

MANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Department of Political Science

PSS406: POLITICAL THEORY: IDEAS AND CONCEPTS

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce the students to the concepts and constructs in political theory
2. To enable students to reflect on the basic issues in public life
3. To grasp the complexities in structuring the political order
4. To become aware of the sociological and political issues including institutions and process.

Course Outcomes: The course will enable students to –

1. Develop a framework to understand politics
2. Develop a capacity to grasp socio-political context from normative perspective
3. Evolve a critically enriched imagination of comparative perspective of politics- Western and India
4. Examine modern political trends, debates, ideas and issues within the frame work of politics and society in general and India in particular.

Block I : Framework

Unit 1 Political Theory: Significance of the study

Unit 2 Political Theory, Political Ideology. Political Thought, Political Philosophy

Unit 3 Analytical and Normative theory

Unit 4 Evolution of political theory Block II : Debates on State and individual

Unit 5 Citizenship, Political participation

Unit 6 Liberty, Equality, Justice

Unit 7 Rights, Political Obligation

Unit 8 Good governance

Block III: Debates on State and Society

Unit 9 Power, authority, legitimacy

Unit 10 Human Rights

Unit 11 Civil Society

Unit 12 New Social movements

Block IV: Politics and Society -Indian reflections

Unit 13 Indian and Western Political Theory – Essentials, Convergence and divergence

Unit 14 Dharma; Karma; Swaraj; Resistance and Civil disobedience

Unit 15 Hinduism and Hindutva; Secularism in India

Unit 16 Social Justice

Basic Reading

1. Bellamy, Richard Paul, Theories and Concepts of Politics, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1993
2. Barry, Norman P. Barry, An Introduction to Modern Political Theory, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2000
3. Dryzek, John S., Honig, Bonnie and Phillips, Anne, eds., The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006
4. Gaus, Gerald F., Political concepts and political theories, Colorado: Westview Press, 2000
5. Heywood, Andrew, Political Theory An Introduction, London: Macmillan, 2015
6. Kymlicka, Will, Contemporary Political Philosophy, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001
7. Vinod, M.J. and Deshpande, Meena, Contemporary Political Theory, Delhi: PHI Learning, 2013

Suggested Reading

1. Ahmed, Imtiaz ., Equality and Pluralism, New Delhi: Sage, 2001.
2. Bhargava, Rajeev., ed., Secularism and Its critics, New Delhi: OUP, 1998.
3. Basu, T., Datta, P., Sarkar, S., Sarkar, T., and Sen, S., Khaki Shorts and Saffron Flags, New Delhi: Orient Longman, 1993.
4. Brass, Paul., Ethnic Groups and the State, London: Goom Helm, 1995.
5. Chatterjee, Partha., ed., States and Politics in India, Delhi: OUP, 1997
6. Farrelly, Colin, Introduction to Political Theory, London, Sage, 2004
7. Freedon, Michael, Ideologies and Political Theory: A conceptual approach, Clarendon Press, 1998
8. Kohli, A., ed., The success of India's Democracy, Cambridge: CUP, 2001.
9. Parekh, Bhikhu ., Colonialism, Tradition and Reform, An analysis of Gandhi's Political Discourse, New Delhi: Sage, 1989.
10. Rawls, John., Political Pluralism, New York: Columbia University Press, 1993.
11. Sandel, Michael., Liberalism and the Limits of Justice, Cambridge: CUP, 1982.
12. Vanaik, Achin., "Reflections on Communalism and Nationalism in India", New Left, Review, 196, (1991)
13. White, Stephen K., and Moon, J. Donald, eds., What is Political Theory?, New Delhi, Sage, 2004