Administration: An Introduction*
Mohit Bhattacharyya, *Development Administration*
Mohit Bhattacharyya, *Public Administration: Structure, Processes and Behaviour*
Mohit Bhattacharyya, *Restructuring of Public Administration: Essays in Rehabilitation*
Munshi and Abraham (eds.), *Good Governance, Democratic Societies and Globalization*
Nicholas Henry, *Public Administration and Public Affairs*
POLS 0901: Modern Indian Political Thinkers

1. Nationalism and Modernity: Rabindranath Tagore and M.K. Gandhi
2. Modernity and Nation Building: Jawaharlal Nehru
4. Nationalism and Hindutva: Savarkar and Golwalkar
5. Caste and Social Justice: Phule and Ambedkar

References:

B. A. Dar, A Study of Iqbal’s Philosophy.

Bhikhu Parekh, Gandhi’s Political Philosophy: A Critical Examination.

Buddhadeva Bhattacharyya, Evolution of the Political Philosophy of Gandhi.


G. P. Deshpande (ed.), Selected Writings of Jyotirao Phule.

Jawaharlal Nehru, Discovery of India.

K. N. Mukherjee, The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore.

Pantham and Deutsch (ed.), Political Thought in Modern India.

Rabindranath Tagore, Towards Universal Man.

S. Gopal (ed.), Jawaharlal Nehru.

S. R. Bakshi, Abul Kalam Azad: The Secular Leader

Sachin Sen, The Political Thought of Rabindranath.

Subhas Chandra Bose, The Indian Struggle (2 vols).

POLS 0902: Research Methodology

This course introduces the students to the methods of social science research. The intention of the course is to equip the students to carry out independent research. The course begins with a brief discussion on the philosophy of science and its implications on the development of the social sciences. It proceeds to examine two basic strands of research in social sciences, namely positivism and hermeneutics and the critique of these two. The first two topics would help the students to understand why it is important to follow particular methods for carrying out a research, while the rest of the topics would help them to know how to conduct the actual research. It includes the detailed discussion on research design and various qualitative and quantitative methods.

1. Major Debates in the Philosophy of Science: an Overview
2. Understanding and Explanation in Social Sciences
3. Research Design
4. Quantitative-Qualitative Debate
5. Research Methods

References:

Alan Bryman, *Quantity and Quality in Social Research*.
Alan Bryman, *Social Research Methods*.
Egon G. Guba and Yvonna S. Lincoln, *Approach to Qualitative Research: A Reader in Theory and Practice*
Janet Buttolph Johnson and H. T. Reynolds, *Political Science Research Method*
Juliet Corbin and Anselm Strauss, *Basics in Qualitative Research*.
L. Kolakowski, *The Positivist Philosophy*.
Norman Blakie, *Approaches to Social Enquiry*.
Otto Neurath, *Empiricism and Sociology*


Richard H. Popkin, ed., *The Columbia History of Western Philosophy*

Sharlene Nagy, Hesse-Biber and Patricia Leavy, *Approach to Qualitative Research: a Reader in Theory and Practice*


POLS 1001: Western Political Thinkers

1. Aristotle: Ethics and Politics
2. Machiavelli: Republicanism and Humanism
3. Hobbes and Locke: Possessive Individualism
4. Rousseau: Critique of Enlightenment
5. J. S. Mill: Liberty
6. Hegel: State and freedom
7. Marx: Critique of Capitalism
8. Nietzsche: Superman/Overman; Will to Power

References:

Amal Kumar Mukhopadhyay, *Western Political Thought*

B. Magnus and K. N. Higgins (eds.) *The Cambridge companion to Nietzsche*

Bertrand Russell, *History of Western Philosophy*

Bronowski and Mazlish, *Western Intellectual tradition*

Bruce Haddock, *A history of political thought*

C.B. Macpherson, *The Political theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke*

David Boucher and Paul Kelly (eds.), *Political thinkers from Socrates to the Present*

