

Category II

Political Science Courses for Undergraduate Programme of study with Political Science as one of the Core Disciplines (B.A. Programmes with Political Science as Major discipline)

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE (DSC-3A): Ancient and Medieval Indian Political Thought

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Ancient and Medieval Indian Political Thought MDSC-3A	4	3	1	0	12 Pass	N/L

Learning Objectives

The political thought which constitutes the dominant element of political Science is essentially euro genetic and Eurocentric. What we study in our universities are ones which evolved and developed with European and Anglo-American tradition. The conceptual framework and discourses were product of societies and the forces amidst which they took birth and the shape. That does not mean that India had no tradition of political thinking. This paper seeks to critically engage with writers of ancient India who produced wonderful treatise on the statecraft and several elements of government and governance. This includes the concept of monarchy, the forms of government, the role of the state and state individual relationship.

Learning outcomes

After reading the course the students would be able to answer

- What were the major institutions of government in ancient India and how did they function?
- How thinkers like Manu, Shukra, Brihaspati and Kautilya perceived the role of statecraft in society?
- What was the Nitisar tradition? How did it mark a difference from the Arthashastra tradition?
- The students will be able to answer how Kabir epitomised the syncretic traditions of India.
- What was the political and economic ideas of Tiruvallur and what was his take on ethics?

SYLLABUS OF MDSC-3A

UNIT – I (5 Hours)

Foundations of Indian Political Thought:

- An Overview on Sources of Indian Political Thought
- Cultural and Territorial conception of India
- Distinctive Features of Indian Political Thought

UNIT – II (4 Hours)

Manu

- Authenticity of Manu smriti (Talking Point)
- Social Laws and Conception of Justice

UNIT – III (4 Hours)

Brihaspati: Statecraft, Justice, Inter-state Relations

UNIT – IV (4 Hours)

Shukra/Usana

- Talking Point: Debate on the authenticity of Shukra-Niti
- The Concept of Kingship and Statecraft in Shukra-Niti

UNIT – V (4 Hours)

Kautilya: Theory of State

UNIT – VI (4 Hours)

Aggannasutta (DighaNikaya): Theory of kingship

UNIT – VII (4 Hours)

Tiruvalluvar: Ethical Life and Politics

UNIT – VIII (4 Hours)

Basavanna

UNIT – IX (4 Hours)

Adi Shankracharya: Advaita

UNIT – X (4 Hours)

Kabir and Guru Nanak: Syncretism

UNIT – XI (4 Hours)

Abu'IFazl: Monarchy

Essential/recommended readings

Unit 1: Foundations of Indian Political Thought:

V. R. Mehta (1992) Introduction, in Foundation of Indian Political Thought, Delhi, Manohar, pp. 1-11.

Brown, D. M. (1953). The Premises of Indian Political Thought. *The Western Political Quarterly*, 6(2), 243–249.

Suda, J. P. (1970). Dharma: Its Nature and Role in Ancient India. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 31(4), 356–366.

Varma, Vishwanath Prasad (1953). *Studies in Hindu Political Thought and its Metaphysical Foundations*, Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi.

Flood, Gavin (2003). *The Blackwell Companion to Hinduism*. Blackwell Publishing Ltd, UK.

Unit 2: Manu

Manu (2006) 'Rules for Times of Adversity', in P. Olivelle (ed. & trans.) *Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Manava- Dharamsastra*, New Delhi: OUP, pp.208-213.

V. Mehta (1992) 'The Cosmic Vision: Manu', in *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 23- 39.

R. Sharma (1991) 'Varna in Relation to Law and Politics (c 600 BC-AD 500)', in *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 233- 251

P. Olivelle (2006) 'Introduction', in *Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Manava –Dharmasastra*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 3- 50.

Unit 3: Brihaspati: Statecraft, Justice, Inter-state Relations

Vajpeyi, Raghavendra (1966) *Barhaspatya Rajya-Vyavastha: Political and Legal System of Brhaspati*. ChaukhambaVidyabhawan, Varanasi.

Chousalkar Ashok S. (2018). *Revisiting the Political Thought of Ancient India: Pre-KautilyanArthashastra*: SAGE Publications Pvt Ltd, Delhi.

Kane, P.V (1940). "Rajyashastras of Brihaspati, Usanas, Bhardwaj and Vishalaksh". *Journal of the University of Bombay*.

