

Paper II - Indian Government and Politics
(62321201)
Core Course - (CC) Credit:6

Course Objective

The course aims to give students a thorough understanding of the structures of Indian government and politics. It equips the students with the different perspectives on studying Indian politics and the state in India, the constitutional principles on which the institutions of the state are founded and function, the social structures of power and salient features of the political process in India. It lays emphasis on understanding the inter-relationship between formal institutional structures, social movements, and political development to focus on the complex ways on which social and political power interact and have impact on political institutions and processes.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students would be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the different viewpoints on Indian politics and the nature of Indian state
- Show knowledge of the text of the Indian Constitution and an awareness of constitutional and legal rights
- Understand the structure of society in India and how social inequalities have an impact on political institutions and processes
- Show awareness of the party system in India and the development policies adopted by various governments so far
- Understand how social movements are formed and how they impact the political processes

Unit 1

Approaches to the Study of Indian Politics and Nature of the State in India: Liberal, Marxist and Gandhian (09 lectures)

Unit 2

Indian Constitution: basic features, debates on Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles (09 lectures)

Unit 3

Institutional Functioning: Prime Minister, Parliament and Judiciary (09 lectures)

Unit 4

Power Structure in India: Caste, class and patriarchy (07 lectures)

Unit 5

Religion and Politics: debates on secularism and communalism (06 lectures)

Unit 6

Parties and Party systems in India (05 lectures)

Unit 7

Strategies of Development in India since Independence: Planned Economy and Neo-liberalism (05 lectures)

Unit 8

Social Movements: Workers, Peasants, Environmental and Women's Movement (10 lectures)

References:

S.K. Chaube (2010), *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi: National Book Trust (Chapter V: 'The Rights of the Indians', pp.33-61)

A. Thiruvengadam, (2017), *The Constitution of India, A Contextual Analysis*, Oxford: Bloomsbury (Ch.2 Parliament and the Executive, pp.39-70)

P. Chatterjee (2011), *The State*, in N G Jayal and P Mehta (eds) *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, OUP, New Delhi. pp. 3-14.

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G. Austin (2010), *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 15th print (Chapter 7: The Judiciary and the Social Revolution, pp.164-185)

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E. Sridharan, (2012) 'Introduction: Theorizing Democratic Consolidation, Parties and Coalitions', in *Coalition Politics and Democratic Consolidation in Asia*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

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R. Kothari, (1970) 'Introduction', in *Caste in Indian Politics*, Delhi: Orient Longman, pp.3- 25.

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U. Chakravarti. (2003) 'Caste and Gender in Contemporary India', in *Gendering Caste Through a Feminist Lens*. Calcutta: Stree, pp.139-317.

T. Pantham, (2004) 'Understanding Indian Secularism: Learning from its Recent Critics', in R. Vora and S. Palshikar (eds.) *Indian Democracy: Meanings and Practices*, New Delhi: Sage, pp. 235-256.

- A. Roy, (2010) 'The Women's Movement', in N.Jayal and P. Mehta (eds.) The Oxford Companion to Politics in India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.409-422.
- G. Shah, (2004) Social Movements in India: A Review of Literature, New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2010) India After Independence. New Delhi: Penguin.
- Singh, M.P. & Saxena, R. (2008) Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Concerns. New Delhi: PHI Learning.
- Vanaik, A. & Bhargava, R. (eds.) (2010) Understanding Contemporary India: Critical Perspectives. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan.
- Menon, N. and Nigam, A. (2007) Power and Contestation: India Since 1989. London: Zed Book.
- Austin, G. (1999) Indian Constitution: Corner Stone of a Nation. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Austin, G. (2004) Working of a Democratic Constitution of India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Jayal, N. G. & Maheta, P. B. (eds.) (2010) Oxford Companion to Indian Politics. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Additional Resources:

Readings in Hindi

- अभय कुमार दुबे (सं०) राजनीति की किताब: रजनी कोठारी का कृतित्व, नई दिल्ली: वाणी प्रकाशन
- रजनी कोठारी एवं अभय कुमार दुबे, भारत में राजनीति: कल और आज, नई दिल्ली: वाणी प्रकाशन
- ग्रेनविल ऑस्टिन, भारतीय संविधान: राष्ट्र की आधारशिला, अनुवादक: नरेश गोस्वामी, नई दिल्ली: वाणी प्रकाशन, 2017
- माधव खोसला, भारत का संविधान, नई दिल्ली: ऑक्सफर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी प्रेस, 2018
- सुभाष काश्यप, संवैधानिक-राजनीतिक व्यवस्था: शासन प्रणाली और निर्वाचन प्रक्रिया, नई दिल्ली: राजकमल प्रकाशन, 2016
- सुभाष काश्यप, भारतीय राजनीति और संसद: विपक्ष की भूमिका, नई दिल्ली: राजकमल प्रकाशन, 2016
- सुभाष काश्यप, भारतीय राजनीति और संविधान: विकास, विवाद और निदान, नई दिल्ली: राजकमल प्रकाशन, 2016
- माधव गोडबोले, धर्मनिरपेक्षता: दोराहे पर भारत, नई दिल्ली: सेज भाषा, 2017
- शम्सुल इस्लाम, भारत में अलगाववाद और धर्म, नई दिल्ली: वाणी प्रकाशन
- जावीद आलम, लोकतंत्र के तलबगार?, अनुवादक: अभय कुमार दुबे, नई दिल्ली: वाणी प्रकाशन

आशुतोष वाष्णीय, अथूरी जीत: भारत का अप्रत्याशित लोकतंत्र, अनुवादक: जितेन्द्र कुमार, नई दिल्ली: ऑक्सफर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी प्रेस, 2018

गेल ओमवेट, दलित और प्रजातांत्रिक क्रांति: उपनिवेशीय भारत में डॉ॰ अम्बेडकर एवं दलित आंदोलन, नई दिल्ली: सेज भाषा, 2015

फिलिप कॉटलर, लोकतंत्र का पतन: भविष्य का पुनर्निर्माण, नई दिल्ली: सेज भाषा, 2017

घनश्याम शाह, भारत में सामाजिक आंदोलन: संबंधित साहित्य की एक समीक्षा, नई दिल्ली: सेज भाषा, 2015

अजय गुडावर्धी, भारत में राजनीतिक आंदोलनों का समकालीन इतिहास: नागरिक समाज के बाद की राजनीति, नई दिल्ली: सेज भाषा, 2017

ज्याँ ट्रेज़ एवं कमल नयन चौबे (सं॰), भारतीय नीतियों का सामाजिक पक्ष, लोकचेतना प्रकाशन, ई॰पी॰डब्ल्यू॰ रीडर, 2017

ज्याँ ट्रेज़ एवं अमर्त्य सेन, भारत और उसके विरोधाभास, अनुवादक: अशोक कुमार, नई दिल्ली: राजकमल प्रकाशन, 2018

बद्री नारायण, खंडित आख्यान: भारतीय जनतंत्र में अदृश्य लोग, नई दिल्ली: ऑक्सफर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी प्रेस, 2018

Teaching Learning Process

There will be interactive lectures on varied approaches to the study of Indian politics and Indian state. They will engage in detailed discussion on basic features of Indian constitution, particularly on the relationship between fundamental rights and directive principles enshrined in the Indian constitution. It provides them with basic understanding on the working of institutions in Indian polity and powers structures in Indian shaping society and politics. It also exposes students to the debates on secularism and communalism. It familiarizes the students with the evolution of party system in India. It enables students to analyse the strategies of development adopted by the state in post-colonial India and the impact of neo-liberal reforms on Indian economy. It also provides understanding on the dynamics of social movements in India and their significance as an alternative site of politics beyond the institutions.

Assessment Methods

Students will be assessed on continuous basis followed by end term examination. Internal assessment will be conducted at the end of each unit which may include written assignments, class presentations and participation in class discussions. Students will be assessed on the basis of their ability to think critically and creatively to solve the problems and application of conceptual understanding to field based variables. Students will be assessed on the basis of their reflexive thinking and engagement with peers and group discussion. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their participation in extra and co-curricular activities such as quiz. Before the end term examination, students will be required to submit a critical review of any book or a film that relates to any one unit of the syllabus.

Keywords

Approaches, Constitution, Development, Institutions, Secularism, Social Movements