

CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM
LIST OF PAPERS AND COURSES
B.A (HONOURS) POLITICAL SCIENCE

A. CORE COURSE (14)

1. POL-HC-1016 Understanding Political Theory
2. POL HC-1026 Constitutional Government and Democracy in India
3. POL-HC-2016 Political Theory-Concepts and Debates
4. POL HC-2026 Political Process in India
5. POL-HC-3016 Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics
6. POL HC-3026 Perspectives on Public Administration
7. POL-HC-3036 Perspectives on International Relations and World History
8. POL-HC-4016 Political Processes and Institutions in Comparative Perspective
9. POL HC-4026 Public Policy and Administration in India
10. POL-HC-4036 Global Politics
11. POL-HC-5016 Classical Political Philosophy
12. POL-HC-5026 Indian Political Thought-I
13. POL -HC-6016 Modern Political Philosophy
14. POL-HC-6026 Indian Political Thought-II

B. Generic Elective -4 (Interdisciplinary): Any Four

1. POL-HG-1016 Politics in North east India
2. POL-HG-1026 Governance: Issues and Challenges
3. POL-HG-2016 Feminism: Theory and Practice
4. POL-HG-2026 Local Rural and Urban Governance
5. POL-HG-3016 Gandhi and the Contemporary World
6. POL-HG-3026 United Nations and Global Conflicts
7. POL -HG-4016 Understanding Ambedkar
8. POL-HG-4026 Politics of Globalization

C. Discipline Specific Elective-4 (DSE): Any Four

1. POL-HE-5016 Human Rights
2. POL-HE-5026 Public Policy in India
3. POL-HE-5036 Understanding Global Politics
4. POL-HE-5046 Select Constitutions
5. POL-HE-6016 India's Foreign Policy in a Globalizing world
6. POL-HE-6026 Understanding South Asia
7. POL-HE-6036 Women, Power and Politics
8. POL-HE-6046 Social Movements in North- East India

D. Ability Enhancement-2 (AE Skill Based): Any Two

1. POL-SE-3014 Parliamentary procedures and Practices
2. POL-SE-3026 Youth and Nation-Building
3. POL-SE-4014 Panchayati Raj in Practice
4. POL-SE-4014 Citizens and Rights

E. Ability Enhancement (Compulsory) Foundation: Two

- 1. Language-MIL/ENGLISH**
- 2. Environmental Science**

**CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM
SYLLABI AND READING LIST
BA (HONOURS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
A) CORE COURSE**

A. CORE COURSE (14)

1. POL-HC-1016 Understanding Political Theory

Course Objective: This course is divided into two sections. Section A introduces the students to the idea of political theory, its history and approaches, and an assessment of its critical and contemporary trends. Section B is designed to reconcile political theory and practice through reflections on the ideas and practices related to democracy.

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

2. POL-HC-1026 Constitutional Government and Democracy in India

Course objective: This course acquaints students with the constitutional design of state structures and institutions, and their actual working overtime. The Indian constitution accommodates conflicting impulses (of liberty and justice, territorial decentralization and a strong union, for instance) within itself. The course traces the embodiment of some of these conflicts in constitutional provisions, and shows how these have played out in political practice.

It further encourages a study of state institutions in their mutual interaction, and in interaction with the larger extra-constitutional environment.

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

- a. Philosophy of the Constitution, the Preamble, and Features of the Constitution (2 weeks Or 8 lectures)
- b. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles (2 weeks or 8 lectures)

II. Organs of Government (20 lectures)

- a. The Legislature: Parliament (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)
- b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister (2 weeks or 8 lectures)

- c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)

III. Federalism and Decentralization (12 lectures)

- a. Federalism: Division of Powers, Emergency Provisions, Fifth and Sixth Schedules (2 weeks or 8 lectures)
- b. Panchayati Raj and Municipalities (1 week or 4 lectures)

3. POL-HC-2016 Political Theory-Concepts and Debates

Course Objective: This course is divided into two sections. Section A helps the Student familiarize with the basic normative concepts of political theory. Each concept is related to a crucial political issue that requires analysis with the aid of our conceptual understanding. This exercise is designed to encourage critical and reflective analysis and interpretation of social practices through the relevant conceptual toolkit. Section B introduces the students to the important debates in the subject. These debates prompt us to consider that there is no settled way of understanding concepts and that in the light of new insights and challenges, besides newer ways of perceiving and interpreting the world around us, we inaugurate new modes of political debates.

