



TEACHING PLAN: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

SCHOOL: HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE		ACADEMIC SESSION 2024-25		FOR STUDENTS' BATCH: B.A. 2022-25	
Teacher		Dr. Sonika Sharma			
1	Course code	PS-501			
2	Course Title	WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT			
3	Credits	4			
4	Learning Hours	Contact Hours		45	
		Project, Tutorial and Assessment		15	
		Total hours		60	
5	Course Objective	The objective of the course is designed to understand political philosophical traditions as they evolved in Europe from ancient to the beginning of modern era. It examines the contributions of the Greeks, Medieval Philosophers and the breaking of the Christian Tradition with Machiavelli and Social Contractualists.			
6	Course Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand the salient features of Greek and Medieval Political thought. 2. Identify and explain major political philosophers, their contributions, and the historical context in which their ideas emerged. 3. Critically analyze and evaluate primary texts and secondary literature in Western political thought. 4. Analyze how ideas from Western political thought have influenced other disciplines and vice versa. 5. Conduct independent research on specific topics or thinkers within Western political thought, utilizing appropriate scholarly sources and methodologies. 			
7	Outline syllabus:				
7.00	Paper Code	Unit	Introduction	Reference number	Teaching methods
7.01	Paper Code. PS 501	I	Natural-Rational Tradition of the Greeks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salient Features of Greek Political Thought • Plato's Ideal State: Justice, Philosopher King, Education and Communism • Aristotle's Policy: Classification of Governments, Revolution, The Best Practicable State. 	<i>A History of Political Thought-</i> Mukharjee	Lecture and Presentation
7.02		II	Medieval-Christian Tradition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salient features of Medieval Political Thought • St. Thomas Aquinas: Theory of Law, 	<i>A History of Political Thought-</i> Mukharjee	Lecture and Presentation

7.03	Paper Code. PS 501		<p align="center">Relationship between Church and the State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machiavelli: Separation of Ethics and Politics, Theory of State-Craft 		
		III	<p>Social Contractualists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Hobbes: State of Nature, Social Contract, Sovereignty • John Locke: State of Nature, Social Contract, Natural Rights, Limited Government • Rousseau: State of Nature, Social Contract, General Will 	<i>A History of Political Thought-</i> Mukharjee	Lecture and Presentation
		IV	<p>Utilitarianism and Marxism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeremy Bentham: Utilitarianism, Political and Legal Reforms • J.S. Mill: Utilitarianism, Liberty, Representative Government • T.H. Green: Theory of State, Rights and Political Obligation • Immanuel Kant: Theory of Moral Freedom, the Civil State • George Wilhelm Fredrick Hegel: Dialectical Method, Theory of State • Karl Marx: Dialectical Materialism, Historical Materialism, Theory of Class Struggle 	<i>A History of Political Thought-</i> Mukharjee	Lecture and Presentation
8	Course Evaluation				
8.10	CA: 20%				
8.11 (a)	Attendance	10%			
8.12 (b)	Assignment	60%			
8.13 (c)	Presentation	1 Presentation, 30%			
8.14	Any other	--			
8.15	MTE(IA)	20%			
8.16	End-term examination: 60%				
9	References and Video References				
9.1	References	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>A History of Political Theory</i> – J.P. Sudha. 2. <i>A History of Political Thought</i> – S. Mukherjee, PHI. 3. <i>Western Political Thought-</i> O.P. Gauba, (Macmillan 2011). 4. <i>A History of political Theory-</i> George H. Sabine. 5. <i>Western Political Thought-</i> Shefali Jha (Pearson, 2010). 6. <i>Political Thinkers-</i> David Boucher and Paul Kelly(editors), Oxford . 7. <i>Political Thought-</i> C.L. Wayper. 8. <i>Political Philosophy-</i> Maxie. 9. <i>Great Political Thinkers-</i> William Ebenstein. 10. <i>Western Political Thought-</i> B.R. Nelson (Pearson). 			

9.2	Video References	1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDyB8sAf4Ks
		2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0kJSBq1QNI
		3. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sURlwJ9rrE
		4. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgLfQN1cLgs
		5. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWb-xxxio6w
		6. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWZX9xacqCI&t=4s
		7. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nS5OFdnN5k0
		8. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAr-UmXAzbs

Mapping of Outcomes iv. Topics

Outcome no. → Syllabus topic↓	1	2	3	4	
Paper Code. Unit I.1	√				
Paper Code. Unit I.2	√				
Paper Code. Unit I.3	√				
Paper Code. Unit I.4					√
Paper Code. Unit I.5	√				
Paper Code. Unit II.1		√			
Paper Code. Unit III.2		√			
Paper Code. Unit II.3		√			
Paper Code. Unit II.4		√			
Paper Code. Unit III.1			√		
Paper Code. Unit III.2					√
Paper Code. Unit III.3			√		
Paper Code. Unit IV.1				√	
Paper Code. Unit IV.2				√	
Paper Code. Unit IV.3					√
Paper Code. Unit IV.4				√	

QUESTION BANK

UNIT I

1. What do you know about Plato's idea of philosopher King?
2. Describe Plato's idea of Justice.
3. What do you Plato's idea on education?
4. Write a short essay on Aristotle.
5. What do you know about Aristotle's best possible state?
6. Explain Aristotle's idea of slavery?
7. Elaborate Aristotle's idea of family.
8. Explain idea of Golden mean.

UNIT II

1. What are the salient features of Medieval Political Thought?
 2. Write short essay on Thomas Aquinas.
 3. Explain Thomas Aquinas's idea on the relationship between Church and State.
 4. What do you know about Machiavelli's idea on Theory of State-Craft?
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UNIT III

1. Explain the idea of Thomas Hobbes on State of Nature.
 2. Explain the idea of Thomas Hobbes on Social Contract.
 3. Write a short note on Thomas Hobbes idea on Sovereignty.
 4. What do you know about John Locke's State of Nature?
 5. Write short note on John Locke's idea on Social Contract.
 6. Write short note on John Locke's idea on Natural Rights.
 7. Write short note on John Locke's idea on Limited Government.
 8. Write an essay on Rousseau's idea on State of Nature.
 9. What do you know Rousseau's idea of Social Contract and General will?
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UNIT IV

1. Write short note on Jeremy Bentham's Utilitarianism,
2. What do you know about Political and Legal Reforms of Jeremy Bentham?
3. Explain Utilitarianism.
4. Explain Mill's Idea on Representative Government and Liberty.
5. Write an essay on T.H. Green.
6. What do you know about Kant's Theory of Moral Freedom?
7. What do you know about Hegel's idea of Dialectical Method?
8. Write short note on Hegel's Theory of State.

9. Write an essay on Marxism.

10. What do you know about Dialectical Materialism?

11. What do you know about Marxist Theory of Class Struggle?