David Mclellan, *The Thought of Karl Marx*

Howard Warrender, *The Political Philosophy of Hobbes; His theory of obligation*

Iain Hampsher-Monk, *A history of modern Political thought*

J. Cunningham, *Hobbes*

L. Gane, *Introducing Nietzsche*

L. Kolakowski, *Main currents of Marxism*

Leo Strauss and Joseph Cropsey, *History of Political Philosophy*

Leo Strauss, *Thoughts on Machiavelli*

Michael Freeden, *Ideologies and Political theory: a conceptual approach*

S. Avineri, *The Social and Political thought of Karl Marx*

Sabine and Thorson, *A history of Political theory*
POLS 1002: Indian Political Economy

1. Colonial Political Economy: An Overview
2. Planning for Development
3. Liberalization
4. Politics of Economic Reform

References:

Francine R. Frankel, 2004, India's Political Economy, Delhi. OUP


Nirja Gopal Jayal, and Mehta, Pratap Bhanu, 2011, The Oxford Companion to the Politics in India, Delhi, OUP.

Pranab Bardhan, 1998, The Political Economy of Development in India, Delhi, OUP


Rob Jenkins, 2000, Economic Reform in India, Cambridge, CUP

Stuart Colbridge and John Harris, 2000, Reinventing India, Cambridge Polity

Terence J. Byres (ed.), 1998, The State, Development Planning and Liberalisation in India, Delhi, OUP


OPTIONAL PAPERS:

POLS 0903 a: Nations and Nationalism

1. Nations and Nationalism: A brief Introduction
2. Nationalism: Contending Approaches
3. Colonialism, Modernity and Nationalism
4. Mobility and Cosmopolitanism

References:


Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*


Martha C. Nussbaum *For Love of Country*,. Edited by Joshua Cohen for Boston Review.


Michael Leifer (ed.), *Asian Nationalism* (Routledge, 2000):

Michael,Lowy, 'Marxists and the National Question', *New Left Review*, 96 (March-April 197 6) pp.8 1 - 1 00.


Peter van der Veer (ed.), *Nation and Migration: The Politics of Space in the Indian Diaspora* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1995)


This paper would open up discussions on the changes in global economy, focusing for the most part on the late 20th century. Concomitant with these economic transformations (production process, technological developments, developmentalist focus in the Global South) were changes in the nature of political power, emergence of new regimes of management of trade and advent of finance as a new modality of capital. The paper will build on these themes and delineate the approaches, actors, institutions and processes of global political economy.

1. Basic Approaches to Global Political Economy
2. Evolution of Global Economy in the pre-1945 Period
3. Managing the Global Economy: Institutional regimes of GPE
4. Global Trade Regime
5. Global Financial Relations

References:

Albo, Greg and Vivek Chibber (eds.), – Socialist Register 2011


Cohn, Theodore – Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice.

David Harvey, The Condition of Postmodernity

Gill, Stephen – Power and Resistance in the New World Order.

Gilpin, Robert – Global Political Economy

Gilpin, Robert – The Political Economy of International Relations.

John Stopford, “Multinational Corporations”, Foreign Policy, no.113, 1998-99, pp 12-24

Polanyi, Karl – The Great Transformations

Ravenhill, John – Global Political Economy.
POLS 0903 c: Peace Studies: Concepts, Issues, Theories

1. Peace Movement: An overview
2. Theories of Peace and Conflict
3. Conflict Analysis: Structure and Processes
4. Conflict Resolution
5. Strategies of Peace
6. Post Conflict Challenges; Peace Agreements.

References:

Barash, David P. Webel, Charles, (2002), Peace and Conflict Studies, California: Sage

Charles Webel and Johan Galtung (Eds.), Handbook of Peace and Conflict Studies, London: Routledge.


David Barasch (ed.), Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies.

Dennis J.D. Sandole (2009), Sean Byrne, Ingrid Sandole-Staroste (ed.), Handbook of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Oxford: Routledge


Jeong, Ho-Won (2008), Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis, (London: Sage)

Johan Galtung, Theories of Peace: A Synthetic Approach to Peace.