Section A: Core Concepts

I. Importance of Freedom (10 Lectures)

- a) Negative Freedom: Liberty
 - b) Positive Freedom: Freedom as Emancipation and Development
- Important Issue:* Freedom of belief, expression and dissent

II. Significance of Equality (12 lectures)

- a) Formal Equality: Equality of opportunity
 - b) Political equality
 - c) Egalitarianism: Background inequalities and differential treatment
- Important Issue:* Affirmative action

IV. Indispensability of Justice (12 Lectures)

- a) Procedural Justice
 - b) Distributive Justice
 - c) Global Justice
- Important Issue:* Capital punishment

V. The Universality of Rights (13 Lectures)

- a) Natural Rights
 - b) Moral and Legal Rights
 - c) Three Generations of Rights
 - d) Rights and Obligations
- Important Issue:* Rights of the girl child

Section B: Major Debates (13 Lectures)

- I.** Why should we obey the state? Issues of political obligation and civil disobedience.
- II.** Are human rights universal? Issue of cultural relativism.
 - I. How do we accommodate diversity in plural society? Issues of multiculturalism and toleration.

4. POL-HC-2026 Political Process in India

Course objective: Actual politics in India diverges quite significantly from constitutional legal rules. An understanding of the political process thus calls for a different mode of analysis - that offered by political sociology. This course maps the working of 'modern' institutions, premised on the existence of an individuated society, in a context marked by communitarian solidarities, and their mutual transformation thereby. It also familiarizes students with the working of the Indian state, paying attention to the contradictory dynamics of modern state power.

I. Political Parties and the Party System (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)

Trends in the Party System; From the Congress System to Multi-Party Coalitions

II. Determinants of Voting Behaviour (2 weeks or 8 lectures)

Caste, Class, Gender and Religion

III. Regional Aspirations (2 weeks or 8 lectures)

The Politics of Secession and Accommodation

IV. Religion and Politics (2 weeks or 8 lectures)

Debates on Secularism; Minority and Majority Communalism

V. Caste and Politics (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)

Caste in Politics and the Politicization of Caste

IV. Affirmative Action Policies (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)

Women, Caste and Class

II. The Changing Nature of the Indian State (1.5 weeks or 6 lectures)

Developmental, Welfare and Coercive Dimensions

5. POL-HC-3016 Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics

Course objective: This is a foundational course in comparative politics. The purpose to familiarize students with the basic concepts and approaches to the study of comparative politics. More specifically the course will focus on examining politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries.

I. Understanding Comparative Politics (8 lectures)

- a. Nature and scope
- b. Going beyond Eurocentrism

II. Historical context of modern government (16 lectures)

- a. Capitalism: meaning and development: globalization
- b. Socialism: meaning, growth and development
- c. Colonialism and decolonization: meaning, context, forms of colonialism; anti-colonialism struggles and process of decolonization

III. Themes for comparative analysis (24 lectures)

A comparative study of constitutional developments and political economy in the following Countries: Britain, Brazil, Nigeria and China.

6. POL-HC-3026 Perspectives on Public Administration

Objective: The course provides an introduction to the discipline of public administration. This paper encompasses public administration in its historical context with an emphasis on the various classical and contemporary administrative theories. The course also explores some of the recent trends, including feminism and ecological conservation and how the call for greater democratization is restructuring public administration. The course will also attempt to provide the students a comprehensive understanding on contemporary administrative developments.

I. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AS A DISCIPLINE [15 lectures]

- a. Meaning, Dimensions and Significance of the Discipline
- b. Public and Private Administration
- c. Evolution of Public Administration

II. THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES [25 lectures]

CLASSICAL THEORIES

- a. Scientific management (F.W.Taylor)
- b. Administrative Management (Gullick, Urwick and Fayol)
- c. Ideal-type bureaucracy (Max Weber)

NEO-CLASSICAL THEORIES

- a. Human relations theory (Elton Mayo)
- b. Rational decision-making (Herbert Simon)

CONTEMPORARY THEORIES

- a. Ecological approach (Fred Riggs)
- b. Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Peter Drucker)

III. PUBLIC POLICY [10 lectures]

- a. Concept, relevance and approaches
- b. Formulation, implementation and evaluation

IV. MAJOR APPROACHES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION [20 lectures]

- a. New Public Administration
- b. New Public Management
- c. New Public Service Approach
- d. Good Governance
- e. Feminist Perspectives

7. POL-HC-3036 Perspectives on International Relations and World History

Course Objective: This paper seeks to equip students with the basic intellectual tools for understanding International Relations. It introduces students to some of the most important theoretical approaches for studying international relations. The course begins by historically contextualizing the evolution of the international state system before discussing the agency structure problem through the levels-of-analysis approach. After having set the parameters of the debate, students are introduced to different theories in International Relations. It provides a fairly comprehensive overview of the major political developments and events starting from the twentieth century. Students are expected to learn about the key milestones in world history and equip them with the tools to understand and analyze the same from different

perspectives. A key objective of the course is to make students aware of the implicit Euro - centralism of International Relations by highlighting certain specific perspectives from the Global South.

