

w.e.f. academic session 2023-24

THIRD YEAR

Code: 3481

Revised Syllabus

PAPER I

WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Course Objective:

The course delves into classical western political philosophy right from Greek antiquity upto marxism. This course, thematically divided into five units, is focused on representative thinkers of each era. It discusses key thinkers in ancient, mediaeval and modern political philosophy and thus, seeks to develop a holistic perspective about the history of political ideas with reference to the political context in which they originated. Objective of the course is to make students aware of multiple interpretations of classical text.

Unit I- Greek Political Thought:

Plato: Theory of Forms, Justice, Philosopher King, Ideal State, Communism, Scheme of Education.

Aristotle: Forms and Matter, Teleology, Citizenship, Revolution, Slavery, Classification of Governments, Ideal Polity.

Unit II- Middle Age:

St. Thomas Aquinas: Natural Law

Machiavelli: Universal Egoism, Morality and Statecraft, Vice and Virtue, Republicanism.

Unit III- Social Contract Tradition:

Hobbes: Human Nature- Atomistic Individuals, State of Nature, Social Contract, Leviathan.

Locke: Laws of Nature, Natural Rights, Social Contract, Property.

Rousseau: General Will, Direct Democracy, Origin of Inequality.

Unit IV- Utilitarianism:

Bentham: The Greatest Happiness Principle and Utilitarian Calculus, Theory of Law.

J.S Mill: Liberty, Suffrage and Subjection of Women, Rights of Minorities, Utility Principle.

Unit V- Debating the State:

Hegel: Nation, Dialectical Method, Civil Society.

Karl Marx: Historical Materialism, Economic Determinism, Alienation, Class Struggle, Proletarian Revolution.

References:

Boucher, D. and Kelly, P. (eds.) (2003), Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present, New York: Oxford University Press.

Nelson, B. (2008) Western Political Thought. New Delhi: Pearson Longman.

Strauss, L. and Cropsey, J. (eds.) (1987), History of Political Philosophy. 2nd Edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Jha, Shefali (2009) Western Political Thought: From Plato to Marx, New Delhi: Pearson.

Barker, Ernest (2009, reprint) The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle, Arkose Press.

Dunning, W A (1902), A History of Political Theories, Ancient and Medieval, London & New York: The Macmillan Company.

Sabine, G H (2019), A History of Political Theory, 4th Revised Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Q. Skinner, (2000) Machiavelli: A Very Short Introduction, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Macpherson, CB (2010), The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke, Reprint Edition, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

गाबा, ओ पी (२०१८), पाश्चात्य राजनीतिक विचारक, नई दिल्ली: मयूर बुक्स।

फड़िआ, बी एल (२०१८), पाश्चात्य राजनीतिक चिंतन, आगरा: साहित्य भवन पब्लिकेशंस।

शर्मा, प्रभुदत्त (2018), पाश्चात्य राजनीतिक विचारों का इतिहास, जयपुर कॉलेज बुक डिपो।

सूद, जे पी, राजनीतिक विचारों का इतिहास (भाग एक से भाग चार तक), मेरठ: जयप्रकाश नाथ एंड कंपनी।