

Syllabus

Political Science (2010-2011)



Institute of Distance and Open Learning
GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

Syllabus for MA in Political Science
Institute of Distance and Open Learning
Gauhati University

Total no of Papers: 16 (All Compulsory)
Total credits : 120

First Semester:

Paper I	Political Theory (I)	8
Paper II	International Politics: Theoretical Aspects	6
Paper III	Politics in India (I)	8
Paper IV	Public Administration: Theories and Concepts	8

Second Semester:

Paper V	Political Theory: II	8
Paper VI	International Relations in The Contemporary Period	8
Paper VII	Politics in India –II	8
Paper VIII	Indian Administration	6

Third Semester:

Paper IX	Comparative Politics	6
Paper X	Rural Development in India	8
Paper XI	Political Sociology	8
Paper XII	Government and Politics in North East India	8

Fourth Semester:

Paper XII	Research Methods in Social Science	8
Paper XIV	Human Security in South-Asia	6
Paper XV	Comparative Public Administration	8
Paper XVI	Human Rights in India	8

First Semester

PAPER I POLITICAL THEORY (I)

This paper will introduce you to the ideas of Western and Indian Political Thinkers. The first block of this paper will introduce the students to the Greek Political Thinkers like Plato and Aristotle. The second block will help the students to explore the ideas of Medieval Thinkers, like St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas and the ideas of Machiavelli as a modern thinker. The third block of this paper will familiarize the students with the ideas of emergence of states with reference to the writings of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau. The block also helps the students to understand two most important ideologies like Individualism and Liberalism. The fourth block discusses the ideas of Utilitarianism and Idealism. This block will introduce the students with the philosophy of Bentham, Mill and Hegel in the light of Utilitarian and Idealist philosophy. The last block of this paper discusses Indian Political Traditions which will help the students to explore the ideas of modern Indian political thinkers, like Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar. Hence this paper will introduce the students with the Political philosophy from classical to modern period.

Block I: Greek Political Tradition

Unit I: Plato

Unit II: Aristotle

Block II: Reaction To Medieval Tradition- The Renaissance: Political

Theory of Niccolo Machiavelli

Unit I: Medieval Tradition

Unit II: Machiavelli

Block III : Individualism and Liberalism

Unit I: Thomas Hobbes

Unit II: John Locke

Unit III: Rousseau

Block IV: Utilitarianism and Idealism

Unit I: Jeremy Bentham

Unit II: J S Mill

Unit III: Idealism: Hegel

Block V: Modern Indian Political Thinkers

Unit I: Philosophical Foundations of Gandhian Political Thought

Unit II: Nehru: Nation-Building and Democracy

Unit III: Ambedkar on Caste and Social Justice

Paper II: 6 credits

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS: THEORETICAL ASPECTS

This paper is an attempt to introduce the students with different approaches to the study of International Politics and some important ideologies which are regarded as the foundation of a nation in the international arena. The first block of this paper will help the students to understand International Politics as a field of study along with different approaches and theories to the study of International Politics. In the second block of this paper an attempt is made to introduce the students with two most important elements of International Politics i.e. power and ideology. These two phenomena help a nation to achieve their desired goals in the international arena and all international events are revolved around these two. The third block of this paper discusses the meaning and role of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy in International Politics. In the last block an attempt is made to explain the process used by the world community to bring peace and prosperity. Since the Second World War efforts have been made to establish a stable world order. In this block an attempt is made to explain Disarmament and Arms control as a tool of reducing tensions among the nations. Thus this paper will introduce the students with the concept of International Politics.