A. Studying International Relations (15 Lectures)

- I. How do you understand International Relations: Levels of Analysis (3 lectures)
- II. History and IR: Emergence of the International State System (2 Lectures)
- III. Pre-Westphalia and Westphalia (5 lectures)
- IV. Post-Westphalia (5 lectures)

B. Theoretical Perspectives (25 Lectures)

- I. Classical Realism & Neo-Realism (6 lectures)
- II. Liberalism & Neo-liberalism (5 lectures)
- III. Marxist Approaches (5 lectures)
- IV. Feminist Perspectives (4 lectures)
- V. Euro centricism and Perspectives from the Global South (5 Lectures)

C. An Overview of Twentieth Century IR History (20 Lectures)

- I. World War I: Causes and Consequences (1 Lecture)
- II. Significance of the Bolshevik Revolution (1 Lecture)
- III. Rise of Fascism / Nazism (2 Lectures)
- IV. World War II: Causes and Consequences (3 Lectures)
- V. Cold War: Different Phases (4 Lectures)
- VI. Emergence of the Third World (3 Lectures)
- VII. Collapse of the USSR and the End of the Cold War (2 Lectures)
- VIII. Post Cold War Developments and Emergence of Other Power Centers of Power (4 Lectures)

8. POL-HC-4016 Political Processes and Institutions in Comparative Perspective

Course objective: In this course students will be trained in the application of comparative methods to the study of politics. The course is comparative in both what we study and how we study. In the process the course aims to introduce undergraduate students to some of the range of issues, literature, and methods that cover comparative political.

I. Approaches to Studying Comparative Politics (8 lectures)

- a. Political Culture
- b. New Institutionalism

II. Electoral System (8 lectures)

Definition and procedures: Types of election system (First Past the Post, Proportional Representation, Mixed Representation)

III. Party System (8 lectures)

Historical contexts of emergence of the party system and types of parties

IV. Nation-state (8 lectures)

What is nation-state? Historical evolution in Western Europe and postcolonial contexts
'Nation' and 'State': debates

V. Democratization (8 lectures)

Process of democratization in postcolonial, post- authoritarian and post-communist Countries

V. Federalism (8 lectures)

Historical context Federation and Confederation: debates around territorial division of power.

9. POL-HC-4026 Public Policy and Administration in India

Objective: The paper seeks to provide an introduction to the interface between public policy and administration in India. The essence of public policy lies in its effectiveness in translating the governing philosophy into programs and policies and making it a part of the community living. It deals with issues of decentralization, financial management, citizens and administration and social welfare from a non-western perspective.

I. Public Policy [10 lectures]

- a. Definition, characteristics and models
- b. Public Policy Process in India

II. Decentralization [10 lectures]

- a. Meaning, significance and approaches and types
- b. Local Self Governance: Rural and Urban

III. Budget [12 lectures]

- a. Concept and Significance of Budget
- b. Budget Cycle in India
- c. Various Approaches and Types of Budgeting

IV. Citizen and Administration Interface [15 lectures]

- a. Public Service Delivery
- b. Redressal of Public Grievances: RTI, Lokpal, Citizens' Charter and E-Governance

V. Social Welfare Administration [20 lectures]

- a. Concept and Approaches of Social Welfare
- b. Social Welfare Policies:

- **Education:** Right To Education,
- **Health:** National Health Mission,
- **Food:** Right To Food Security
- **Employment:** MNREGA

10. POL-HC-4036 Global Politics

Course objective: This course introduces students to the key debates on the meaning and nature of globalization by addressing its political, economic, social, cultural and technological dimensions. In keeping with the most important debates within the globalization discourse, it imparts an understanding of the working of the world economy, its anchors and resistances offered by global social movements while analyzing the changing nature of relationship between the state and trans-national actors and networks. The course also offers insights into key contemporary global issues such as the proliferation of nuclear weapons, ecological issues, international terrorism, and human security before concluding with a debate on the phenomenon of global governance.

