

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

West Bengal State University



Draft Syllabus

For 2-year PG Programme in POLITICAL SCIENCE

Semesters 1 – 4

As per UGC (Minimum Standards of Instruction for the Grant of Undergraduate Degree and Postgraduate Degree) Regulations, 2025
and
UGC Curriculum and Credit Framework for Postgraduate Programmes (CCFPP), June 2024

2026

Instructions and Guidelines

1. ‘Suggestive Readings’ in the syllabus may be complemented by relevant online materials available on academic, legal, and authentic websites. Relevant books from the UGC-prescribed CBCS list may also be consulted, if required.
2. Those opting for 1 year PG course will study courses from 11-21 in Semester 3 and 4 only.
3. Question Pattern and Evaluation:

Core and DSE Course: 4 Credits

= 3 Cr (End-Semester) + 1 Cr (Internal) = 40 marks (End-Semester) + 10 marks (Internal) = 50 marks.

Internal Component (Evaluation): Total Marks = 10 marks

10 marks (Written Examination)

End-Semester (Evaluation):

40 marks (Written Examination)

} = 50 Marks

Question Pattern (Core and DSE Course)

Mid Term/Internal: Total Marks = 10

(a) Unit 1= 1 question x 5 marks (2 options)

(b) Unit 2= 1 question x 5 marks (2 options)

} = 10 Marks

End-Semester: Total Marks = 40

(c) Unit 1= 1 question x 20 marks (2 options)

(d) Unit 2= 1 question x 20 marks (2 options)

} = 40 Marks

4. AECC and SEC Course: 2 Credits = 50 Marks will have Evaluation by Department through suggested modes including: (i) Short Term Paper – Up to 2000 words for one Term Paper/up to 500 words for each of the two Short Term Papers; (ii) Field Work based on syllabus-related and/or current topics (may be done in groups); (iii) Report/Project/Poster Presentation (may be done in groups); or (iv) Written Examination (MCQ/Short Questions).
5. DSE Course: 4 Credits = 50 Marks (Students will choose any one of the given DSE courses)
6. Dissertation/ Long Essay/ Term Paper = 4 Credits = 50 Marks (Students will be assigned a supervisor from the Department. Dissertations should be of 5000-7000 words.
7. Seminar Presentation – Students must appear for a Seminar Presentation using ICT (like MS PowerPoint) on the topic of their Dissertation in the presence of an External Subject Expert/Examiner and other faculty members of the department.
8. For further details please follow West Bengal State University's Advisory for Evaluation' and 'Regulations' of PG Programmes, NEP 2026.

Sd/-
Department of Political Science
West Bengal State University
(As updated on 20.06.2026)

2-Year NEP PG Course Structure

Semester	Type of Course	Title of the Course	Course Code	Credit	Marks
I	Core Course 1	Western Political Thought and Theory - 1	PLS2PCOR01T	4	50
	Core Course 2	Western Political Thought and Theory - 2	PLS2PCOR02T	4	50
	Core Course 3	Politics in India-1	PLS2PCOR03T	4	50
	Core Course 4	Politics in India-2	PLS2PCOR04T	4	50
	Core Course 5	Gender and Politics	PLS2PCOR05T	4	50
	AECC	Information and Communication Tools (ICT)	PLS2PAEC01M	2	50
II	Core Course 6	Modern Indian Political Thought - 1	PLS2PCOR06T	4	50
	Core Course 7	Modern Indian Political Thought - 2	PLS2PCOR07T	4	50
	Core Course 8	International Relations - 1	PLS2PCOR08T	4	50
	Core Course 9	Public Administration - 1	PLS2PCOR09T	4	50
	Core Course 10	Contemporary Political Theory and Society	PLS2PCOR10T	4	50
III	Core Course 11	Society, Identity, Globalization	PLS2PCOR11T	4	50
	Core Course 12	International Relations - 2	PLS2PCOR12T	4	50
	Core Course 13	Public Administration - 2	PLS2PCOR13T	4	50
	Core Course 14	Politics in West Bengal	PLS2PCOR14T	4	50
	Core Course 15	Research Methodology -1	PLS2PCOR15T	4	50
	SEC	Academic Writing and Referencing Tools	PLS2PSEC01M	2	50
IV	Core Course 16	Research Methodology - 2	PLS2PCOR16T	4	50
	Core Course 17	Peace and Conflict Studies 1	PLS2PCOR17T	4	50
	Core Course 18	Peace and Conflict Studies 2	PLS2PCOR18T	4	50
	DSE Course 01 (any one Option)	(a) Environment and Politics (b) Human Rights and Politics	PLS2PDSE01T	4	50
	Core Course 19	Dissertation/ Long Essay/ Term Paper	PLS2PCOR19M	4	50
	Core Course 20	Seminar Presentation	PLS2PCOR20M	4	50

Total Credit and Marks	88	1150
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2-Year NEP PG Course Structure

SEMESTER-I

Course Objective: This course introduces foundational thinkers and debates in Western political thought from classical Greece to early modernity. It aims to develop conceptual clarity, interpretive skills, and the ability to connect canonical texts with contemporary political theory.

Core Course 1

Course Code: PLS2PCOR01T

Western Political Thought and Theory -1

Unit 1

1. Greek Thinkers: Plato, Aristotle
2. Virtue, Power, Statecraft, Ethics and Politics: Machiavelli
3. Social Contract Tradition: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau
4. Early Liberalism: J. S Mill

Unit 2

5. Enlightenment and Autonomy: Immanuel Kant
6. Recognition, Civil Society and State: Hegel
7. Critique of Enlightenment: (a) Friedrich Nietzsche (Theory of Will to Power, Genealogy of Morals), (b) Arendt (Action, Totalitarianism)

Suggestive Readings:

Sabine, A History of Political Theory
 Coleman, A History of Political Thought
 Skinner, The Foundations of Modern Political Thought
 Quentin Skinner, *Visions of Politics*
 Strauss & Cropsey, History of Political Philosophy
 Macpherson, Political Theory of Possessive Individualism
 Honneth, The Struggle for Recognition
 Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret key arguments and texts in classical and modern Western political thought.
2. Compare major traditions such as classical, social contract, liberal, and critical thought.
3. Analyse the historical evolution of core concepts like justice, liberty, sovereignty, and power.
4. Apply classical theoretical ideas to contemporary political debates and issues.

Core Course 2

Course Code: PLS2PCOR02T

Western Political Thought and Theory -2

Course Objective: To introduce advanced debates in modern and contemporary Western political theory, focusing on Marxist, post-Marxist, liberal, and critical traditions, and to

develop analytical skills for interpreting ideological, normative, and structural critiques of the modern state.

Unit 1

1. State, Civil Society and Ideology: Marx (including *Eighteenth Brumaire*—state autonomy, class, bureaucracy)
2. Hegemony, Ideology and State: Gramsci, Althusser, Poulantzas—Relative Autonomy Debate—Miliband
3. Post- Marxism: Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe

Unit 2

1. Contemporary Liberalism: Rawls (Justice as fairness), R. Nozick (Libertarianism), Amartya Sen (Capabilities Approach)
2. Critiques of Liberalism: (a) Communitarianism: Macintyre, Sandel, Taylor; (b) Multiculturalism: Will Kymlicka; (c) Deliberative Democracy: Jürgen Habermas, (d) Redistribution and Recognition: Nancy Fraser

Suggestive Readings:

Rawls, A Theory of Justice
 Nozick, Anarchy, State and Utopia
 Habermas, Between Facts and Norms
 Laclau & Mouffe, Hegemony and Socialist Strategy
 Honneth, The Struggle for Recognition
 Kymlicka, Multicultural Citizenship
 Raymond Geuss, The Idea of a Critical Theory
 Nancy Fraser, Justice Interruptus

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to

1. Interpret key arguments in Marxist, post-Marxist, liberal, and critical political theory.
2. Compare competing theories of the state, ideology, justice, and rights.
3. Analyse contemporary debates on liberalism, communitarianism, multiculturalism, and deliberative democracy.
4. Apply theoretical frameworks to evaluate modern political institutions and ideological conflicts.

Core Course 3

Course Code: PLS2PCOR03T

Politics in India-1

Course Objective: To introduce key debates, institutions, and processes in Indian politics, with a focus on political culture, party systems, elections, identity politics, and the evolving relationship between media, technology, and democracy.

Unit 1

1. Approaches to the Study of Indian Politics: political economy, institutional behavioral, subaltern
2. Political Culture and Democracy
3. Party System in India: Congress System, Coalition Politics, post-Coalition Era (2014 onwards)
4. Elections and Electoral Process: Election Commission, Electoral Reforms, Voting Behavior, Political Communications and Digital Campaigning.

Unit 2

1. Constitutionalism and Institutional Politics: Parliament, Executive, Judiciary, Federalism
2. Identity Politics in India: Caste, Religion, Language, Region, Tribe and Gender (any two)
3. Media, Technology and Politics
4. Rights in Indian Democracy: Right to Information, Food and Education

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Atul Kohli, *Democracy and Discontent: India's Growing Crisis of Governability*

Rajni Kothari, *Politics in India*

Zoya Hasan, *Politics of Inclusion: Castes, Minorities and Affirmative Action*

Christophe Jaffrelot, *India's Silent Revolution: The Rise of the Lower Castes*

Suhas Palshikar, Yogendra Yadav & Sanjay Kumar (eds.), *Electoral Politics in India: The Resurgence of the Bharatiya Janata Party*

Niraja Gopal Jayal, *Citizenship and Its Discontents: An Indian History*

Pradeep Chhibber & Rahul Verma, *Ideology and Identity: The Changing Party Systems of India*

Milan Vaishnav, *When Crime Pays: Money and Muscle in Indian Politics*

Nissim Mannathukkaren, *Communism, Subaltern Studies and Postcolonial Theory* (for political culture & democracy debates)

Uday Chandra, *Constructing Democracy: Ethnicity, Class, and Governance in India*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major approaches and frameworks for studying Indian politics.
2. **Analyse** political culture, party systems, and electoral processes in India.
3. **Evaluate** the role of institutions and identity in shaping democratic politics.
4. **Assess** the impact of media and technology on contemporary political developments.

Core Course 4

Course Code: PLS2PCOR04T

Politics in India-2

Course Objective: To examine major social movements, identity-based mobilisations, rights-based struggles, and regional political dynamics in India, with a focus on contemporary transformations in democracy, citizenship, and political communication.

Unit 1

1. Social Movements in India: ‘Old’ and ‘New’
2. Mobilizational Politics in Agrarian and Industrial sectors: Farmers Movement, Labour Movement (‘old’ and ‘new’)
3. Media and Politics in India:
4. Horizons of Rights in Indian Democracy:

Unit 2

5. Contemporary Social Movements: Anti-Corruption (2011), Anti-CAA (2019), Urban Citizenship Movements and Protests (Select any)
6. Dalit Politics and Assertions
7. Gender, Sexuality and Queer Politics: Women’s movements, LGBTQ+ movements, intersectional mobilization (Dalit-feminist movements)
8. Regionalism and Sub-national Movements – Autonomy, identity, federal claims

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Gail Omvedt, *Reinventing Revolution: New Social Movements and the Socialist Tradition in India*

Ghanshyam Shah, *Social Movements in India: A Review of Literature*

Christophe Jaffrelot, *Dr. Ambedkar and Untouchability: Fighting the Indian Caste System*

Amrita Basu, *Violent Conjunctions in Democratic India*

Nandini Sundar, *The Burning Forest: India’s War in Bastar*

Amrita Narlikar, *Poverty Narratives and Power Paradoxes in International Trade Negotiations* (for rights & globalisation link)

Suhas Palshikar & Yogendra Yadav, *The Elusive Mandate of 2014* (for post-2014 politics)

Akhil Gupta, *Red Tape: Bureaucracy, Structural Violence, and Poverty in India*

Nivedita Menon, *Seeing Like a Feminist*

Anupama Rao, *The Caste Question: Dalits and the Politics of Modern India*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** the evolution of social movements and mobilisations in India.
2. **Analyse** agrarian, labour, gender, caste, and regional political assertions.
3. **Evaluate** contemporary protest movements and rights-based struggles.
4. **Assess** the role of media, technology, and political communication in shaping collective action.

Core Course 5

Course Code: PLS2PCOR05T

Gender and Politics

Course Objective: To introduce key feminist theories and debates, examine gendered structures of power, and analyse how gender intersects with development, migration, technology, and contemporary political processes.

Unit 1

1. Evolution of Gender Studies: An Overview
2. Liberal Feminism: Wollstonecraft and Mill
3. Marxist Feminism: Marx, Engels and Kollontai
4. Radical Feminism: Rejection of Patriarchy
5. Postmodern, Poststructuralist and Postfeminist Perspectives: Judith Butler–Post feminism

Unit 2

1. Conceptualizing Gender: femininity, masculinity, gender roles – intersectionality with caste, class, religion, sexuality (select cases)
2. Gender and Development
3. Gender, Borders and Migration
4. Cyber Feminism and Digital Politics

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

Nancy Fraser, *Fortunes of Feminism*

Bell hooks, *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*

Nivedita Menon, *Seeing Like a Feminist*

Chandra Talpade Mohanty, *Feminism Without Borders*

Donna Haraway, *A Cyborg Manifesto*

Raewyn Connell, *Masculinities*

Kumkum Sangari & Sudesh Vaid (eds.), *Recasting Women*

Saba Mahmood, *Politics of Piety* (for postcolonial feminist debates)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major feminist theories and their critiques.
2. **Analyse** gender as a social, political, and intersectional category.
3. **Evaluate** gendered dimensions of development, migration, and digital politics.
4. **Apply** feminist perspectives to contemporary political issues and movements.

AECC Course

Course Code: PLS2PAEC01M

Information and Communication Tools (ICT)

1. Learning Basic Tools in MS Office: How to Format a Report?
2. MS Word: Footnote, Endnote, Basic Formatting.
3. MS Excel: How to insert tables and make charts.
4. MS PowerPoint: How to make an academic presentation (PPT)
5. How to search online References—JSTOR, Google Scholar, ONOS, the Internet.
6. Group Exercise: Wall Magazine on Current Affairs (Using ICT tools)

SEMESTER-II

Core Course 6

Course Code: PLS2PCOR06T

Modern Indian Political Thought – 1

Course Objective: To introduce key thinkers and debates in early and modern Indian political thought, focusing on nationalism, social reform, critiques of modernity, and the evolution of ideas on caste, gender, and democracy.

Unit 1

1. Early nationalist ideas: Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
2. Nationalism and Internationalism: Rabindranath Tagore—His ideas of *Swadeshi Samaj*
3. Spiritual nationalism and socialism: Swami Vivekananda
4. Women and Nationalism: Pandita Ramabai, Sarojini Naidu

Unit 2

5. Gandhi's critique of modern civilization
6. Gandhi's concept of non-violence, *satyagraha* and *Swaraj*
7. Gandhi on religion, spirituality and social reform
8. Gandhi on castes and untouchability
9. J. Phule and B.R. Ambedkar: Caste, social justice and democracy; Gandhi-Ambedkar debate.

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Aloysius, G., *Nationalism Without a Nation in India*

Partha Chatterjee, *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World*

B.R. Ambedkar, *Annihilation of Caste*

M.K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj*

Uma Chakravarti, *Rewriting History: The Life and Times of Pandita Ramabai*

J. Phule, *Gulamgiri*

Ananya Vajpeyi, *Righteous Republic: The Political Foundations of Modern India*

Ashis Nandy, *The Intimate Enemy*

Swami Vivekananda, *Lectures from Colombo to Almora*

Sarojini Naidu, *Speeches and Writings of Sarojini Naidu*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major ideas of early nationalist and reformist thinkers in India.
2. **Analyse** Gandhi's critique of modernity, religion, caste, and social reform.
3. **Evaluate** the contributions of Phule, Ambedkar, and women thinkers to Indian political thought.
4. **Interpret** how nationalism, spirituality, and social justice shaped modern Indian political ideas.

Core Course 7**Course Code: PLS2PCOR07T****Modern Indian Political Thought – 2**

Course Objective: To examine diverse strands of modern Indian political thought, including nationalism, socialism, religious and cultural nationalisms, and minority political ideas, and to analyse how these thinkers shaped the ideological foundations of the Indian state and democracy.

Unit 1

1. Idea of Modern Indian state: Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Revolutionary Nationalism: Subhas Chandra Bose and Bhagat Singh
3. Socialist Ideas: M.N. Roy and Rammanohar Lohia
4. Sarvodaya Society: J.P. Narayan and Vinoba Bhave

Unit 2

1. Religion-Centric Nationalism: Aurobindo Ghosh
2. Hindutva and Cultural Nationalism: V.D Savarkar, M.S. Golwalkar, Shyamaprasad Mukherjee
3. Muslim Political Thought in India: Md. Iqbal, Md. Ali Jinnah, Abul Kalam Azad (Select Thinkers)

Suggestive Readings: TBCPartha Chatterjee, *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World*Ananya Vajpeyi, *Righteous Republic: The Political Foundations of Modern India*Subhas Chandra Bose, *The Indian Struggle*Bhagat Singh, *Why I Am an Atheist*M.N. Roy, *Reason, Romanticism and Revolution* (selected chapters)B.R. Ambedkar, *Pakistan or the Partition of India* (for Jinnah & minority debates)Rammanohar Lohia, *Wheel of History*Aurobindo Ghosh, *The Ideal of Human Unity*Vinoba Bhave, *Bhoodan Yajna*Shyamaprasad Mukherjee, *Leaves from a Diary* (selected writings)**Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:**

1. **Explain** major ideological traditions in modern Indian political thought.
2. **Analyse** the contributions of nationalist, socialist, Sarvodaya, and religious thinkers.
3. **Evaluate** competing visions of the Indian state, nation, and democracy.
4. **Interpret** how political ideas shaped India's constitutional and ideological development.

Core Course 8**Course Code: PLS2PCOR08T****International Relations -1**

Course Objective: To introduce major theoretical paradigms in International Relations and International Political Economy, and to analyse how global institutions, regional formations, and the political economy of globalisation shape contemporary world politics.

Unit 1

1. Classical Paradigms and Inter-paradigm Debates (Realist, Liberal, Marxist)
2. Neo-Realism: Waltz
3. Neo-Liberalism: Keohane
4. Neo-Marxism: Dependency, World-Systems Theory

Unit 2

1. Theories of International Political Economy (IPE): Liberal Interdependence, Mercantilism and Neo-mercantilism, Hegemonic Stability Theory, Critical IPE perspectives
2. Institutions of Global Economic Governance: Bretton Woods System (IMF, World Bank), GATT and WTO (trade regimes and disputes)
3. Regional and Transregional Economic Formations: ASEAN, APEC, EU, NAFTA/USMCA, SAFTA, BRICS; emerging minilaterals (QUAD, IPEF)
4. Globalization and Political Economy of the Global South: MNCs, North-South relations, De-globalization and geoeconomic competition

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*

Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony*

Immanuel Wallerstein, *World-Systems Analysis*

Robert Gilpin, *Global Political Economy*

Susan Strange, *States and Markets*

Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics*

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics*

Amitav Acharya, *Constructing Global Order*

Benjamin Cohen, *International Political Economy: An Intellectual History*

Ha-Joon Chang, *Kicking Away the Ladder* (for Global South political economy)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major IR paradigms and their contemporary relevance.
2. **Analyse** neo-realist, neo-liberal, and neo-Marxist debates in global politics.
3. **Evaluate** key theories of international political economy and global governance.
4. **Assess** the impact of globalisation, regionalism, and geoeconomic competition on the Global South.

Core Course 9**Course Code: PLS2PCOR09T****Public Administration – 1**

Course Objective: To introduce foundational theories, approaches, and debates in Public Administration, and to analyse classical, neo-liberal, and post-Weberian perspectives alongside organizational behaviour and development administration.

Unit 1

1. Evolution of Public Administration as a Discipline: (a) politics-administration dichotomy, (b) public vs private administration – Woodrow Wilson’s Contribution
2. Classical Approaches: Taylor (Scientific Management); Gulick, Urwick, Fayol (Administrative Management); Elton Mayo (Human Relations Approach)
3. New Public Administration (NPA): Context, features, phases –Minnowbrook I, II, III
4. Development Administration and contemporary critiques

Unit 2

1. Neo-liberal and Post-liberal Approaches: (a) Public Choice Theory, (b) New Public Management (NPM), (c) New Public Service (d) Good Governance (UNDP indicators)
2. Bureaucratic Theory: Karl Marx and Max Weber
3. Post-Weberian Perspectives: Herbert Simon (Decision-making, Bounded Rationality, Organizational humanism)
4. Organizational Behaviour: Chester Bernard (Cooperation, authority, communication), Motivation Theories (Maslow, Herzberg), Organizational culture and leadership

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Nicholas Henry, *Public Administration and Public Affairs*

M.P. Sharma & B.L. Sadana, *Public Administration in Theory and Practice*

Dwight Waldo, *The Administrative State*

Herbert Simon, *Administrative Behavior*

David Osborne & Ted Gaebler, *Reinventing Government (for NPM)*

F.W. Riggs, *Administration in Developing Countries* (for Development Administration)

Denhardt & Denhardt, *The New Public Service*

Christopher Hood, *The Tools of Government*

Chester Barnard, *The Functions of the Executive*

UNDP, *Governance Indicators: A User’s Guide* (latest edition)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** the evolution of Public Administration and major classical approaches.
2. **Analyse** neo-liberal, post-liberal, and governance-based approaches to administration.
3. **Evaluate** bureaucratic and post-Weberian theories of decision-making and organizational behaviour.

4. **Assess** the relevance of development administration and NPA in contemporary governance.

Core Course-10

Course Code: PLS2PCOR10T

Contemporary Political Theory and Society

Course Objective: To introduce major contemporary theoretical frameworks in political theory and analyse how power, civil society, technology, and communication shape modern political life.

Unit 1

1. Orientalism: Edward Said
2. Critical Theory: The Frankfurt School
3. Post-modernism: Critique of Modernity
4. Postmodern Feminism: Judith Butler – Post feminism

Unit 2

5. Civil Society: Western and non-western critiques, state-society relations
6. Power: (a) Max Weber (authority), (b) Steven Lukes (three-dimensional power), (b) Karl Marx (class power), (b) Michel Foucault (discipline and biopower)
7. Development-Communication Linkage: Dominant approaches, models and critiques
8. Technology, Information Society, Mediated Politics

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Edward Said, *Orientalism*

Max Horkheimer & Theodor Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*

Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish*

Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*

Steven Lukes, *Power: A Radical View*

Manuel Castells, *The Rise of the Network Society*

Zygmunt Bauman, *Liquid Modernity*

Nancy Fraser, *Scales of Justice*

Anthony Giddens, *Modernity and Self-Identity*

Nick Couldry & Ulises Mejias, *The Costs of Connection* (for data colonialism)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain key contemporary theoretical perspectives including Orientalism, Critical Theory, and Postmodernism.
2. Analyse competing theories of power, civil society, and modernity.
3. Evaluate the relationship between development, communication, and political processes.

4. Assess the impact of technology, information society, and mediated politics on contemporary democracy.

SEMESTER-III

Core Course 11

Course Code: PLS2PCOR11T
Society, Identity, Globalisation

Course Objective: To examine key debates on postcolonialism, nationalism, citizenship, identity, populism, and global justice, and to analyse how globalisation reshapes social identities, political belonging, and contemporary democratic challenges.

Unit 1

1. Postcolonialism and Subaltern Studies
2. Nationalism: Theories and Debates
3. Citizenship: Theories and Issues

Unit 2

4. Populism: Concepts, types, and Indian cases (Hindutva, welfare populism, regional populisms)
5. Identities in the Age of Globalization: hybridity, diaspora, digital identities
6. Global Justice: Poverty, inequality, migration, climate, pandemics, cyber governance

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Partha Chatterjee, *The Nation and Its Fragments*
 Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*
 Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, *Can the Subaltern Speak?*
 Will Kymlicka, *Multicultural Citizenship*
 Jan-Werner Müller, *What Is Populism?*
 Amartya Sen, *The Idea of Justice*
 Arjun Appadurai, *Modernity at Large* (globalisation & identity)
 Achille Mbembe, *Necropolitics* (global justice & power)
 Niraja Gopal Jayal, *Citizenship and Its Discontents*
 Thomas Pogge, *World Poverty and Human Rights*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major theories of postcolonialism, nationalism, and citizenship.
2. **Analyse** how identity is shaped by globalisation, migration, and digital transformations.
3. **Evaluate** populism and identity politics with reference to Indian cases.
4. **Assess** global justice debates on poverty, inequality, climate, and cyber governance.

Core Course 12

Course Code: PLS2PCOR12T
International Relations -2

Course Objective: To analyse India's foreign policy, regional engagements, and global role, and to examine major debates on power politics, regionalism, and traditional and non-traditional security in contemporary international relations.

Unit 1

1. Indian Foreign Policy: determinants, continuity and change; evolution of non-alignment to multi-alignment
2. India and the Major powers: (a) India-USA strategic partnership; (b) India – China rivalry and cooperation
3. India and the Neighbourhood: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives (Select Cases); neighbourhood-first policy
4. India and Regional/International Organizations: (a) SAARC, BIMSTEC, ASEAN, IORA, (b) BCIM/BBIN connectivity, (c) India's role in UN, G20, SCO, QUAD, BRICS

Unit 2

1. Power Politics: (a) Major powers and small powers, (b) Balance of Power, polarity, Geopolitics and geoeconomics
2. Regionalism in IR: (a) Old vs New Regionalism, (b) Asian regionalism, (c) Indo-Pacific regional architecture
3. Traditional and Non-Traditional Approaches in International Security: war, deterrence, alliances, human, environmental, cyber, maritime and health security
4. Major Security Concerns in Indian Foreign policy (select cases):
 - a. Nuclear issue: NPT, CTBT, India's Nuclear Doctrine, 123 Agreement
 - b. Indian Ocean and Maritime Security: SAGAR vision, Naval strategy
 - c. Terrorism and Internal Security
 - d. Energy and Resource Security

Suggestive Readings: TBC

David Malone, *Does the Elephant Dance?*

Shivshankar Menon, *Choices: Inside the Making of India's Foreign Policy*

C. Raja Mohan, *Crossing the Rubicon*

Harsh V. Pant (ed.), *Indian Foreign Policy: An Overview*

Amitav Acharya, *Constructing Global Order*

Stephen Walt, *The Origins of Alliances*

Tanvi Madan, *Fateful Triangle: India, China, and the United States*

T.V. Paul, *The Warrior State* (for Pakistan)

Ian Hall, *Modi and the Reinvention of Indian Foreign Policy*

Ashley Tellis, *India's Emerging Nuclear Posture*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** key determinants and shifts in Indian foreign policy.
2. **Analyse** India's relations with major powers, neighbours, and regional organisations.
3. **Evaluate** theories of power politics, regionalism, and international security.
4. **Assess** major security challenges facing India in the Indo-Pacific and global context.

Core Course 13

Course Code: PLS2PCOR13T

Public Administration – 2

Course Objective: To analyse the evolution, reforms, and contemporary challenges of Indian public administration, focusing on bureaucracy, governance paradigms, accountability, public policy, PPPs, and welfare programmes.

