

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA



Dr. MILAN KUMAR PAL, M.Sc., Ph.D.
O.S.D.
UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA.

Ref No. CUS/22/17
Dated the 30th January, 2017

SENATE HOUSE
87/1, College Street, Kolkata-700073
Phone : 2257-3376, 2241-0071-74,
2241-4984-86, 2241-4989-90,
2241-2850-51, 2241-2859
Fax : 91-033-2241-3222
E-mail : u.g.councilsc.u@gmail.com
Website : www.caluniv.ac.in

To
The Principals/T.I.C.
of all the Undergraduate Colleges
offering B.A. (Honours) in Political Science
affiliated to the University of Calcutta

Sir/ Madam,

The undersigned would like to forward you the Draft Syllabus for **Political Science (Honours)**, to be implemented from the academic session 2017-2018 to get feedback from the Department of Political Science in your college.

You are requested to send your feedback within 15th February, 2017.

In this regard you may send your observations/ suggestions to the Department of U.G. Councils, C.U. or through email (u.g.councilsc.u@gmail.com) or you may contact **Prof. Dipankar Sinha**, Chairperson, U.G.B.O.S., Political Science, C.U. (email: cuugbospolsc@rediffmail.com)

Your cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated. Kindly treat the matter as urgent.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Milan Kr. Pal)
O.S.D., C.U.

Note: The draft honours syllabus has been prepared by the UG Board of Studies in Political Science strictly on the basis of the format given below. The colleagues from the colleges are hereby requested to provide their valuable inputs, *collectively on behalf of the department*, on the basis of the same format. The justification for the suggestions made may also be provided in brief to ensure greater clarity and transparency in the twin processes of updating and upgrading the syllabus.

The proposed format:

Please specify Paper and Module Number:

- ◆ New topics for inclusion:
 - ◆ Existing topics for exclusion:
 - ◆ Rephrasing/Reframing of existing topics:
 - ◆ Topics for shifting:
 - ◆ (Recent) Books to be added and (existing books) to be deleted:
-

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

DRAFT SYLLABUS FOR THREE-YEAR B.A. HONOURS DEGREE COURSE OF STUDIES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (2017)

Part I Full marks: 200

Paper I: POLITICS: CONCEPTS AND APPROCHES

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

- 1.1.1. Conceptualising politics.
- 1.1.2. Key concepts I: State; Sovereignty (evolution); Power and Authority--- types and linkages;
- 1.1.3. Key concepts II: Law. Liberty, Equality--- interrelationships.

Module II:

- 1.2.1. Key concepts III: Rights; Justice; Freedom.
- 1.2.2. Key concepts IV: Democracy and Authoritarianism.
- 1.2.3. Key concepts V: Citizenship.

Module III:

- 1.3.1. Approaches I: Normative; Legal-Institutional; Empirical---Systems Analysis; Structural Functionalism.
- 1.3.2. Approaches II: Liberalism; Social Welfarism; Neo-Liberalism.
- 1.3.3. Approaches III: Postcolonial; Feminist.

Module IV:

- 1.4.1. Marxian approach--- Dialectical Materialism and Historical Materialism.
- 1.4.2. Key concepts: State (focus on Relative Autonomy); Class and Class Struggle; Surplus Value; Alienation.
- 1.4.3. Party--- Democratic Centralism; Lenin-Rosa Luxemburg debate; Revolution--- Lenin and Mao.

Paper II: CONSTITUTION AND POLITICS IN INDIA

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

- 2.1.1. Evolution of the Indian Constitution. Role of the Constituent Assembly--- debates (overview). The Preamble.
- 2.1.2. Fundamental Rights and Duties. Directive Principles.
- 2.1.3. Nature of Indian Federalism: Union-State Relations.
- 2.1.4. Union Executive: President, Vice-President: election, position, functions (focus on Emergency Powers), Prime Minister, Council of Ministers, relationship of Prime Minister and President.

Module II:

- 2.2.1. Union Legislature: Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha: Organisation, Functions – Lawmaking procedure, Privileges, Committee system – Speaker.
- 2.2.2. Government in states: Governor, Chief Minister and Council of Ministers: position and functions – State Legislature: composition and functions.
- 2.2.3. Judiciary: Supreme Court and the High Courts: composition and functions – Judicial activism.
- 2.2.4. Constitutional amendment: Procedure. Major recommendations of National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution.