Unit 4: Shukra/Usana:

Nagar, Vandana (1985). *Kingship in Shukra-Niti*, Pushpa Prakashan, Delhi, India.

Varma, Vishwanath Prasad (December 1962). "Some Aspects of Public Administration in The Sukraniti". *Indian Journal of Political Science*. 23 (1/4): 302–308.

Puntambekar, S. V. (1948). Some Aspects of Sukra's Political Thought. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 9(2/3), 1–12.

Unit 5: Kautilya: Theory of State

Kautilya (1997) 'The Elements of Sovereignty' in R. Kangle (ed. and trns.), *Arthashastra of Kautilya*, New Delhi: Motilal Publishers, pp. 511- 514.

V. Mehta (1992) 'The Pragmatic Vision: Kautilya and His Successor', in *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 88- 109.

R. Kangle (1997) *Arthashastra of Kautilya-Part-III: A Study*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 116- 142.

Unit 6: Aggannasutta (DighaNikaya): Theory of kingship

S. Collins (ed) (2001) *Agganna Sutta: An Annotated Translation*, New Delhi: Sahitya Academy, pp. 44-49.

S. Collins (2001) 'General Introduction', in *Agganna Sutta: The Discussion on What is Primary (An Annotated Translation from Pali)*, Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, pp. 1- 26.

B. Gokhale (1966) 'The Early Buddhist View of the State', in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. XXVI (1), pp. 15- 22.

Unit 7: Tiruvalluvar: Ethical Life and Politics

Maharajan, S. (2017), *Makers of Indian Literature: Tiruvalluvar*, Sahitya Akademi Publication, New Delhi.

K. V. Nagarajan *Thiruvalluvar's Vision: Polity and Economy in Thirukkural*, *History of Political Economy* 37:1, 2005 by Duke University Press.

C.S. Srinivasachari, *The Political Ideology of the Kural*, *Indian Journal of Political Science*, Oct-Dec 1949, pp 15-23

Norman Cutler, *Interpreting Thirukural: The Role of the Commentary in the Creation of a Text*, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, October- December 1992, Vol 112, No 4, pp 549-556

Unit 8: Basavanna

H. Thipperudraswamy, *Basaveshwara*, Sahitya Akademi, 1975.

Julia Leslie, *Understanding Basava; History, Historiography, and a Modern Kannada Drama*, *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, university of London*, 1998, Vol 61, No 2, pp 228-261.

M. P. Samartha, *Basava's Spiritual Struggle*, *Religious Studies*, Cambridge University Press, Sept 1977, Vol 13, No 3, pp 335-347.

Unit 9: Adi Shankracharya –Advaita

Koller, John, M. (2012) 'Shankara', in Chad Meister & Paul Copan (eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Religion*, pp. 99 - 108.

ManilalDivedi, *The Advaita Philosophy of Shankara*, pp. 95-113. (Published by Department of Oriental Studies, University of Vienna).

Chatterjee and Dutta (2007), *An Introduction to Indian Philosophy*, New Delhi: Rupa Publications, pp 317 - 382.

Swami Mukhyananda (2006), *Shri Shankaracharya: Life and Philosophy*, Kolkata: Advaita Ashram, pp. 1 - 64.

Unit 10: Kabir and Guru Nanak: Syncretism

Kabir. (2002) *The Bijak of Kabir* (translated by L. Hess and S. Singh), Delhi: Oxford University Press, No. 30, 97, pp. 50- 51 & 69- 70.

V. Mehta (1992) *Foundation of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 157- 183.

G. Omvedt (2008) 'Kabir and Ravidas, Envisioning Begumpura', in *Seeking Begumpura: The Social Vision of Anti Caste Intellectual*, Delhi: Navayana, pp. 91- 107.

Unit 11: Abu'IFazl: Monarchy

A. Fazl (1873) *The Ain-i Akbari* (translated by H. Blochmann), Calcutta: G. H. Rouse, pp. 47-57.

V. Mehta (1992) 'The Imperial Vision: Barni and Fazal', in *Foundations of Indian Political thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 134- 156.

Additional Readings:

V.R.Mehta, *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*. Delhi: 1992, Manohar

U.N.Ghoshal, *A History of Indian Political Ideas: the ancient period and the period of transition to the middle ages*. OUP, Bombay, 1959

Himanshu Roy &M.P.Singh (eds.), *Indian Political Thought*, Pearson, Second edition, 2017.