Block I: Approaches to International Politics

Unit I: Introduction to International Politics

Unit II: International Politics: Approaches and Theories

Block II: Power and Ideology in International Politics

Unit I: Power in International Politics
Unit II: Ideology in International Politics

Block III: Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

Unit I: Foreign Policy
Unit II: Diplomacy

Block IV: Disarmament and Arms control

Unit I: Disarmament and Arms Control
Unit II: Regimes of Arms Control

Paper III: 8 credits

POLITICS IN INDIA (I)

This paper will introduce the students with the dynamics of Indian Political System. In this paper an attempt is made to explain the present Indian Political System as a legacy of colonial period. This paper also helps the students to understand the legal structure of Indian federation along with the Rule of Law, Fundamental Rights, role of Judiciary, extra-constitutional provisions, All India Services and the limitation of the state power. The paper also deals with Socio-Economic Foundation and Ideological Bases of the Indian state, which discusses the role of Class, Caste and Gender in Indian Politics. In this paper an attempt is made to introduce the students with the federal structure of India and its related problems in terms of distribution of powers between Centre and the State Governments. This paper also provides you the basic idea of Parliamentary Democratic system of India along with its functioning. Thus, this paper will help the students to explore the ideas of Indian Political System since the colonial period.

Block: I Nature of Indian State

Unit I: Legacy of Colonialism and Freedom Movement
Unit II: Constitutional Framework of the Indian State
Unit III: Socio-economic Foundation and Ideological Bases of the Indian State

Block : II Nature and Functioning of Indian Federalism

Unit I: Federal Structure and its Dynamics
Unit II: Center-State Relations
Unit III: Centralization Vs. Decentralization

Block: III Parliamentary Democracy in India

Unit II: Issues of Accountability in India's Parliamentary Democracy
Unit III: Indian Parliament: Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha and Legislative Procedure in India

Paper IV: 8 credits

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: THEORIES AND CONCEPTS

This paper will introduce the students with the theories and concepts of Public Administration. This paper will help the students to understand the meaning of Public Administration. The first block of this paper deals with the meaning, nature and significance of Public Administration along with the evolution of Public Administration as a field of study. The second block of this paper will help the students to explore the nature and evolution of Public Administration in the light of different theories, like Scientific Management Theory, Human Relation Theory, Bureaucratic Theory and Ecological Theory. The third block is about administrative processes, where we shall discuss Communication, Co-ordination, Leadership and Motivation as a tool of improving efficiency in Administration. In the last block an attempt is made to explain some contemporary issues of Public Administration, like Good Governance, Public Relation, Accountability, and Ombudsman. This block helps the students to understand the very nature of public administration in terms of its relation with the common people. Thus this paper helps the students to understand different prospects of Public Administration.

Block: I Nature, Significance and Evolution

Unit II: Nature and Scope

Unit III: Significance of the Study of Public Administration

Unit IV: Evolution of Public Administration

Block: II Administrative Theories

Unit I: Scientific Management Theory

Unit II: Human Relation Theory

Unit III: Bureaucratic Theory

Unit IV: Ecological Theory

Block: III Administrative Process

Unit I: Communication

Unit II: Co-ordination

Unit III: Leadership

Unit IV: Motivation

Block: IV Contemporary Issues

Unit I: Governance and Human Rights

Unit II: Public Relation

Unit III: Ombudsman

Unit IV: Accountability

Second Semester

Total No. of Papers: 4

Total Blocks: 10

Total units: 32

Paper V: 8 credits

POLITICAL THEORY: II

This paper will deal with the Classical as well as Contemporary ideologies. The first block of this paper will introduce the students to the Classical ideas like Liberty, Equality,

Justice, Democracy State and Citizenship. Focus will be laid on the meaning and evolution of these ideas. The second block will deal with the Classical Ideologies like Liberalism, Socialism and Nationalism. In the last block attempt has been made to explain the Contemporary Ideologies like Feminism and Multiculturalism.

Block I: Classical Ideas

Unit I: Liberty and Equality

Unit II: Justice

Unit III: Democracy

Unit IV: State and Citizenship

Block II: Classical Ideologies

Unit I: Liberalism

Unit II: Socialism

Unit III: Nationalism

Block III: Contemporary Ideologies

Unit I: Feminism

Unit II: Multiculturalism

Paper VI: 8 credits

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN THE
CONTEMPORARY PERIOD**

This paper will explain the international scenario in the contemporary period. The first block will focus on the Cold War and New International Economic Order. It will deal with the origin and End of Cold War as well as the North- South Dialogue and South-South Cooperation. The next block will introduce the students to the Indian Foreign Policy. An attempt has also been made to analyse India's relation with its neighbours like Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka as well as SAARC and NAM. The third block will introduce the students to the role of Peace and Non- Violence in International Politics. It will also analyse the development in Third World countries as

well as role of UNO and International NGOs like ICRC, Amnesty, Green Peace etc.