POLS 0903 d: Civil Society: Issues and Debates

2. Civil Society: Critique of the Idea
3. Evolution of Civil Society
4. Social Movements
5. Civil Disobedience
6. Civil society and its challenges

References:


POLS 0903 e: Politics of Identity

1. Origins of Identity Politics: Modernity and the Concern for Identity
2. Theorizing Identity
3. Identity-based Movements: Ethnicity, Sexuality and Gender
5. Identity in the Age of Globalization.
7. Identity and Activism Beyond Borders.

References:

Amrita Basu, *Two Faces of Protest: Contrasting Modes of Women’s Activism in India.*


Bhikhu Parekh, *Rethinking Multiculturalism.*


Ian Craib, *Experiencing Identity.*

Margaret E Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics.*


Samir K. Das (ed), *Minorities in Europe and South Asia: A New Agenda.*


Sian Jones, *Cultural Identity and Archeology.*

This course shall examine the role of culture(s) in Indian politics in colonial and post-colonial period. It also views culture as a site of politics and seeks to scrutinize politics implicit in cultural practices in Indian history and contemporary times. The term ‘culture’, here, is not restricted to cultural artefacts and products but also implies everyday practices. The course provides a theoretical understanding of the concept of culture and its relationship with power and politics. It encourages students to critically engage with the diverse aspects of culture including language, literature, visual and auditory practices, food and clothing, situating them in wider political context. The course also looks at the cultures of dissent and the cultures of the marginalized. It does not cover critical topics like nation, religion, caste and gender in a detailed manner since these issues will be dealt with in other compulsory/optional papers.

1. Culture and Politics: Theories and Debates
2. Politics of Language and Literature
3. Visual Cultures, Auditory Cultures and Politics
4. Roti, Kapada and Politics [Culinary and Sartorial Practices and Politics]
5. Cultures of Protests/ Dissent

References:


POLS 0904 b: Global Security

This course would introduce the students to the coordinates of global security in contemporary times, while generating an understanding of the question of non-conventional security. The focus in the latter part of the paper would be on non-militarized and non-state forms of security regimes, which make a global intervention necessary and relevant. The syllabus will be divided in the following sub-themes:

1. Understanding Global Security
2. Global Security: State Perspectives
3. Population and Food Security
4. Migration and Trafficking
5. Water and Environment
6. Energy Resources
7. Terrorism

References:

Andrew Martin and Patrice Petro, *Rethinking Global Security: Media, Popular Culture and the War on Terror*.

Anne Aly, *Terrorism and Global Security: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives*.


Max G. Manwaring (ed.), *Environmental Security and Global Stability: Problems and Responses*.


Fundamental purpose of India’s Foreign policy and for that matter of any others nation’s- is to promote its national interest. The course initially provides the candidate with a sense of how South Asia’s security needs were handled under the British Empire, dealing with the institutional structures and intelligence framework that was inherited by the Government of India in 1947. It will also deal with how the foreign policy issue of India has been responded by different regimes at different times. The course will then deal with the principles that came to be the reference points of post-1947 India’s foreign policy at different times (e.g. different phases of approach to non-alignment, Look East, Act East, NAM 2.0, Development through Diplomacy etc), comparing these with those which guided other South Asian states. The course then proceeds o address the compulsions that shaped policy over time (specific incidents such as regional conflicts, or broader factors such as migration and economic initiatives either - Foundations of Indian foreign policy and its evolution since 1947; objectives, strategies of engagement – bilateralism and multilateralism; Domestic roots of Indian foreign policy; from nuclear to convergence of strategic shifts and economic policy; The economic and strategic dimensions of Indian Foreign Policy – study of the interface between development, security and cooperation in Indian foreign policy.

1. Foundations and the Making of India’s Foreign Policy
2. India’s pursuit of Strategic Autonomy
   (a) Non Alignment
   (b) Post 1990s Foreign Policy
1. India’s Economic Diplomacy: Past and Present
2. India’s Soft Power
3. India in South Asia
4. India and Multilateralism
5. India and the Great Powers

References:

Angadipuram Appadorai (1992), National Interest and India's Foreign Policy, (New Delhi: Kalinga Publishers)

Anit Mukherjee, C. Raja Mohan (2015), India's Naval Strategy and Asian Security, (Routledge)