I. Globalization: Conceptions and Perspectives (23 lectures)

- a. Understanding Globalization and its Alternative Perspectives (6 lectures)
- b. Political: Debates on Sovereignty and Territoriality (3 lectures)
- c. Global Economy: Its Significance and Anchors of Global Political Economy: IMF,
- d. World Bank, WTO, TNCs (8 lectures)
- e. Cultural and Technological Dimension (3 lectures)
- f. Global Resistances (Global Social Movements and NGOs) (3 lectures)

II. Contemporary Global Issues (20 lectures)

- a. Ecological Issues: Historical Overview of International Environmental Agreements, Climate Change, Global Commons Debate (7 lectures)
- b. Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (3 lectures)
- c. International Terrorism: Non-State Actors and State Terrorism; Post 9/11 developments (4 Lectures)
- d. Migration (3 lectures)
- e. Human Security (3 lectures)

III. Global Shifts: Power and Governance (5 lectures)

11. POL-HC-5016 Classical Political Philosophy

Course objective: This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes students with the manner in which the political questions were first posed. Machiavelli comes as an interlude inaugurating modern politics followed by Hobbes and Locke. This is a basic foundation course for students.

I. Text and Interpretation (2 weeks)

II. Antiquity

Plato (2 weeks)

Philosophy and Politics, Theory of Forms, Justice, Philosopher King/Queen, Communism
Presentation theme: Critique of Democracy; Women and Guardianship, Censorship

Aristotle (2 weeks)

Forms, Virtue, Citizenship, Justice, State and Household
Presentation themes: Classification of governments; man as zoon politikon

III. Interlude:

Machiavelli (2 weeks)

Virtu, Religion, Republicanism
Presentation themes: morality and statecraft; vice and virtue

IV. Possessive Individualism

Hobbes (2 weeks)

Human nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, State
Presentation themes: State of nature; social contract; Leviathan; atomistic individuals.

Locke (2 weeks)

Laws of Nature, Natural Rights, Property,
Presentation themes: Natural rights; right to dissent; justification of property

12. POL-HC-5026 Indian Political Thought-I

Course objective: This course introduces the specific elements of Indian Political Thought spanning over two millennia. The basic focus of study is on individual thinkers whose ideas are however framed by specific themes. The course as a whole is meant to provide a sense of the broad streams of Indian thought while encouraging a specific knowledge of individual thinkers and texts. Selected extracts from some original texts are also given to discuss in class. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

I. Traditions of Pre-colonial Indian Political Thought (8 lectures)

a. Brahmanic and Shramanic

b. Islamic and Syncretic.

II. Ved Vyasa (Shantiparva): Rajadharma (5 lectures)

III. Manu: Social Laws (6 lectures)

IV. Kautilya: Theory of State (7 lectures)

V. Aggannasutta (Digha Nikaya): Theory of kingship (5 lectures)

VI. Barani: Ideal Polity (6 lectures)

VII. Abul Fazal: Monarchy (6 lectures)

VIII. Kabir: Syncretism (5 lectures)

13. POL-HC-6016 Modern Political Philosophy

Course objective: Philosophy and politics are closely intertwined. We explore this convergence by identifying four main tendencies here. Students will be exposed to the manner in which the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence.

I. Modernity and its discourses (8 lectures)

This section will introduce students to the idea of modernity and the discourses around modernity. Two essential readings have been prescribed.

II. Romantics (16 lectures)

a. Jean Jacques Rousseau (8 Lectures)

Presentation themes: General Will; local or direct democracy; self-government; origin of inequality.

b. Mary Wollstonecraft (8 Lectures)

Presentation themes: Women and paternalism; critique of Rousseau's idea of education; legal rights

III. Liberal socialist (8 lectures)

a. John Stuart Mill

Presentation themes: Liberty, suffrage and subjection of women, right of minorities; utility principle.

IV. Radicals (16 lectures)

a. Karl Marx (8 Lectures)

Presentation themes: Alienation; difference with other kinds of materialism; class struggle

b. Alexandra Kollontai (8 Lectures)

Presentation themes: Winged and wingless Eros; proletarian woman; socialization of housework; disagreement with Lenin.

14. POL-HC-6026 Indian Political Thought-II

Course objective: Based on the study of individual thinkers, the course introduces a wide span of thinkers and themes that defines the modernity of Indian political thought. The objective is to study general themes that have been produced by thinkers from varied social and temporal contexts. Selected extracts from original texts are also given to discuss in the class. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

I. Introduction to Modern Indian Political Thought (4 lectures)

II. Rammohan Roy: Rights (4 lectures)

III. Pandita Ramabai: Gender (4 lectures)

IV. Vivekananda: Ideal Society (5 lectures)

V. Gandhi: Swaraj (5 lectures)

VI. Ambedkar: Social Justice (5 lectures)

VII. Tagore: Critique of Nationalism (4 lectures)

VIII. Iqbal: Community (5 lectures)

IX. Savarkar: Hindutva (4 lectures)

X. Nehru: Secularism (4 lectures)

XI. Lohia: Socialism (4 lectures)

B. GENERIC ELECTIVE (INTERDISCIPLINARY): ANY 4

1. POL-HG-1016 Politics in North East India

Unit I: Colonial Policy of Annexation and Administration (18 lectures)

- Geo-Strategic Location and Socio-Cultural Diversity of North-east India
- Expansion and Consolidation of Colonial Rule: Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas: Inner Line

Unit II -Post-Colonial Developments :(12 lectures)

- Separation of Sylhet and Problems of Refugees.
- Emergence of Separate States: Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram.