Ankit Tomar&Suratha K Malik (eds.), Ancient and Medieval Indian Thought: Themes and Traditions. Sage. 2020

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE (DSC-3B): Theory and Practice of

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Theory and Practice of Democracy MDSC-3B	4	3	1	0	12 Pass	NIL

Learning Objectives

This course offers an introduction to the evolution, theories, and practices of democracy. The course will introduce debates in democratic theory and practices in the past, and their contested legacies in contemporary times. Students will learn to evaluate past practices, critically examine current practices, learn about recent innovations and discuss the future of democracy. This course will provide an overview of different theories of democracy, covering approaches such as civic republicanism, liberal constitutionalism, participatory and deliberative democracy. The course will engage in challenges and debates on diversity, citizenship, representation and globalization.

Learning outcomes

After completing this course students will be able to:

- Develop a broad historical, normative and empirical understanding of the idea and practice of democracy.
- Distinguish different models of democracy and their normative assumptions
- Understand different theories of democracy and how different theories led to waves of democratization over history.
- Understand/assess some of the major political challenges that democracy faces in the wake of globalization.
- Examine current problems and understand how different democratic crises have emerged in practice
- Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices
- Engage in dialogue about the meaning and value of democracy
- Explain and defend how democratic theory might be used to respond to problems being faced by nation-states

SYLLABUS OF MDSC-3B

UNIT – I (11 Hours)

Origins of the idea

- Ancient Greece and India
- Modern developments
- Procedural and substantive accounts
- Contemporary innovations

UNIT – II (11 Hours)

Theory

Liberal Representative democracy
Participatory democracy
Deliberative democracy

UNIT – III (11 Hours)

Institutions

Constitutionalism
Legislatures and legislation
Political Parties
Media & the Civil Society

UNIT – IV (12 Hours)

Contemporary Debates

Diversity
Representation
Globalization & Global Issues

Essential/recommended readings

Unit wise reading list

Unit 1: Origins of the idea

Isakhan, Benjamin and Stephen Stockwell, *The Edinburgh Companion to the History of Democracy*, Edinburgh University Press, 2012. Ch. 3, 6, 7, 16, 17.

Dahl, Robert. *On Democracy*. Yale University Press, 1998.

Dunn, John (ed.), *Democracy: The Unfinished Journey: 508 BC to AD 1993*, Oxford University Press, 1992. Ch. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8.

Schmitter, Philippe C. and Terry Lynn Karl, 'What Democracy is....and is not,' *Journal of Democracy*, Summer 1991: 3-16.

Arblaster, Anthony. *Democracy*. 3rd Edition. Open University Press, 2002.

Unit 2: Theory

Pateman, C, 'Rousseau, J. S. Mill, and G. D. H. Cole: A Participatory Theory of Democracy', in "Participation and Democratic Theory, Cambridge University Press, 1970.

Pateman, C, 'Participatory Democracy Revisited', *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2012, Vol. 10:17.

Saward, M. 'Representation and Democracy: Revisions and Possibilities', *Sociology Compass* 2/3 (2008): 1000–1013

Mansbridge, J. Clarifying the Concept of Representation, *American Political Science Review* Vol. 105, No. 3 August 2011

Gutman A, and Dennis Thompson, 'What Deliberative Democracy Means' in *Why Deliberative Democracy?* Princeton University Press, 2004.

Unit 3: Institutions

Manin, Bernard. *The Principles of Representative Government*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Freeman, M. Constitutional Democracy and the Legitimacy of Judicial Review, *Law and Philosophy*, 9: 327-370, 1990-1991.

Zurn, C. From Majoritarian to Deliberative Theories of Constitutional Democracy' (Ch – III), in *Deliberative Democracy and the Institutions of Judicial Review*, Cambridge University Press, 2007

Bark, A. 'Protecting the Constitution and Democracy' (Ch. 2) in *Judge in a Democracy* Princeton University Press, 2004.

Unit 4: Contemporary Debates

Birch, A. H. *The Concepts and Theories of Modern Democracy*, 3rd Edition. Routledge, 2007.

Dowding, Keith, James Hughes and Helen Margetts, *Challenges to Democracy: Ideas, Institutions and Involvement*. The PSA Yearbook 2000, Palgrave, 2001.

Held, David. *Models of Democracy*. 3rd Edition. Polity Press, 2007.

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