Unit 1

1. Evolution of Indian bureaucracy: colonial legacy, institutional continuity and post-colonial reforms
2. Administration-Politics Interface: (a) political neutrality vs. commitment; (b) Civil service reforms
3. Administrative Accountability and Ethics: (a) RTI, Lokpal, social audit; (b) Corruption and redressal mechanisms; (c) Administrative ethics and integrity systems
4. Governance Paradigms: (a) Good Governance, (b) Corporate Governance, and (c) E-Governance and Digital Governance (Aadhar, Digital India, data governance)

Unit 2

5. Administrative Reforms in India: 1st ARC and 2nd ARC – Emerging Themes (citizen-centric governance, performance management)
6. Public-Private Interface: (a) Public-Private Partnership (PPP), (b) PPP Models and critiques
7. Public Policy: (a) Meaning and Relevance, (b) Policy formulation, implementation, evaluation, (c) Policy actors and institutions
8. Social Welfare and Development Policies (Select Cases): (a) Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, (b) Kanyashree Prakalpa, (c) MGNREGA, (d) JNNURM/Smart Cities, € Ayushman Bharat, PMJDY, PM-KISAN

Suggestive Readings: TBC

A. Awasthi & S.R. Maheshwari, *Public Administration in India*

B.L. Fadia, *Indian Administration*

2nd ARC Reports (selected chapters)

Pratap Bhanu Mehta, *The Burden of Democracy* (for governance & accountability)

World Bank, *Governance and Development*

Denhardt & Denhardt, *The New Public Service*
 Madhav Godbole, *Good Governance: Never on India's Radar*
 Jean Drèze & Amartya Sen, *An Uncertain Glory* (for welfare policies)
 Nandan Nilekani, *Imagining India* (for digital governance)
 UNDP, *Human Development Report* (latest edition)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** the evolution and changing role of Indian bureaucracy.
2. **Analyse** governance paradigms, accountability mechanisms, and administrative ethics.
3. **Evaluate** administrative reforms, PPP models, and public policy processes.
4. **Assess** major welfare and development programmes in India.

Core Course 14

Course Code: PLS2PCOR14T

Politics in West Bengal

Course Objective: To analyse the evolution of local governance, rural–urban politics, and state-level political transformations in West Bengal, with a focus on party systems, identity movements, and centre–state dynamics.

Unit 1

1. Evolution of Local Self-Government in India: West Bengal as Case Study – Historical Overview
2. Constituent Assembly Debates on Local Governance: Panchayats and Municipalities
3. Rural Governance in West Bengal: Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Role of Women in PRIs
4. Urban Governance in West Bengal: Municipalities, Urbanisation Patterns (Smart cities)
5. Rural-Urban Linkages and Issues in Governance: urban poverty, slums, informal economy, local politics

Unit 2

1. Studying State Politics in India: A Conceptual Framework (political economy, identity, sub-nationalism)
2. Congress Rule in West Bengal (1947-1977)
3. Left Rule in West Bengal (1977-2011)—Left Radicalism: Naxalite Movement
4. Post-2011 Political Transformation: Rise of TMC and Aftermath
5. Sub-state Politics and Identity Movements: Gorkhaland Movement, Adivasi and Tribal mobilisations, Matua and refugee politics, Border politics and Indo-Bangladesh dynamics.

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Partha Chatterjee, *The Present History of West Bengal*

Dwaipayan Bhattacharyya, *Government as Practice: Democratic Left in a Transforming India*
Atul Kohli, *Democracy and Discontent* (WB chapters)

Nirmal Kumar Chandra, *The State, Development and Politics in West Bengal*

Suhas Palshikar & Yogendra Yadav, *The Rise of Competitive Politics in West Bengal*

Ranabir Samaddar, *The Marginal Nation: Transborder Migration from Bangladesh to West Bengal*

John Harriss, *Politics of a Fragmented State*

Praskanva Sinharay, *The Politics of the Matuas*

Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, *Gorkhaland Movement: Ethnic Conflict and State Response*

Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury (ed.), *India–Bangladesh Borderlands*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** the evolution of local governance and rural–urban political structures in West Bengal.
2. **Analyse** party systems, political transitions, and governance reforms in the state.
3. **Evaluate** identity-based and sub-state movements shaping West Bengal’s politics.
4. **Assess** the impact of federalism, border politics, and migration on state politics.

Core Course 15

Course Code: PLS2PCOR15T

Research Methodology- 1

Course Objective: To introduce foundational concepts, methods, and processes in political science research, and to develop basic skills in research design, data analysis, academic writing, referencing, and ethical research practices.

1. Foundations of Political Science Research: Defining Research—Importance of Research Methodology
2. Dimensions of Research: (a) Use—Basic and Applied; (b) Purpose: Explorative, Descriptive, Explanatory; (c) Technique—Quantitative Research vs. Qualitative Research
3. Understanding the Research Process: Basic Steps (Quantitative and Qualitative)
4. Basic Concepts: Concepts, Variables, Theory, Assumption, Proposition, Hypothesis, Units of Analysis, Scope and Levels of Research, Time dimension, Inductive and Deductive Research.

Unit 2

5. Data Analysis—Basic Statistics: (a) Measures of Central Tendency: Mean, Median and Mode, (b) Measures of dispersion: Mean, Standard deviation, mean deviation, quartile deviation; (c) inferential statistics: T-Test, Chi-Square Test, OLS Regression Method.
6. How to Write a Research Proposal and a Research Report/Dissertation?
7. Referencing: (a) Formats—In-Text Citation, Endnotes, Footnotes, References, Bibliography; (b) Styles—APA, Chicago, MLA.
8. Ethics in Social Research

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Kothari, C.R., *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*
 Alan Bryman, *Social Research Methods*
 John Creswell, *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*
 W. Lawrence Neuman, *Social Research Methods*
 Paul Kellstedt & Guy Whitten, *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*
 Zina O’Leary, *The Essential Guide to Doing Research*
 King, Keohane & Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry*
 Babbie, Earl, *The Practice of Social Research*
 Yin, Robert, *Case Study Research*
 American Psychological Association, *Publication Manual (APA 7th Edition)*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** key concepts, dimensions, and approaches in political science research.
2. **Design** basic quantitative and qualitative research processes.
3. **Apply** statistical tools for basic data analysis.
4. **Prepare** research proposals, reports, and properly referenced academic writing.
5. **Demonstrate** ethical standards in conducting and presenting research.

