

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY



DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

The Department of Political Science of the West Bengal State University started its journey from the year 2009 with a growing number of students enrolling in the department every year. The university is crucially located in the densely populated border-district of the North 24 Parganas, West Bengal with its tremendous potential to provide access of higher education to students coming from distant constituencies, marginal communities and penurious socio-economic and cultural background apart from the ones coming from central to adjacent localities like Bangaon, Barasat, Barrackpore, Basirhat, Dum Dum to Howrah, Hoogly and Kolkata.

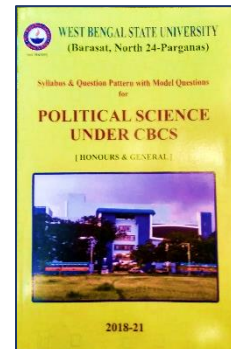
Imparting critical knowledge, enhancing general awareness and helping in the creation of keen and sustained interest regarding society and politics amongst the students are the primary aims and objectives of the department. In order to fulfil the same, the department makes conscious attempts to motivate its students to think, write and speak analytically; to channelize their potentials towards meaningful socio-academic activities like public speaking, debates, paper and poster presentations, essay writings or social service; and to orient and guide them for various competitive examinations and related career opportunities. The vision is to create a conscious and informed citizenry out of our students for which the department has been keen and conscious.

COURSES OFFERED

The department of Political Science offers a two-year full-time Master of Arts course under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). The objective of the course is to inculcate understanding of major debates of Political Thought and Theories, dynamics of contemporary Indian Politics and Society, Political Sociology, International Relations and Global Politics, Public Administration and Governance amongst students studying the course. The course is also structured to impart interdisciplinary and skill-oriented training to the students which could be both academically and socially viable. Discipline Specific Courses and Generic Elective

courses on Human Rights, Gender, Environment, Peace and Conflict Studies and Politics in South Asia are fashioned with inter-disciplinary thrusts; while courses such as Research Methodology and Information and Communication Tools (ICT) are to provide the students the opportunity to learn ways to upgrade their self-learning, critical interpretation and expression skills. Further, with the given thrust on Field Work, Graduate Seminar Presentations, Long Essay/Term Papers/Dissertation writings—the Master's Program aims to prepare the students with objective and analytical knowledge on the subject which they can use to pursue a career in research, academics or other public-private professions.

The department is soon to introduce **M.Phil.** and **Ph.D. Programmes** wherein researchers will be trained on the use of various analytical and methodological tools to pursue quality research on the subject. It also co-ordinates the **Bachelors of Arts (B.A) - Honours and General** degree programme in Political Science under CBCS model in around 50 General Degree Colleges and Educational Institutions affiliated to the West Bengal State University.



ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Key Activity Highlights (2019):

1. The department hosted the district-level *West Bengal Youth Parliament Competition 2019* (College Category) on 26-27 September 2019 in association with the Office of the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas, Government of West Bengal, India.

2. The department had set-up a *Visual-Learning Room* themed on '*Bengal—Politics, Governance and Institutions*' (4th Floor, New Academic Building) to aid and motivate the students in learning. The department also has a *Wall Magazine* which is run by the students.



Visual-Learning Room



Wall Magazine

Kolkata on 17 August 2019.

3. A team of students from the department (3rd Semester, Batch 2018-20) successfully participated in the *ConQuest* (4th Edition): India's Premier National Quiz on Indian Constitution, History and Politics organised by the Centre for Law and Policy Research (CLPR) at Loreto College,

Kolkata on 17 August 2019.



Seminar

4. The departments of Political Science and History in association with Asian in Global Affairs organised a day long *State-level Workshop and Roundtable*

themed ‘*Changing Contours of India*’ Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Contexts, Priorities and Prospects’ on 14 August 2019.

5. The department took some of its students for a guided *Field Visit* to the *Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy (SVSPA)* at Barrackpore, West Bengal on 26 June 2019.



Field Visit to SVPA

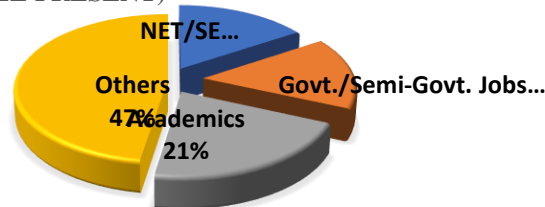
STUDENTS' PROFILE

The students of the department have been performing significantly well given the fact that many of them come from extremely underprivileged socio-economic backgrounds and are many a times first-generation learners. In spite of that, the success rates for clearing competitive examinations (NET/SET and Civil Services), securing government/semi-government jobs (PSC, CSC, SSC, WBCS or others) or pursuing academics and higher studies (teaching and research) are considerable.

Category	2016-18	2017-19	2018-21	2019-22
Number of students enrolled	29	10	41	36
Pass-Outs (in %)	76 %	90%	Ongoing	Ongoing
Number of First Class (60% and above)	4	2	Ongoing	Ongoing
Number of Second Class (55% - 59%)	9	2	Ongoing	Ongoing

STUDENTS' PROFILE (2009 TILL PRESENT)

- NET/SET
- Govt./Semi-Govt. Jobs
- Academics
- Others



Category (2009 till present) *	Total (Percentage %)
Students qualified NET/SET	16
Students with Government/ Semi-Government Jobs	16
Students pursuing Academics (Teaching and Research)	21
Students pursuing Other career options	47

* These numbers are contingent upon the available students' data and hence may vary slightly.