Block : I Cold war and Emerging World Order

Unit I: Cold War

Unit II: New International Economic Order

Block: II Indian Foreign Policy

Unit I: Background of Indian Foreign Policy

Unit II: India and its Neighbours

Unit III: India, SAARC and NAM

Block: III Peace Studies in International Politics and International Organizations

Unit I: Role of Peace and Non-violence in International Politics

Unit II: Development in Third World Countries: Internal Sources of Threat to Security

Unit III: UNO – History, Organization, Challenges

Unit IV: International NGO: ICRC, Amnesty, Green Peace: Contribution and Challenges

Paper VII: 8 credits

POLITICS IN INDIA –II

This paper will introduce the students to the Judicial System as well as the Party System in India. Emphasis will be given on the issues like Composition of Indian Judiciary, Judicial Review, Judicial Activism, Relation between Judiciary and Legislature. This paper will also focus on the National Party like Congress and regional parties like AGP, DMK, AIDMK etc. Besides, the paper also deals with the emerging trends in Indian Politics. It will mainly focus on the Coalition Politics and voting behaviour of the electorates. The growth of coalition politics in India and its relation with the political stability and the determinants of the voting behavior will also be explained.

Block : I Judicial System in India

Unit I: Constitutional Provision of Judicial System in India

Unit II: Judicial Review and Judicial Activism

Unit III: Tension between Judiciary and the Legislature

Block: II Party System in India and Emerging Trends in Indian Politics

Unit I: The Congress and the other National Parties in Indian Politics

Unit II: Regional Political Parties in Indian Politics

Unit III: Coalition Politics in India

Unit IV: Voting Behaviour

Paper VIII: 6 credits

INDIAN ADMINISTRATION

This paper will deal with the structure of Indian Administration which includes Central, State and District Administration. It will also focus on the Recruitment to Civil Services and the role played by the Public Service Commission. It will also focus on the relation between Budgeting and Bureaucracy as well as role of Bureaucracy in Development. Focus will be laid on the preparation, enactment and execution of the Budget as well as the role of bureaucracy in different stages. It will also focus on the challenges to Indian administration like Corruption, Favouratism, Red Tapism etc. The students will also be introduced to the provision of 6th schedule with reference to the various committees.

Block: I Indian Administration and Bureaucracy, Budgeting and Development

Unit I: Structure of Indian Administration

Unit II: Recruitment to Civil Services in India

Unit 3: Budgeting in India

Unit 4: Role of Bureaucracy in Development

Block II: Challenges to Indian Administration

Unit I Challenges to Indian Administration

Unit II: 6th Schedule and Challenges to Indian Administration

Third Semester

Paper IX: 8 credits

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

This paper has been designed to introduce the students to the Comparative Politics and various issues related to it. The first block of this paper contains an introduction to the Comparative Politics as well as both the Traditional and Modern Approaches like Philosophical, Historical, Psychological, Marxian etc. The Growth of Comparative Politics as well as various Theories of Comparative Politics have also been included. The second block includes the System Analysis which focus on the General System Theory, Political System, Structural-Functional Analysis and Input-Output Analysis. David Easton's contribution to System Theory will be focused. Also the properties, characteristics and variables of the System will be discussed. The concepts like Political Socialization, Political Modernization, Political Culture, Political Ideology, Constitutionalism etc will also be explained. The students will get some ideas regarding the Liberal as well as Marxian Ideology. This paper will also introduce the students to the Growth and Development of Constitutionalism as well as the Western concept of Constitutionalism.

Block I: Introduction and Major Approaches to Comparative Politics

Unit I: Introduction and Traditional Approaches to Comparative Politics

Unit II: Modern Approaches to Comparative Politics

Block II: Political System and System Analysis

Unit I: Political System and General System Theory

Unit II: Structural-Functional Analysis

Unit III: Input-Output Analysis

Block III: Key Concepts of Comparative Politics: Political Development, Political Modernization and Political Culture, Political Ideology and Constitutionalism

Unit I: Concept of Political Development, Political Socialization and Political Culture

Unit II: Concept of Political Ideology and Constitutionalism

Paper X : 8 credits

RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

This paper deals with the issues related to Rural Development in India. The first block of this paper will introduce the students to the concept of Rural Development as well as a picture of Rural as well as Urban India. The rural development programmes like IRDP, JRY will be analyzed. This paper will also focus on the problem of Rural Infrastructure, Rural Unemployment as well as Rural Industrialization. We will also try to analyze the plannings for Rural Development. It will include planning at different levels and specially the process of Democratic Decentralization. This paper will help the students in understanding Panchayati Raj Institutions and its role in the Rural Development.

Block I: Understanding Rural Development

Unit I: The Concept of Rural Development: Rural and Urban India

Unit II: Agriculture and Rural Development

Unit III: Rural Development Programme: Rural Social Welfare Programmes

Block II: Problems and Planning of Rural Development

Unit I: Problems of Rural Infrastructure and Rural Unemployment

Unit II: Rural Industrialisation

Unit III: Planning at Different Levels: Community Development and Co-operatives

Block III: Decentralisation in Rural Development

Unit I: Democratic Decentralisation: Panchayati Raj and Rural Development

Unit II: Rural Development Administration

Paper XI : 8 credits

POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

This paper will highlight the Nature, Scope, and Background of Political Sociology. The first block of this paper will introduce the students to the Concept of Political Sociology and also analyze its relation with other Social Sciences like Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, History, Economics etc. The second block will analyze the Background of Political Sociology both from Historical as well as Intellectual perspective.

It will include the contributions of Marx, Max Weber, Pareto, Mosca etc. The next unit will focus on the concepts like Ideology, Power and Authority. It will try to analyze the various Theories of Power, Relationship of Authority with that of Power and Legitimacy and also the Role of Ideology. The last unit of this paper will try to explain the concepts of Political Socialization as well as Political Culture.

Block I: Nature, Scope and Historical and Intellectual Background of Modern Political Sociology

Unit I: Introduction to Political Sociology and Relationship of Political Sociology with other Social Sciences

Unit II: Contribution of Marx and Max Weber to the Discipline of Political Sociology

Unit III: Contribution of V. Pareto, C. Wright Mills and G. Mosca to the Discipline of Political Sociology

Block II: Key Concepts of Political Sociology: Ideology, Power, Authority and Political Culture and Political Socialization

Unit I: Concept of Power, Authority and Ideology

Unit II: Political Culture and Political Socialization

Paper XII: 8 credits

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN NORTH EAST INDIA

This paper will provide a basic idea about the government and political system in North-east India and introduce the students to the Demographic Profile of the people of North-east India. The first block of this paper will deal with the constitutional development since 1974 regarding the formation and reorganization of the states. The second block deals with the problems facing by this region and government's initiative to overcome such problems. The next block deals with the struggle of its for separate identity led by the students and minority as well as tribal people. The last block will introduce the students to the role played by the national political parties as well as the state parties in this region with special reference to AGP in Assam.

Block I: Constitutional Development of North-East Since 1974 and Political Parties in the Region

Unit I: Factors Responsible for the Formation of States/Reorganization of the State and Demographic Profile of the people of Northeast India

Unit II: Political Parties in North-East: National and Regional Political Parties

Block II: Major Issues of Northeast

Unit I: Insurgency

Unit II: Migration and Internal Displacement

Unit III: Economic Development: Role of Northeastern Council

Block III: Ethnic/Identity and Students Movements

Unit I: Assam Movement

Unit II: Bodo and Naga Movement

Fourth Semester

Paper XIII: 8 credits

RESEARCH METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

This paper will introduce the students to the Research Methods in Social Science. The first block of this paper discusses the application of Scientific Methods in the Social Research. The second block deals with the Planning Procedures in the social science research including the Formulation of Hypothesis and Research Design. The next block describes various Methods of Data Collection, Sampling Procedure, and its Analysis and Interpretation. The last block focuses on the Theory Building in Scientific Social Research.

Block I: Scientific Social Research

Unit I Meaning of Social Science

Unit II Application of Science in Social Research

Block II: Planning for Research

Unit I Planning and Hypothesis

Unit II Research Design

Block III: Data Collection, Sampling and Analysis

Unit I Data Collection

Unit II Sampling
Unit III Data Analysis and Interpretation

Block IV: Theory and Scientific Social Research

Unit I: Theory and Scientific Social Research

Paper XIV: 6 credits

HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTH ASIA

This paper will introduce the students to the issue of Human Security and its status in South-Asia. The first block of this paper provides you an idea about the Conceptual Framework of Human Security with special reference to the Status of Women and Children in South Asia. The next block deals with various problems facing by this region like Migration and the Relation between Development and Displacements. The last block will focus on the trans-border relations among South Asian nations and the role of regional organization like SAARC.

Block I: Human Security in South Asia

Unit I: Conceptual Framework of Human Security
Unit II: State of Women and Children in South Asia

Block II: Migration and Displacement in South Asia

Unit I: Migration to India: Political and Security Implications
Unit II: Internal Displacement in South Asia
Unit III: Development and Internal Displacement

Block III: Regional Co-operation in South Asia

Unit I : Trans-Border Relations among South Asian Nations
Unit II: SAARC and Regional Cooperation

Paper XV: 8 credits

COMPARATIVE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

This paper gives a basic idea about the Administrative Systems in various countries in a comparative manner. The first block will introduce the students to the Concept and different approaches of Comparative Public Administration. The second block deals with the features of Administrative Systems of different countries like India, UK and USA. It will also focus on the origin and development of Merit System in these countries. The next block deals with Public Finance System in these countries including the Legislative Control over Expenditure. The last block focuses on the issue of Legislative Control over Administration and the process of Administrative Reforms in these countries.

Block I: Comparative Public Administration: Concept and Approaches

Unit I Comparative Public Administration
Unit II: Approaches to Comparative Public Administration

Block II: Salient Features of Administrative Systems:

Unit I. Salient Features of Administrative Systems of India, UK and USA.
Unit II. Merit System: Concept, Origin, Development and Existing Status
(India, UK and USA)

Block III: Budgeting:

Unit I: Budget Procedure and Practice (India, UK and USA).
Unit II: Legislative Control over Expenditure (India, UK and USA).

Block IV: Legislative Control over Administration and Administrative Reforms:

Unit I: Legislative Control over Administration in India and USA
Unit II: Administrative Reforms in India and UK.

Paper XVI: 8 credits

HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA

This paper discusses the issue of Human Rights in India. The first block of this paper introduces the students to the Evolution as well as the Approaches to the concept of Human Rights like Three Generations Rights, Universalism, Relativism. The next block deals with different measures to protect the Human Rights and the role played by the UNO and other international as well regional organizations to protect Human Rights. The third block deals with the issue of human rights in India including the role played by the Government and various Commissions in the protection of human rights in India. The last block highlights the issue of human rights with special reference to Women, Children, Differently Abled, Refugees, IDPs and protection of Environmental Rights of the individuals.

Block I Theoretical issues

Unit I: Human Rights: Evolution of the Concept

Unit II: Approaches o Human Rights: Three Generations Rights, Universalism, Relativism

Block II Protection of Human Rights

Unit I: The UN Charter, Covenants and Optional Protocol

Unit II: UDHR and other Declarations Amnesty International, International Court of Justice

Block III Protection of Human Rights in India

Unit I: Constitutional Framework of Human Rights in India

Unit II: Protection of Human Rights in India

Block IV Areas of Human Rights

Unit I: Human Rights: Women and Children

Unit II: Human Rights: Differently Abled, Refugees, IDPs, Environmental Rights

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