

PhD Entrance Syllabus

Political Science

Unit - 1 : Political Theory

Concepts :Liberty, Equality, Justice, Rights, Democracy, Power, Citizenship,
Political Traditions : Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Marxism, Feminism,
Ecologism, Multiculturalism, Postmodernism

Unit - 2 : Political Thought

Confucius, Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Hegel, Mary Wollstonecraft, John Stuart Mill, Karl Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt, Frantz Fanon, Mao Zedong, John Rawls

Unit - 3 : Indian Political Thought

Dharmashastra, Kautilya, Aggannasutta, Barani, Kabir, Pandita Ramabai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Swami Vivekanand, Rabindranath Tagore, M.K Gandhi, Sri Aurobindo, Periyar E. V. Ramasamy, Muhammad Iqbal, M.N.Roy, V D Savarkar, Dr. B.R.Ambedkar, J L Nehru, Ram Manohar Lohia, Jaya Prakash Narayan, Deendayal Upadhyaya

Unit - 4 : Comparative Political Analysis

Approaches: Institutional, Political Culture, Political Economy and New Institutionalism; Comparative Methods

Colonialism and decolonization: forms of colonialism, anti-colonial struggles and decolonization

Nationalism: European and non-European.

State theory: debate over the nature of state in capitalist and socialist societies; post-colonial state; welfare state; globalization and nations-states

Political regimes: democratic (Electoral, Liberal, Majoritarian and Participatory) and non-democratic regimes (Patrimonialism, Bureaucratic authoritarianism, Military dictatorship, Totalitarianism, and fascist).

Constitutions and Constitutionalism: forms of constitutions, rule of law, judicial independence and liberal constitutionalism; emergency powers and crisis of constitutionalism.

Democratisation: democratic transition and consolidation.

Development: Underdevelopment, Dependency, Modernization, World Systems Theory, development and democracy.

Structures of Power: ruling class, power elites, democratic elitism

Actor and Processes: Electoral Systems, Political Parties and Party System, Interest groups, Social movements, new social movements, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society campaigns; Revolutions.

Unit - 5 : International Relations

Approaches to the study of International relations: Idealism, Realism, Structural Marxism, Neoliberalism, Neorealism, Social Constructivism, Critical International Theory, Feminism, Postmodernism.

Concepts: State, state system and non-state actors, Power, Sovereignty, Security: traditional and non- traditional.

Conflict and Peace: Changing Nature of Warfare; Weapons of mass destruction; deterrence; conflict resolution, conflict transformation.

United Nations: Aims, Objectives, Structure and Evaluation of the Working of UN; Peace and Development perspectives; Humanitarian intervention. International law; International Criminal Court

Political Economy of IR; Globalisation; Global governance and Bretton Woods system, North-South Dialogue, WTO, G-20, BRICS.

Regional Organisations: European Union, African Union, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, ASEAN.

Contemporary Challenges: International terrorism, Climate change and Environmental Concerns, Human Rights, Migration and Refugees; Poverty and Development; Role of Religion, Culture and Identity Politics.

Unit - 6 : India's Foreign Policy

Perspectives on India's Foreign Policy: India's Identity as postcolonial, development, rising power and as emerging political economy

Continuity and change in India's Foreign Policy: Principles and determinants;

Non-Alignment movement: historical background and relevance of Non Aligned

Movement; India's Nuclear Policy

India's relations with major powers: USA, USSR/Russia, People's Republic of China

India's Engagement with multipolar world: India's relations with European Union, BRICS, ASEAN, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, African Union, Southern African Development Community, Gulf Cooperation Council

India's relations with neighbourhood: SAARC, Gujaral doctrine, Look East/Act East, Look West.

India's Negotiation Strategies in International Regimes: The United Nations, World Trade Organisation, International Monetary Fund, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Contemporary challenges: maritime security, energy security, environmental security, migrants and refugees, water resources, international terrorism, cyber security

Unit - 7 : Political Institutions in India

Making of the Indian Constitution: Colonialism heritage and the contribution Indian National Movement to the making of the Indian Constitution

Constituent Assembly: Composition, Ideological Moorings, Constitutional Debates

Philosophy of the Constitution: Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles

Constitutionalism in India: Democracy, Social Change, National Unity, Checks and Balances, Basic Structure Debate, Constitutional Amendments Union Executive: President, Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

Union Parliament: Structure, Role and Functioning, Parliamentary Committees

Judiciary: Supreme Court, High Court, Judicial Review, Judicial Activism, Judicial Reform.

Executive and Legislature in the States: Governor, Chief Minister, State Legislature

Federalism in India: Strong Centre Framework, Asymmetrical Federal Provisions and Adaption, Role of Intergovernmental Coordination Mechanisms, Inter-State Council, Emerging Trends.

Electoral Process and Election Commission of India: Conduct of Elections, Rules, Electoral Reforms.

Local Government Institutions: Functioning and reforms.

Constitutional and Statutory Bodies: Comptroller and Auditor General, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Human Rights, National Commission for Women, National Commission for Minorities.

Unit - 8 : Political Processes in India

State, Economy and Development: Nature of Indian State, Development Planning model, New Economic Policy, Growth and Human Development.

Process of globalisation: social and economic implications.

Identity Politics: Religion, Tribe, Caste, Region, Language.

Social Movements: Dalit, Tribal, Women, Farmers, labour

Civil Society Groups: Non-Party Social Formations, Non-Governmental Organisations, Social Action Groups.

Regionalisation of Indian Politics: Reorganisation of Indian States, States as Political and Economic Units, Sub-State Regions, Regional disparities, Demand for New States,

Gender and Politics in India: Issues of Equality and Representation.

Ideology and Social basis of Political Parties: National Parties, State Parties.

Electoral Politics: Participation, Contestation, Representation, Emerging trends.

Unit - 9 : Public Administration

Public Administration: meaning and evolution; public and private administration
Approaches: System Theory, Decision Making, Ecological Approach

Public administration theories and concepts: Scientific Management Theory, Rational Choice theory, New Public Administration, Development Administration, Comparative Public Administration, New Public Management, changing nature of Public Administration in the era of liberalisation and Globalisation

Theories and Principles of Organization: Scientific Management Theory, Bureaucratic Theory, Human Relations Theory

Managing the organization: Theories of leadership and motivation.

Organisational Communication: Theories and Principles, Chester Bernard Principles of Communication, Information Management in the organization

Managing Conflict in the Organization: Mary Parker Follett

Management by Objectives- Peter Drucker

Unit – 10 : Governance and Public Policy in India

Governance, Good governance and democratic governance, role of state, civil society and individuals.

Accountability and control: Institutional mechanism for checks and balances, legislative control over executive, administrative and budgetary control, control through parliamentary committees, judicial control over legislature and executive, administrative culture, corruption and administrative reforms

Institutional mechanisms for good governance: Right to Information, Consumer Protection Act, Citizen Charter; Grievance redress system: Ombudsman, Lokpal, Lokayukta

Grassroots Governance: Panchayati Raj Institutions and their functioning

Planning and Development: Decentralised planning, planning for development, sustainable development, participatory development, e-governance; NITI Aayog

Public policy as an instrument of socio-economic development: public policies with special reference to housing, health, drinking water, food security, MNREGA, NHRM, RTE

Monitoring and evaluation of public policy; mechanisms of making governance process accountable: jansunwai, social audit.