SEC

Course Code: PLS2PSEC01M

Academic Writing and Referencing Tools

1. Understanding Academic Writing: Difference between academic, journalistic and creative writing
2. How to write Abstract and Executive Summary: Reading, Argument, and Writing Style
3. Referencing and Citation Tools: Zotero, Mandalay

SEMESTER IV

Core Course- 16

Course Code: PLS2PCOR16T

Research Methodology- 2

Course Objective: To train students in advanced quantitative and qualitative research methods, enabling them to design, conduct, and analyse empirical political science research using diverse methodological tools.

Unit I: Quantitative Methods (Select Methods)

1. Survey Research
2. Experimental Research
3. Aggregate Data Analysis
4. Quantitative Content Analysis
5. Mixed Methods Research

Unit II: Qualitative Methods (Select Methods)

6. Historical and Comparative Method
7. Archive and Documentary Research
8. Field Research: Observation and Ethnography
9. Interviews and Focus Groups
10. Discourse Analysis

Suggestive Readings: TBC

David E. McNabb, *Research Methods for Political Science*
 Norman K. Denzin & Y. Lincoln (eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*
 W. Lawrence Neuman, *Social Research Methods*
 Robert K. Yin, *Case Study Research: Design and Methods*
 Roger Pierce, *Research Methods in Politics*
 John Creswell & Plano Clark, *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*
 Brady & Collier (eds.), *Rethinking Social Inquiry* (process tracing, qualitative rigor)
 King, Keohane & Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry* (classic)
 Saldaña, Johnny, *The Coding Manual for Qualitative Researchers*
 Krippendorff, Klaus, *Content Analysis: An Introduction to Its Methodology*

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Apply** quantitative and qualitative methods to political science research.
2. **Design** surveys, experiments, content analyses, and mixed-methods studies.
3. **Conduct** archival, ethnographic, interview-based, and discourse-analytic research.
4. **Evaluate** methodological choices and justify research designs.
5. **Integrate** multiple methods to strengthen empirical findings.

Core Course 17

Course Code: PLS2PCOR17T

Peace and Conflict Studies – 1

Course Objective: To introduce foundational concepts, theories, and approaches in peace and conflict studies, and to analyse how gender, ecology, indigenous knowledge, and media shape contemporary conflicts and peacebuilding processes.

Unit 1

1. Peace and Conflict Studies: An Introduction
2. Peace, Conflict and Security: Theories and Approaches
3. Culture of Peace and Non-Violence: Gandhian Perspective and Global non-violent movements (select case studies)

Unit 2

4. Gender Perspectives on Violence, War and Peace -- feminist security studies, gendered impacts of conflict
5. Development, Ecology and Social Justice—environmental conflicts, resource politics, climate justice
6. Indigenous Perspectives on Peace— community-based conflict resolution, indigenous knowledge systems
7. Media and Peace Journalism—conflict framing, misinformation, role of digital media

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Johan Galtung, *Peace by Peaceful Means*

John Paul Lederach, *Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies*

Betty Reardon, *Women and Peace: Feminist Visions of Global Security*

Adam Curle, *Making Peace*

Elise Boulding, *Cultures of Peace*

Howard, Ross, *Reporting Conflict: New Directions in Peace Journalism*

Mary Kaldor, *New and Old Wars*

Oliver Richmond, *A Post-Liberal Peace*

Vandana Shiva, *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Development*

UNESCO, *Culture of Peace Programme Reports* (latest editions)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** key concepts and theories in peace and conflict studies.
2. **Analyse** the cultural, gendered, and ecological dimensions of conflict and peace.
3. **Evaluate** indigenous approaches to peacebuilding and conflict resolution.
4. **Assess** the role of media and peace journalism in shaping conflict narratives.

Core Course 18

Course Code: PLS2PCOR18T

Peace and Conflict Studies – 2

Course Objective: To examine key actors, approaches, and frameworks in conflict management, conflict transformation, and transitional justice, and to analyse contemporary international conflicts and peacebuilding challenges.

Unit 1

1. Actors in Conflict Management: (a) state, non-state actors, (b) international organizations (UN, AU, EU), (c) global civil society, (d) leaders and personalities
2. Conflict Resolution and Conflict Transformation: (a) Definitions, Foundations and Theoretical Approaches, (b) Lederach’s conflict transformation model, (c) negotiation, mediation, dialogue, (d) Track 1, 2, 3 diplomacies
3. Transitional Justice and Post-Conflict Justice

Unit 2

4. Contemporary International Conflicts: (Select 2 or 3): (a) Afghanistan; (b) Bangladesh; (c) Kashmir; (d) Kosovo; (e) Myanmar; (f) Palestine; (g) Rwanda; (h) Sri Lanka; (i) Syria
5. Peacebuilding: Concepts and Challenges: (a) Post-conflict reconstruction, (b) Peace agreements, (c) DDR (Disarmament, Demobilisation, Reintegration), (d) Role of culture, education, civil society

Suggestive Readings: TBC

John Paul Lederach, *The Little Book of Conflict Transformation*
 Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*
 Roland Paris, *At War's End: Building Peace After Civil Conflict*
 Charles T. Call (ed.), *Constructing Justice and Security After War*
 Priscilla Hayner, *Unspeakable Truths: Transitional Justice and the Challenge of Truth Commissions*
 Oliver Richmond, *Peace in International Relations*
 Mary Kaldor, *New and Old Wars*
 David Bloomfield, *Peacemaking Strategies in Northern Ireland*
 Alex Bellamy, *Responsibility to Protect*
 UN Peacebuilding Commission Reports (latest editions)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** the roles of state, non-state, and international actors in conflict management.
2. **Analyse** theories and practices of conflict resolution and transformation.
3. **Evaluate** transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict societies.
4. **Assess** contemporary international conflicts and peacebuilding strategies.

DSE Course

Course Code: PLS2PDSE01T

A) Human Rights and Politics

Course Objective: To introduce philosophical foundations, global and regional human rights regimes, humanitarian law, and Global South critiques, while analysing India's human rights institutions, social movements, and emerging challenges in technology, climate, and migration.

Unit 1

1. Philosophical Foundations: (a) natural rights, positivism, marxist critique, feminist critique, postcolonial critique, (b) universalism vs. cultural relativism (deep debate)
2. International Human Rights Regime: (a) ICCPR, ICESCR, (b) UNHRC, ICJ, ICC, (C) Regional Regimes (ECHR, ACHPR, IACHR)—comparative analysis
3. Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Justice: (a) Geneva Conventions, (b) War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity, (c) Responsibility to Protect (R2P), (d) Case Study: Rwanda, Palestine, Myanmar

4. Global South Perspectives on Human Rights: (a) Postcolonial critiques, (b) Development vs Rights (c) Digital rights

Unit 2

5. Indian Human Rights Framework: (a) NHRC, SHRCs, NCW, NCPCR — critical appraisal, (b) Judicial activism, PIL, landmark cases
6. Human Rights Movements in India (Select 1-2): (a) Anti-caste movements, (b) Women's movements, (c) LGBTQ+ rights movement, (d) Disability rights movement.
7. New Frontiers of Human Rights: (a) AI, surveillance, data protection, (b) Climate justice as a human right, (c) Refugees, statelessness, trafficking
8. Case Studies (Select 1-2): Manipur, Kashmir, Rohingya Crisis, Anti-CAA protests, Digital censorship

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Jack Donnelly, *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*

Upendra Baxi, *The Future of Human Rights*

Makau Mutua, *Human Rights: A Political and Cultural Critique*

Rhona Smith, *Textbook on International Human Rights*

Philip Alston & Ryan Goodman, *International Human Rights*

Beth Simmons, *Mobilizing for Human Rights*

Samuel Moyn, *The Last Utopia*

Martha Nussbaum, *Women and Human Development*

UN OHCHR, *Human Rights and the Global South Reports*

Pratap Bhanu Mehta, *The Burden of Democracy* (for India's rights debates)

Course Learning Outcomes: After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Explain** major philosophical and theoretical debates in human rights.
2. **Analyse** global, regional, and Indian human rights institutions and frameworks.
3. **Evaluate** humanitarian law, international criminal justice, and R2P.
4. **Assess** human rights movements and emerging issues such as AI, climate justice, and digital rights.
5. **Apply** human rights perspectives to contemporary case studies.

DSE Course

B) Environment and Politics

Course Objective: To examine key theoretical traditions in environmental political thought, analyse global environmental governance and climate politics, and study ecological conflicts, environmental movements, and urban environmental challenges with a focus on India and the Global South.

Unit 1

1. Environmental Political Thought: (a) Deep ecology, ecofeminism, Ecosocialism, (b) Ecological postmodernism, (c) Earth democracy (Vandana Shiva), (d) Anthropocene debates

2. Global Environmental Politics: (a) UNFCCC, Kyoto, Paris Agreement, (b) Climate finance, carbon markets, (c) Loss and damage, climate justice, (d) Global South vs. Global North debates
3. Environmental Governance: (a) NGT, EIA, Forest Rights Act, (b) Biodiversity governance, (c) Corporate environmental responsibility
4. Political Economy of Environment: (a) Resource extraction, (b) Mining conflicts, (c) Water politics, (d) Energy transitions

Unit 2

5. Ecological Conflicts: (a) Climate-conflict linkages, (b) Migration, displacement, (c) Environmental security
6. Environmental Movements in India (Select 1-2 Cases): (a) Chipko, Appiko, Silent Valley, (b) Narmada Bachao Andolan, (c) Anti-Vedanta, anti-POSCO, (d) Coastal & fisherfolk movements
7. Urban Environmental Politics: (a) Air pollution, (b) Waste politics, (c) Urban floods, (d) Climate-resilient cities
8. Case Studies (Choose 2–3): (a) Joshimath sinking, (b) Delhi air crisis, (c) Kerala floods, (d) Buxa tiger reserve conflict

Suggestive Readings: TBC

Robyn Eckersley, *Environmentalism and Political Theory*

Vandana Shiva, *Earth Democracy*

Ariel Salleh, *Ecofeminism as Politics*

Amitav Ghosh, *The Great Derangement*

Peter Dauvergne, *Global Environmental Politics*

Ramachandra Guha & Madhav Gadgil, *Ecology and Equity*

Joanna Macy, *World as Lover, World as Self*

Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons*

Nagraj Adve, *Global Warming in the Indian Context*

UNEP, *Emissions Gap Report* (latest edition)

Core Course 19

Course Code: PLS2PCOR19M

Dissertation/ Long Essay/ Term Paper

Core Course 20

Course Code: PLS2PCOR20M

Graduate Seminar/ Viva-Voce`