



## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

### BA FOURTH SEMESTER (MINOR)

The Fourth Semester Minor in Political Science introduces key developments in modern political thought and the basic dynamics of political processes. Through two papers, the course provides a concise understanding of political ideas and their relevance to contemporary political systems.

Paper-I: Western Political Thought: Modern to Contemporary presents a selective overview of major modern thinkers. It examines utilitarianism in Jeremy Bentham and its development in John Stuart Mill, followed by ethical liberalism in T. H. Green. The course also introduces idealism and its critique through Hegel and Karl Marx, and concludes with a feminist critique of Mary Wollstonecraft.

Paper-II: Comparative Politics: Political Processes, Participation and Power focuses on key aspects of political behaviour and participation. It covers political culture and socialisation, basic features of party systems, pressure groups, voting behaviour and public opinion, highlighting their role in democratic politics.

Together, these papers provide a foundational understanding of modern political ideas and political processes, preparing students for further study in political science.

### PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Paper	Title of the Course	Credits	Internal	End Semester (Combined Exam)	Max Marks
01	Western Political Thought: Modern to Contemporary	2	15	70	100
02	Comparative Politics: Political Processes, Participation and Power	2	15		

## **PAPER-I (MINOR)**

# **WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT: MODERN TO CONTEMPORARY**

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### **UNIT I: Utilitarian Foundations**

- a) Jeremy Bentham: Principle of Utility

### **UNIT II: Liberalism and Liberty**

- a) John Stuart Mill: Liberty and Individuality

### **UNIT III: Ethical Liberalism and the State**

- a) T. H. Green: Positive Freedom and Idealism

### **UNIT IV: Idealism and Its Critique**

- a) Hegel and Karl Marx: Dialectics, Class Conflict and State

### **UNIT V: Critique of Exclusion**

- a) Mary Wollstonecraft: Rights of Woman

### **REQUIRED READINGS**

- George H. Sabine — A History of Political Theory
- Subrata Mukherjee & Sushila Ramaswamy — A History of Political Thought
- Sushila Jha — Western Political Thought: Ancient Greeks to Modern Times
- David McLellan — The Political Thought of Karl Marx
- Martin Cohen — Political Philosophy from Plato to Marx
- Mary Wollstonecraft — A Vindication of the Rights of Woman
- Brian R. Nelson — Western Political Thought
- Boucher & Kelly — Political Thinkers
- K. L. Kamal — Pashchatya Rajnitik Chintan
- Andrew Heywood — Political Theory: An Introduction

## **PAPER-II (MINOR)**

### **COMPARATIVE POLITICS: POLITICAL PROCESSES, PARTICIPATION AND POWER**

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#### **UNIT I: Political Culture and Development**

- a) Political Culture and Political Socialisation

#### **UNIT II: Party Systems**

- a) Political Parties: One-party, Two-party, Multi-party

#### **UNIT III: Pressure Groups and Interest Articulation**

- a) Meaning and Kinds of Pressure Groups

#### **UNIT IV: Voting Behaviour**

- a) Voting Behaviour

#### **UNIT V: Public Opinion and Political Participation**

- a) Public Opinion and Its Role in Democratic Politics

#### **REQUIRED READINGS**

- Gary W. Cox — Making Votes Count
- John H. Aldrich — Why Parties?
- Zoya Hasan — Politics and the State in India
- The Oxford Handbook of Transformations of the State
- Caroline Spary — Gender, Development, and the State in India
- Gabriel Almond & Sidney Verba — The Civic Culture
- Lucian W. Pye — Politics, Personality and Nation Building
- Rajni Kothari — Politics in India
- Andrew Heywood — Politics
- Myron Weiner — Party Politics in India