C. Raja Mohan, Crossing the Rubicon: The Shaping of India’s New Foreign Policy (New Delhi: Viking/Penguin, 2003)

David Brewster (2013), India as an Asia Pacific Power, (Routledge)


David Scott, —India’s ‘Extended Neighbourhood’ Concept: Power Projection for a Rising Power, India Review, vol. 8, no. 2, April-June 2009

DK Thussu (2013), Communicating India’s Soft Power: From Buddha to Bollywood, (Palgrave Macmillan)

George Perkovich (2001); India's Nuclear Bomb; (University of California Press)

J. Bandyopadhyaya (2003), The Making of Indian Foreign Policy, (New Delhi: Allied Publishers)


Muchkund Dubey (2017); India’s Foreign Policy; (Orient Blackswan)

Patryk Kugiel (2017), India’s Soft Power: A New Foreign Policy Strategy, (Routledge)


Sten Rynning (2017), South Asia and the Great Powers: International Relations and Regional Security (IB Tauris)
POLS 0904 d: Democracy: Theories and Processes

2. Transition to democracy in post-communist Eastern Europe.
3. Popular movement and resistance in the Middle east.
4. Ethnic politics and democracy in Africa.
5. Challenges of democracy in South and South East Asia: Selective case studies: Myanmar,
6. Indonesia, Pakistan, Nepal.

References:

C. B. Macpherson, Democratic Theory: Essays in Retrieval
D. Held, Models Of Democracy, Third Edition
J. Schumpeter, Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy
R. Dahl, A Preface to Democratic Theory
R. Dahl, Democracy and its Critics
The present course is a modification of the existing course which seeks to update the syllabus with the changing new forms and dynamics of power politics as witnessed in the present day politics of West Bengal. Apart from the existing sections the updated course intends to focus on the new forms of alternative political movements, changes in the recent trends of federalism in the State and the emerging trends of oppositional politics in West Bengal.

1. From Raj to Partition
2. Power and Political Parties
3. Changing Dimensions of Agitational Politics
4. Alternative Political Movements
5. Politics of Decentralization

References:
Amiya Kumar Samanta, *Left Extremist Movement in West Bengal: An Experiment in Armed Agrarian struggle*.

Asok Mukhopadhyay, *Panchayat Administration in West Bengal*.


Bharati Mukherjee, *Political Culture and Leadership in India: A Study of West Bengal*.

Biswanath Roy, *West Bengal Today: A Fresh Look*.


John R. Wood (ed.), *State Politics in Contemporary India: Crisis or Continuity*.

Joya Chatterjee, *Spoils of Partition: Bengal and India*.

Manishadev Sarkar: *Geopolitical implications of Partition in West Bengal*.

Partha Chatterjee, *Present History of West Bengal: Essays in Political Criticism*.

Paul R. Brass and Marcus Franda: *Radical Politics in South Asia*. 
Prafulla Kumar Chakrabarty, *Marginal Men: The Refugees and the Left Political Syndrome in West Bengal*.

Rakhahari Chatterjee, *Politics in West Bengal –Institutions, Process and Problems*.

Ranabir Samaddar, *Marginal Nation: Transborder Migration from Bangladesh to West Bengal*.

Ross Mallick, *Indian Communists: Opposition, Collaboration and Institutionalization*.

Samar Sen, *Naxalbari and After: A Frontier Anthology*.


Sunity Kumar Ghosh, *Naxalism : Before and After*.
POLS 1003 a: Introduction to Subaltern Studies

The discourse on politics and the discipline of political studies has taken a major shift with the intervention of subaltern studies in the late 20th century. Its approach in studying history and political processes of postcolonial countries has proven to be extremely important in thinking about nationalism, colonialism, identity, law and legality, etc. This course aims to introduce both the historical and intellectual background to the school of Subaltern Studies, its key concepts, and its contribution to postcolonial studies, the debates it has generated, and the scholarship that has emerged in its aftermath. This would help students to re-evaluate the always already given concepts in studying politics of India.

1. Introduction.
2. Intellectual Background: Gramsci and Foucault.
4. Identity, Literature and the question of Nationalism: Subaltern Perspectives
5. Subaltern Studies and Postcolonial Criticism.

References:


Gyan Prakash, Subaltern Studies as Postcolonial Criticism,” American HistoricalReview 99 (December 1994), 1475-1490.


Homi Bhabha, Location of Culture (London: Routledge, 1994). Selections.


POLS 1003 b: Globalisation and Politics

The aim of this course would be to familiarize students with the concept and practice of Globalization, a term used often in our everyday lexicon. Beginning with the debate on Globalisation, the paper will go on to understand the forms of political power, nature of governance and iterations of identity in a global context. It will also discuss the conditions of development and production process from late 20th century onwards, stirring a spate of resistance against globalization. The instruction will be based on a mutual reading of selected texts in weekly lectures, addressing a pre-circulated primary question or a set of concerns. This is envisaged as a way to elicit student response and make the class discussion more streamlined.

1. Interrogating Globalisation: Theories and Debates
2. Globalisation and Sovereignty
3. Governance: Population, Space and Time
4. Globalisation and Development
5. Identity in a Global Age
6. Resistance/Anti-Globalisation Movements

References:


Friedman, Thomas. *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999


*Reconceptualizing Governance*, Discussion Paper 2, UNDP, January 1997


Samuel Huntington *The Third Wave*, University of Oklahoma Press.


Sklair, Leslie, ‘The Transnational Capitalist Class and the Politics of Capitalist


Stanley Hoffman *The Clash of Globalizations*, Foreign Affairs, Jul-Aug 2002


POLS 1003 c: India, South East Asia and East Asia

This course aims at introducing the students to India’s growing focus on its extended neighbourhood, East Asia and its deepening engagement with the East Asian states – China, Japan and South Korea which have emerged as major Asian power centers. India’s expanding profile in East Asia and South East Asia has factored in India’s rise as a major power in Asia. The syllabus is divided into the following sub-themes:

1. Introduction to India’s Foreign Policy towards South-East and East Asia
2. India’s Relations with China: Past and Present
3. Japan-India Relations: Cooperation and Trade
4. India’s Look East and Act East Policies
5. India and ASEAN

References:

P. A. Narasimha Murthy, India and Japan: Dimensions of their relations, Economic and Cultural.

Rohan Mukherjee, Anthony Yazaki, Poised for Partnership : Deepening India-Japan relations.


Swaran Singh, China-South Asia : Issues, Equations, Policies.

Takenori Horimoto, Lalima Varma (ed.)India-Japan Relations in Emerging Asia.

Tansen Sen, Buddhism, Diplomacy and Trade.
POLS 1003 d: Civil Society and Democracy and India

1. State, society and Democracy in India: A historical overview.
3. Media and Democracy in India.
5. Civil Society movements in India: few case studies.

References:

Granville Austin, *The Indian Constitution: The Cornerstone of a Nation*.

Granville Austin, *Working a Democratic Constitution*

Sudipta Kaviraj and Sunil Khilani, *Civil Society: History and Possibilities*.

Devesh Kapur and P.B.Mehta(ed.), *Public Institutions in India*.

Rajni Kothari, *Rethinking Democracy*.

Sunil Khilani, *The Idea of India*.

F.Frankel, Zoya Hasan, R.Bhargava and B.Arora (ed.), *Transforming India: Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy*.

Atul Kohli(ed.), *The Success of Indian Democracy*.


Zoya Hasan (ed.), *Parties and Party politics in India*.

Rajeev Bhargava, *The Promise India’s Secular Democracy*.


Partha Chatterjee(ed.), *Wages of Freedom: Fifty Years of the Indian Nation-State*.


POLS 1003 e: Media and Politics

The news media are sometimes called the fourth branch of government—and for good reason. Much of our exposure to politics comes not from direct experience but with the help of the media. This course is designed to help the students think about the relationship between media and politics. The course is devoted to understanding the meaning and nature of political communication, analyzing the concept as well as understanding the functions of mass media, evolving concepts such as information society, role of media in a democracy (with special reference to India), and finally the globalization and corporatization of media.

1. Political Communication
2. Media and politics
3. Information Society
4. Role of Media in a Democratic political system
5. Globalization of Media

References:


This course is aimed at reading certain key texts in the discipline of politics. It is designed keeping in mind the concepts of critique and criticism, and to study how have they shaped the discipline of politics in 19th and 20th centuries. The course begins with questioning the task of critique by differentiating it from criticism, thereby, posing the question about what is critical about “critical theory”? It is only after posing the methodology of critique; we intend to examine certain key questions in politics like identity, power, subject etc. The aim is to reveal the operations of power in modern times and its implications in constructing several governmental categories which nonetheless shapes identity by creating subjects of power. It is with such explorations, the course finally ends with questioning the given liberal understanding of politics as the business of the state and its institutions.

1. What is Critique?
2. Rethinking the Concept of Politics: Aristotle, Hobbes and Schmitt
3. Biopolitics and the question of Subject

References:

Antonio Negri, “Politics” in *Time for Revolution*.

Aristotle, *Politics*.

Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics*, Books IV and VI.

Carl Schmitt, *Political Theology* (Chap.3).

Etienne Balibar, “Citizen Subject” in E Cadava, P. Cvonnor and J.L. Nancy eds. *Who Comes After the Subject?* (pp.33-57).

Giorgio Agamben, *Homo Sacer* (Introduction - Chapter 2)


Jacques Ranciere, *Ten Theses on Politics*.


Michel Foucault, *History of Sexuality, Vol 1* (pp.135-159)

Michel Foucault, What is Critique? In *The Politics of Truth*. (pp.41-81)

Plato, *The Republic* (Allegory of the Cave), Books VI and VII

Quentin Skinner, Meaning and Understanding in the History of Ideas

Ranciere’s critique of Plato (*The Philosopher and His Poor, Chapter 2*)

POLS 1004 b: Global Ecologies: Nature, Space and Development

This paper will seek to extend the discussions which students are familiar with in courses on Global politics and economy, in the specific direction of thinking about our environment. Environmental politics would deal with the tenuous interface between humans and nature, which affects existing ecosystems and implicates them in development of newer spaces such as cities, energy centres and dams, etc. In general, through the question of environment, we will enter into the domain of global political contentions around natural resources and commons in the times of ‘development’. The paper will also elicit a critical engagement with the categories of environment and development themselves as they emerge since the 1980s, the period when a global environmental consensus was on a rise. Methodologically, the paper will seek to create a dialectical relation between understandings of the global with reference to our immediate local environment, seeking a coming together of cultural forms and ecological concerns.

1. Global Environmental Consensus:
2. Ecology and Development: An Introduction
3. Resources: Carbon Economies
4. Habitats: Urban Ecologies
5. Economies Around Waste and Ruins
7. Rethinking ‘Development’

References:

Amita Baviskar, In the Belly of a River, Penguin Books, 1995
Ancient River, ORO Editions, 2015
Anthony Acciavatti, Ganges Water Machine: Designing New India’s
Awadhendra Sharan, In the City, Out of Place: Nuisance, Pollution and Dwelling in Delhi c. 1850-2000, OUP, 2014
K Sivaramakrishnan and Anne Rademacher eds., Ecologies of Urbanism in India: Metropolitan Civility and Sustainability, Hong Kong University Press, 2013
K. Bakker, The ‘commons’ versus the ‘commodity’: Alter-globalization, anti-privatization and the human right to water in the Global South, Antipode 39: 430-455

Luiz Barbosa, *The Brazilian Amazon Rainforest: Global Ecopolitics, Development and Democracy*, University Press of America, 2000


Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva, *Ecofeminism*, Kali for Women, 1993


Wolfgang Sachs, *Planet Dialectics*, University of Chicago Press, 1999
The objective of the paper is to explore varied territorial demands in the wider context of power sharing arrangements with more advanced and specialized readings. The paper aims at reading the conceptions of territory and governance keeping in mind how ethnic politics and territorial demands were addressed through constitutional innovations in late and post-colonial India. It will look at how human beings relate to territory and how colonial administration marked or documented territory. Through a detailed examination of constitutional history in India, the course would cover innovations in power sharing to address various territorial demands.

1. People, Territory and Governance
2. Constitutional History
3. Movements in Post-colonial India

References:


B.B. Kumar, *Small States Syndrome*.

Bernard Cohn, “Law and the Colonial State in India” in *Colonialism and Its forms of Knowledge: The British in India*. Pp.57-75.


G. Austin, *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of A Nation*

Gunnel Cederlöf, *Founding an Empire on India’s North-Eastern Frontiers, 1790-1840: Climate, Commerce, Polity*, Delhi: OUP, 2013


Maya Chadda “Integration through Internal Reorganization: Containing Ethnic Conflict in India” *Global Review Ethno-Politics* September 2000.


Paul Wallace (ed.) Region and Nation in India OUP 1985. (see 2 chapters - Ainslie Embree, Rudolph and Rudolph).

Robert D King, Nehru and Language Politics of India, Delhi: OUP, 1997

Sanjib Barua, India Against Itself.


Sudipta Kaviraj, The Trajectories of Indian State, Delhi: Permanent Black, 2010 (Chapters 2, 5 & 7)


Udayon Misra, India, North-East Identity Movements, State, and Civil Society.
POLS 1004 d: Postcolonial State

The aim of this paper will be to develop an understanding of the form of state on the terrain of ‘postcolonial’ societies. Historically, one may place the category of ‘post-colonial state’ in the processes of decolonization in the mid-20th century, however there is a conceptual debate on the term ‘postcolonial’ itself, which the paper will seek to deal with in the first unit. The next few units would move into the more specific concerns of these states, including discussion on bureaucracy, military, culture, ethnicity and development discourse. The paper will be divided thematically representing each of these concerns with the aid of examples from South Asia, Middle East, Latin America and Africa. After more general courses on comparative government and politics, centered around institutional rubric and forms of government in the capitalist and post-communist polities, this paper will further the comparative discussions on nature of postcolonial state in non-western contexts. Methodologically, this paper can be placed in the new ways and language in which one could make sense of state in the Global South, and the dynamics of state-society therein. The paper will seek to create a synergy between political theory and political anthropology- concept and practice. Hence, the readings would attempt to move away from the dominant modules of state theory to understand the processes of state making and its life in countries spanning regions of Latin America, South Asia, South East Asia and Africa.

1. Understanding the Postcolonial State
2. Bureaucracy, Police and Military
3. Law and Citizenship
4. Practices of Governance
5. Infrastructure and Development

References:
Andrew Apter, *The Pan African Nation: Oil and the Spectacle of Culture in Nigeria*, University of Chicago Press, 2005
Hamza Alavi, ‘ ‘The State in Postcolonial Societies: Pakistan and Bangladesh’, *New Left Review*, 74, July/August 1972


POLS 1004 e: Gender and Contemporary Political Theory

This is an advanced course to develop an understanding of gender as a political concept, focusing on the theorizations on sexuality, identity, development and body. The objective is to encourage the students to critically engage with the original texts by feminist scholars and use them as a tool to deconstruct normative concepts. Readings spanning across different strands of gender theory would be selected and circulated for discussion. The course also seeks to discuss various debates that arise/arose within feminist thought and practice including those on motherhood and reproduction, queer lives, domestic labour, sex work, family and care among others.

1. Gendering Political Theory
2. Sexuality, Body and Desire
3. Gender and Identity
4. Gender, Capital, Development

References:


Bell Hooks, Ain’t I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism, Pluto Press, 1983

Bina Agarwal, Nancy Folbre et al. (eds), Women and Work in the World Economy, Macmillan Press, 1991

C. Silvia Federici, Caliban and the Witch: Women: The Body and Primitive Accumulation, Autonomedia, 2004


Frederick Engels, The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State, 1884


J. Halberstam, In a Queer Time and Place: Transgender Bodies, Subcultural Lives, NYU Press, 2005


Judith Butler and Joan Scott (eds.), Feminists Theorize the Political, Routledge, 1992

Judith Butler, Bodies That Matter: On the Discursive Limits of ‘Sex’, Psychology Press, 1993

Judith Butler, Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity, Routledge, 1990

Kate Millet, *Sexual Politics*, University of Illinois Press, 2000

Luce Irigaray, *The Sex which is not One*, Cornell University Press, 1985

Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the rights of Women*