UNIT III – Political Developments in Assam (8 lectures)

- Language Politics
- Rise of Insurgency

UNIT IV- Changing Nature of State Politics in Assam (10 lectures)

- Emergence of Regional Party
- Coalition Politics

2. POL-HG-1026 Governance: Issues and Challenges

Objectives: This paper deals with concepts and different dimensions of governance highlighting the major debates in the contemporary times. There is a need to understand the importance of the concept of governance in the context of a globalizing world, environment, administration, development. The essence of governance is explored through the various good governance initiatives introduced in India.

1. GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE: CONCEPTS [12 lectures]

- Role of State in the Era of Globalization
- State, Market and Civil Society

2. GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT [12 lectures]

- Changing Dimensions of Development Strengthening Democracy through Good Governance

3. ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE [12 lectures]

- Human-Environment Interaction
- Green Governance: Sustainable Human Development

4. LOCAL GOVERNANCE [12 lectures]

- Democratic Decentralization
- People's Participation in Governance

5. GOOD GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES IN INDIA: BEST PRACTICES [20 lectures]

- Public Service Guarantee Acts
- Electronic Governance
- Citizens Charter & Right to Information
- Corporate Social Responsibility

3. POL-HG-2016 Feminism: Theory and Practice

Course Objective: The aim of the course is to explain contemporary debates on feminism and the history of feminist struggles. The course begins with a discussion on construction of gender and an understanding of complexity of patriarchy and goes on to analyze theoretical debates within feminism. Part II of the paper covers history of feminism in the west, socialist societies and in anti-colonial struggles. Part III focuses a gendered analysis of Indian society, economy and polity with a view to understanding the structures of gender inequalities. And the last section aims to understand the issues with which contemporary Indian women's movements are engaged with.

I. Approaches to understanding Patriarchy (22 Lectures)

- Feminist theorizing 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

4. POL-HG-2026 Local Governance (Rural and Urban)

Unit I: Evolution of Local Governance in India -Rural and Urban (14 lectures)

- Local Governance in Ancient India
- Local Governance in Pre-independent India
- Development of Local Governance in Post- independence India.

Unit II: 73rd Amendment and Rural Governance in India (10 lectures)

- Gaon Panchayat and Gaon sabha
- Anchalik Panchayat, Zilla Parishad
- Women's participation and Reservation

Unit III: 74TH Amendment and Urban Governance in India (10 lectures)

- Nagar Panchayat
- Municipal Council
- Municipal Corporation - Guwahati Municipal Corporation

Unit IV: Role of Committees and Commissions (14 lectures)

- District Planning Committee and Metropolitan Planning Committee
- State Election Commission
- State Finance Commission

5. POL-HG-3016 Gandhi and the Contemporary World

Course objective: Locating Gandhi in a global frame, the course seeks to elaborate Gandhian thought and examine its practical implications. It will introduce students to key instances of Gandhi's continuing influence right up to the contemporary period and enable them to critically evaluate his legacy.

I. Gandhi on Modern Civilization and Ethics of Development (2 weeks)

- a. Conception of Modern Civilisation and Alternative Modernity
- b. Critique of Development: Narmada Bachao Andolan

II. Gandhian Thought: Theory and Action (4 weeks)

- a. Theory of Satyagraha
- b. Satyagraha in Action
 - i. Peasant Satyagraha: Kheda and the Idea of Trusteeship
 - ii. Temple Entry and Critique of Caste
 - iii. Social Harmony: 1947 and Communal Unity

III. Gandhi's Legacy (4 weeks)

- a) Tolerance: Anti - Racism Movements (Anti - Apartheid and Martin Luther King)
- b) The Pacifist Movement
- c) Women's Movements
- d) *Gandhigiri*: Perceptions in Popular Culture

IV. Gandhi and the Idea of Political (2 weeks)

- a) Swaraj
- b) Swadeshi

6. POL-HG-3026 United Nations and Global Conflicts

Course Objective: This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the most important multilateral political organization in international relations. It provides a detailed account of the organizational structure and the political processes of the UN, and how it has evolved since 1945, especially in terms of dealing with the major global conflicts. The course imparts a critical understanding of the UN's performance until now and the imperatives as well as processes of reforming the organization in the context of the contemporary global system.

I. The United Nations (29 Lectures)

(a) An Historical Overview of the United Nations

(b) Principles and Objectives

(c) Structures and Functions: General Assembly; Security Council, and Economic and Social Council; the International Court of Justice and the specialized agencies (International Labor Organization [ILO], United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], World Health Organization [WHO], and UN programmes and funds: United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF], United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], United

Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR])

(d) Peace Keeping, Peace Making and Enforcement, Peace Building and Responsibility to Protect (e) Millennium Development Goals

II. Major Global Conflicts since the Second World War (20 Lectures)

(a) Korean War

(b) Vietnam War

(c) Afghanistan Wars

(d) Balkans: Serbia and Bosnia

III. Assessment of the United Nations as an International Organization: Imperatives of Reforms and the Process of Reforms (11 Lectures)

7. POL-HG-4016 Understanding Ambedkar

Course objective: This course is broadly intended to introduce Ambedkar's ideas and their relevance in contemporary India, by looking beyond caste. Ambedkar's philosophical contributions towards Indian economy and class question, sociological interpretations on religion, gender, caste and cultural issues; ideas on politics such as concepts of nation, state, democracy, law and constitutionalism are to be pedagogically interrogated and interpreted. This will help students to critically engage themselves with the existing social concerns, state and economic structures and other institutional mechanisms. This also will facilitate them to strengthen their creative thinking with a collective approach to understand ongoing social, political, cultural and economic phenomena of the society.

I. Introducing Ambedkar (1 week)

a. Approach to Study Polity, History, Economy, Religion and Society

II. Caste and Religion (3 weeks)

a. Caste, Untouchability and Critique of Hindu Social Order

b. Religion and Conversion

III. Women's Question (2 weeks)

- a. Rise and Fall of Hindu Women
- b. Hindu Code Bill

IV. Political Vision (2 weeks)

- a. Nation and Nationalism
- b. Democracy and Citizenship

V. Constitutionalism (2 weeks)

- a. Rights and Representations
- b. Constitution as an Instrument of Social Transformation

VI. Economy and Class Question (2 weeks)

- a. Planning and Development
- b. Land and Labor

8. POL-HG-4026 Politics of Globalization

Course objective: The objective of this generic elective paper is to make students from diverse background understand the process of globalization from a political perspective. This paper will create a broad understanding of the issues and processes globalization based on critical analysis of the various anchors and dimensions of globalization.

1. Concept of Globalization: Globalization debate; for and against.

2. Approaches to understanding globalization:

- a. Liberal approach
- b. Radical approach

3. International Institutions/Regimes

- a. World Bank
- b. International Monetary Fund
- c. The World Trade Organization

4. Issues in Globalization: Alternative Perspectives on its nature and character, critical dimensions: economic, political and cultural

5. Globalization and democracy: State, sovereignty and the civil society.

6. Globalization and Politics in developing countries

- a. Globalization and social movements
- b. Globalization and the demise of Nation State
- c. Globalization and human migration

7. The inevitability of globalization: Domestic and Global responses

C. DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (Any Two)

1. POL-HE-5016 Human Rights

Unit I: Introduction to Human Rights

- Concept of Human Rights – meaning, nature, importance
- Growth and evolution of Human Rights
- Classification- three generation of Human Rights

Unit II: Approaches and perspectives

- Universal Approach
- Cultural Relativist Approach
- Marxian Perspective

Unit III: Human Rights and UNO

- International Bill of Rights – UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR, Optional Protocols
- Conventions Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, Convention on Rights of the Child
- Human Rights Council

Unit IV: Human rights and the role of NGOs

- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Watch
- International Committee of the Red Cross

2. POL-HE-5026 Public Policy in India

Course Objective: This course provides a theoretical and practical understanding of the concepts and methods that can be employed in the analysis of public policy. It uses the methods of political economy to understand policy as well as understand politics as it is shaped by economic changes. The course will be useful for students who seek an integrative link to their understanding of political science, economic theory and the practical world of development and social change.

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- **I. Introduction to Policy Analysis (12 Lectures)**
- **II. The Analysis of Policy in the Context of Theories of State (12 Lectures)**
- **III. Political Economy and Policy: Interest Groups and Social Movements. (12 Lectures)**
- **IV. Models of Policy Decision-Making (12 Lectures)**
- **V. Ideology and Policy: Nehruvian Vision, Economic Liberalization and recent developments (12 Lectures)**

3. POL-HE-5036 Understanding Global Politics

Course Objectives: This course aims to provide students a basic yet interesting and insightful way of knowing and thinking about the world around them. It is centered around three sets of basic questions starting with what makes the world what it is by instructing students how they can conceptualize the world and their place within it. The second module focuses on the basic fault lines that drive the world apart and the last one is designed to help students explore how and why they need to think about the 'world' as a whole from alternate vantage points.

I. What Makes the World what it is? (30 lectures)

a. The Sovereign State System (10 lectures)

- Evolution of the state system
- The concept of Sovereignty

b. The Global Economy (13 lectures)

- Discussing the Bretton Woods Institutions and WTO

- Ideological underpinnings
- Transnational Economic Actors

c. Identity and Culture (7 lectures)

II. What Drives the World Apart? (10 lectures)

- **Global Inequalities**
- **Violence: Conflict, War and Terrorism**

III. Why We Need to Bring the World Together? (8 lectures)

- **Global Environment**
- **Global Civil Society**

4. POL-HE-5046 Select Constitutions

Course Objective: The course introduces the constitutional and political systems of four (4) countries. Students will have a stronger and more informed perspective on approaches to studying the constitutional and political systems of these countries in a comparative manner.

Unit I: United Kingdom

- The British Political Tradition
- Parliamentary Government— **i)** Monarchy, **ii)** Cabinet, **iii)** Parliament
- Political Parties and Interest Groups
- Rule of Law and the Judicial System

Unit II: United States of America

- Making of the American Constitution, the Federal System
- National Government— **i)**The President **ii)** Congress **iii)** Supreme Court
- Political Parties and Interest Groups in USA
- Comparison of UK and US Constitutions:
 - 1) British Prime Minister vs US President
 - 2) House of Lords vs Senate
 - 3) Speaker of House of Commons vs Speaker of House of Representatives

Unit III: Peoples Republic of China

Revolutionary Legacy: Communist Revolution and the Cultural Revolution

Structure of Government:

- National Peoples Congress
- The President and the State Council
- Peoples courts and Peoples Procuratorates

Rights and Duties of Citizens

Party System, and Role of the Communist Party

Unit III: Switzerland

- Swiss Political Tradition
- Swiss Federalism
- Structure of Federal Government: Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
Direct Democracy, Political Parties and Interest Groups

5. POL-HE-6016 India's Foreign Policy in a globalizing world

Course objective: This course's objective is to teach students the domestic sources and the structural constraints on the genesis, evolution and practice of India's foreign policy. The endeavour is to highlight integral linkages between the 'domestic' and the 'international' aspects of India's foreign policy by stressing on the shifts in its domestic identity and the corresponding changes at the international level. Students will be instructed on India's shifting identity as a postcolonial state to the contemporary dynamics of India attempting to carve its identity as an 'aspiring power'. India's evolving relations with the superpowers during the Cold War and after, bargaining strategy and positioning in international climate change negotiations, international economic governance, international terrorism and the United Nations facilitate an understanding of the changing positions and development of India's role as a global player since independence.

I. India's Foreign Policy: From a Postcolonial State to an Aspiring Global Power

(7 lectures)

II. India's Relations with the USA and USSR/Russia (9 lectures)

III. India's Engagements with China (6 lectures)

IV. India in South Asia: Debating Regional Strategies (9 lectures)

V. India's Negotiating Style and Strategies: Trade, Environment and Security Regimes (11 lectures)

VI. India in the Contemporary Multipolar World (6 lectures)

6. POL-HE-6026 Understanding South Asia

Course Objective: The course introduces the historical legacies and geopolitics of South Asia as a region. It imparts an understanding of political regime types as well as the socioeconomic issues of the region in a comparative framework. The course also apprises students of the common challenges and the strategies deployed to deal with them by countries in South Asia.

I. South Asia- Understanding South Asia as a Region (9 Lectures)

(a) Historical and Colonial Legacies (b) Geopolitics of South Asia

II. Politics and Governance (21 Lectures)

(a) Regime types: democracy, authoritarianism, monarchy

(b) Emerging constitutional practices: federal experiments in Pakistan; constitutional debate in Nepal and Bhutan; devolution debate in Sri Lanka

III. Socio-Economic Issues (15 Lectures)

(a) Identity politics and economic deprivation: challenges and impacts (case studies of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka)

IV. Regional Issues and Challenges (15 Lectures)

(a) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC): problems and prospects (b) Terrorism_(c) Migration

7. POL-HE-6036 Women, Power and Politics

Course objective: This course opens up the question of women's agency, taking it beyond 'women's empowerment' and focusing on women as radical social agents. It attempts to question the complicity of social structures and relations in gender inequality. This is extended to cover new forms of precarious

work and labour under the new economy. Special attention will be paid to feminism as an approach and outlook. The course is divided into broad units, each of which is divided into three sub-units.