Module III:

- 2.3.1. Party system: features and trends – major national political parties in India: ideologies and programmes. Coalition politics in India: nature and trends. Political parties in West Bengal: Overview.
- 2.3.2. Electoral process: Election Commission: composition, functions, role. Electoral reforms.
- 2.3.3. Role of business groups, working class, peasants in Indian politics.

Module IV:

- 2.4.1. Role of (a) religion (b) language (c) caste (d) tribe and (e) regionalism in Indian politics.
- 2.4.2. Regionalism in Indian politics.
- 2.4.3. New Social Movements since the 1970s: (a) environmental movements (b) women's movements (c) human rights movements (d) peace movements.

Paper III: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT AND MOVEMENT

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

- 3.1.1. Ancient Indian ideas: overview. Kautilya: Saptanga theory, Dandaniti, Diplomacy.
- 3.1.2. Medieval political thought in India: overview. Legitimacy of kingship.
- 3.1.3. Modern Indian thought: Rammohan Roy as pioneer of Indian liberalism – his views on rule of law, freedom of thought and social justice.
- 3.1.4. Bankim Chandra, Vivekananda and Rabindranath: views on nationalism.

Module II:

- 3.2.1. Gandhi: views on state, Swaraj, Satyagraha.
- 3.2.2. M.N. Roy: Radical Humanism.
- 3.2.3. Narendra Deva: Democratic Socialism.
- 3.2.4. Syed Ahmed Khan: views on colonial rule and modernization.

Module III:

- 3.3.1. Foundation of Indian National Congress.
- 3.3.2. Bengal Partition and Swadeshi movement.
- 3.3.3. Khilafat and Non-Cooperation Movement – Civil Disobedience movement. August 1942 movement – INA – Naval uprising.
- 3.3.4. Alternatives to Congress politics: (a) Subhas Chandra Bose and Forward Bloc (b) Congress Socialist Party (c) Communists.

Module IV:

- 3.4.1. Movements against caste system and untouchability – Ambedkar's views on social justice and depressed class. Contributions of Jyotiba Phule, Pandita Ramabai.
- 3.4.2. Class and the nationalist movement under colonial rule: working class movement and peasant movement.
- 3.4.3. Contested notions of 'nation'--- Savarkar, Jinnah.

Paper IV: COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

- 4.1.1. Distinction between Comparative Government and Comparative Politics. Evolution of Comparative Politics.
- 4.1.2. Scope, purposes and methods of comparison. Major approaches to the study of comparative politics--- Institutional approach---- limitations; New Institutionalism, Political Economy--- key features.
- 4.1.3. Concept of Third World. State formation in Western Europe and Third World.

Module II:

4.2.1. Nature of Liberal and socialist political systems – distinguishing features: conventions, rule of law, parliamentary sovereignty (UK), separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review (USA), ideology, democratic centralism (PRC), referendum, initiative (Switzerland).

4.2.2. Political Parties: features and role of party system/parties in UK, USA, PRC and Bangladesh. Interest groups: roles and performance in UK and USA.

Module III:

4.3.1. Unitary system: UK, Bangladesh. Federal system: USA, Russia.

4.3.2. Legislature in UK and PRC: composition and functions of legislative chambers – NPC in PRC – role of second chambers in UK and USA – Committee system in UK and USA – role of speakers in parliamentary system (UK) and presidential system (USA).

Module IV:

4.4.1. Executive in UK, USA, France and Russia: A comparative study of (i) Russian, French and American Presidency; (ii) British and French cabinet systems.

4.4.2. Judiciary in UK, USA and PRC (with focus on the procuratorate): A comparative study.

4.4.3. Rights of the citizens of UK, USA and PRC: A comparative study – Duties of the citizens of PRC.

Paper V: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND GLOBAL POLITICS

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

5.1.1. International Relations: outline of its evolution as academic discipline--- from bi-polar politics to global politics.

5.1.2. Major representative theories: (a) Realism and Neo-Realism (b) Dependency (c) World Systems theory.

5.1.3. Emergent issues: (a) Development (b) