

**DEPARTEMNT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
GOVERNMENT GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE, MANGALKOTE**

PROGRAMME OUTCOME IN POLITICAL SCIENCE GENERAL COURSE

The department of Political Science was established in 2015 with 3 years B. A. General Degree as one of the programmes. The programme includes core courses, skill enhancement courses and discipline specific electives catering to the needs and interests of the students. The core courses include western political thought in the first semester, political theory in the second semester, Indian political thought in the third semester, Indian government and politics in the fourth semester. In the fifth and sixth semesters the students have to opt for discipline specific electives depending on their areas of interest. The general programme in political science seeks to offer the students a holistic understanding of the discipline together with enabling them to prepare themselves for competitive examinations in the future. Not only in-depth theoretical understanding but also contemporary social, economic and political issues have been evenly dispersed throughout the syllabus. This distribution, on one hand, enables spontaneous intake of knowledge and information and on the other hand provides contextual understanding of the complex interaction between the society and polity possible. The aim of the general course can be summed up as follows:

- Insights into the foundations of Western Political Thought and its thinkers.
- Information about basic political theories, the concept of sovereignty, relationship between liberty and equality.
- Basic features of Indian political thought.
- The electoral process and the working of Indian democracy.
- The nature of Indian federalism and the workings of the federal and state governments.
- Measures to protect the environment in India.
- Comparative understanding of Western and Indian political thought.
- The governmental measures to remove social injustice and the protection of fundamental rights.
- Making of public policy in India.
- Human Rights and its various nuances.

SEMESTER I

CC 1A: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

The main aim of this paper is to introduce to the students the foundation of political thought as represented by European thinkers like Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau. Any understanding of politics is incomplete without studying these thinkers. At the same time this paper also talks about the dark ages and medieval period and how a secular political thought was introduced by Machiavelli in the wake of European Renaissance. Next the students are acquainted with the Marxist political philosophy and the basic ideas of class, class struggle, capitalism, socialism and the like together with an analysis of liberty and individualism.

SEMESTER II

CC 1B: POLITICAL THEORY

In this paper the students begin their learning with an in-depth analysis into what constitutes political theory and its historical background. It also offers significant insight into the different approaches that have time and again provided the background for the development of newer theories like the behavioural and post-behavioural theories. This paper also defines the meaning of sovereignty and the different forms that it might take. The first-year students also gain valuable knowledge about the meaning of liberty and equality and how they are interconnected. The workings of the political parties and pressure groups also form a part of this paper together with ideals like Liberalism and Neo-Liberalism. The paper winds up with a critical analysis of the theories of state each of which in their turn encourages the young mind to rationally evaluate and build an interconnection between the traditional and contemporary theories.

SEMESTER III

CC 1C: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

The core course here deals with the emergence of political thought in India as enumerated in Kautilya's Arthashastra and his concept of the state and its ruler. Then this paper delves into the administrative system of the Mughal period and the students learn about the historical differences between the ancient and medieval times. Dealing with the colonial era this paper includes in its purview the contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Rabindranath Tagore to the modernization of the society. Their views on nationalism imbue the students with a moral and ethical perspective so far as political philosophy is concerned. Gandhiji's ideals of social and economic standards have also been included in this paper so that the learners get a basic idea about the importance of decentralization, democracy, tolerance and brotherhood as the foundations of a modern

nation. The role played by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in the eradication of social malices and establishment of a just social order needs special mention as the core foundation of character building.

SEC 1: ELECTORAL PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

This skill enhancement paper deals with the procedures of conducting elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. It helps the students to gain valuable insight into the structural composition and functions of the Election Commission of India, the role of the Chief Election Commissioner, the formation and functioning of the State Election Commission and the subsequent electoral reforms in India since independence.

SEMESTER IV

CC 1D: INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Starting with the constitution of the Constituent Assembly, to the writing of the Preamble, the ideas enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution of India, to an elaborate understanding of the Constitution itself, this core course is perhaps the single most important element to any student of political science in India. The course includes topics such as Fundamental Rights and Duties, the formation of the Central and State governments, the working of the judiciary, centre-state relations all of which are important not only for the future scholars of the discipline but also for students who aspire to apply for different competitive examinations. Here the learners are also required to keep themselves updated about the electoral process of the country and the subsequent electoral reforms since independence. No discussion on Indian polity is complete without mentioning the multi-party system of the country and the formation of coalition government.

SEC 2: ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

This skill enhancement paper touches upon the most crucial issue of contemporary society i.e. the protection and preservation of the environment. It deals with the meaning and historical background of environmental movements carried on both in India and abroad. It provides the students a scope to delve into a critical analysis of the typical problems facing the developed and developing world with the degradation of the environment and loss of ecological balance. The challenges and responsibilities before the First and Third World, so far as the environment is concerned are not quite the same. The paper deals with the Chipko Movement and Narmada Bachao Andolan in India before proceeding to the international efforts and regional forums dealing with the environment. The students also get a fair

amount of ideas about the effort of the United Nations for environmental preservation known as green governance for sustainable human development.

SEMESTER V

DSE 1A: SELECT COMPARATIVE POLITICAL THOUGHT

This paper enables students to make a comparative analysis of Indian and Western political thought in terms of their origin, central beliefs, value system, position of women, caste-class considerations, religious compulsions, statecraft and rights and duties. It discusses important thinkers of both the developed and developing world like Aristotle, Locke, Rousseau, J. S. Mill, Kautilya, Lokmanya Tilak, Gandhi, Nehru, Ambedkar and Jay Prakash Narayan. In discussing these stalwarts the paper resorts to theoretical background and thematic analysis of the consequent development and progress of the western and Indian society, economy and polity. As such it presents a holistic approach to the concept of political thought.

SEC 3: DEMOCRATIC AWARENESS THROUGH LEGAL LITERACY

Awareness is empowerment and this paper empowers the students by informing them about their rights. The government through its legal imperatives, has tried to ensure justice and equality which has eventually culminated in the laws regarding sexual harassment, the prohibition of violence against women, prohibition of dowry, laws against cyber crime and laws for the protection of consumer rights. Further this paper includes such topics as anti-terrorism and protection of human rights, the system of criminal and civil courts in India, women courts and public grievance redressal forums all of which help in strengthening the democratic fabric of India.

GE 1: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

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foundations of a modern nation. The role played by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in the eradication of social malices and establishment of a just social order needs special mention as the core foundation of character building.

SEMESTER VI

DSE 1B: PUBLIC POLICY: CONCEPT AND IMPLICATIONS IN INDIA

The course deals with the meaning of public policy, its basic ingredients and the major actors in public policy-making. To maintain a parity and continuation so that the students can understand the changes, this paper starts with a discussion of the public policies undertaken in India since independence before delving into the contemporary society. The paper has picked up two very important policies serving as the basis of a self-reliant and decentralized socio-political order i.e. National Rural Health Mission and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Besides, the learners also get to know of the major constraints facing successful implementation of development policies today that are embedded in the society, its economic order, its political system and its cultural backwardness.

SEC 4: HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

This skill enhancement course deals with the historical background of the evolution of Human Rights and the role of the United Nations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It further provides the students with information about the protection of human rights as per the Indian Constitution, the composition and function of the National Human Rights Commission and most importantly how terrorism and counter-terrorist activities both pose a threat to human rights world wide. The course winds up with a discussion about the human rights movements in India, the challenges facing it and its future prospects.


GE 2: INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

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