I. Groundings (6 weeks)

1. Patriarchy (2 weeks)
 - a. Sex-Gender Debates
 - b. Public and Private
 - c. Power
2. Feminism (2 weeks)
3. Family, Community, State (2 weeks)
 - a. Family
 - b. Community
 - c. State

II. Movements and Issues (6 weeks)

1. History of the Women's Movement in India (2 weeks)
2. Violence against women (2 weeks)
3. Work and Labour (2 weeks)
 - a. Visible and Invisible work
 - b. Reproductive and care work
 - c. Sex work

8. POL-HE-6046 Social Movements in North-east India

Unit-I: Understanding Social Movement:

Meaning and definition,
Approaches,
Typologies
New Social Movement

Unit-II: Identity Movements:

Language movement in Assam
Assam movement (1979-85)
Tripuri movement
Movement for Schedule Tribe status in Assam

Unit-III: Movements for Autonomy:

Bodo movement
Naga Movement
Kamatapur movement

Unit-IV: New Social Movements:

Environmental movement (Anti Dam Movement)
Civil Rights Movement (Movement against AFSPA)
Women movement (Naga Mothers' Association & Meira Pei

D. ABILITY ENHANCEMENT- (SKILL BASED)

1. POL-SE-3014 Parliamentary Procedures and Practices

Course Objective: The course attempts to make the students familiar with legislative practices in India with an orientation to equip them with the adequate skills of participation in deliberative processes and democratic decision making. The introductory unit of the course aims to provide basic understanding on the constitutional provisions related to the process of legislations as well as the kinds of bills. The second unit of this course seeks to enhance proper understanding related to the procedures, practices related to the passage of a bill from drafting to that of the passing of the Bill. Third unit is about different Committees in the House, and the Fourth unit is on hours and motions in the House.

I. Constitutional Provisions and Kinds of Bills

Constitutional provisions of legislative procedures: Articles 107-22

Kinds of Bills: Ordinary Bills, Money Bills, Finance Bills, Private Member Bills

II. Drafting, Introductions and Readings of the Bills: Procedures and Processes

Drafting of the Bill

First Reading and Departmental Standing Committee

Second Reading

Third Reading

Passage of the Bill

Consent by the President

Gazette Notifications

III. Parliamentary Committees: Composition and Functioning (12)

Departmental Standing Committees

Select Committees

Joint Parliamentary Committees

Public Accounts Committee

Committee on Privilege

Business Advisory Committee

Ethics Committee

IV. Motions and Hours in the House

Question Hour

Zero Hour

Calling Attention Motion

Adjournment Motion

Privilege motion,

Censure motion,

'No-confidence' motion,

Cut motion

2. POL-SE-3024 Youth and Nation-Building

Course objectives: The aim of this course is to highlight the importance of NCC and NSS. The students will be able to get involved with the NCC and the NSS and learn about its activities and undertake tasks under its aegis. The students will also be able to learn about the basics of disaster preparedness and its management.

Unit –I: Youth and National Service Scheme (NSS)

- NSS: Organization and Objective
- NSS: Activities and Benefits
- NSS and its contribution

Unit-II: Youth and the National Cadet Corps (NCC)

- Aims and objectives of the NCC
- Organization and Training
- NCC and its benefits

Unit-III: Youth and National Disaster Management

- Disaster Management Plan 2016-an overview
- National Disaster Management Authority
- Community involvement and preparedness: Assam

3. POL-SE-4014 Panchayat Raj in India

4. POL-SE-4024 Citizens and Rights

Course objective: This course aims to understand law as a source of rights, as a progressively widening sphere of substantive justice, welfare, and dignity. This relationship between laws and rights will be studied through specific values which have come to be seen as integral for a democratic society viz., equality and non-discrimination, empowerment, redistribution and recognition of traditional rights etc.

I. Equality and non-discrimination (4 weeks)

- a. Gender: the protection of women against domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment
- b. Caste and Class: laws concerning untouchability and minimum wages
- c. Disability and equality of participation

II. Empowerment (4 weeks)

- a. Access to information
- b. Rights of the consumer

III. Redistribution, recognition and livelihood (4 weeks)

- a. Traditional rights of forest dwellers and the issue of women's property rights
- b. Rural employment guarantee

IV. Laws relating to criminal justice administration (4 weeks)

- a. Filing of a complaint, First Information Report (FIR)
- b. Detention, arrest and bail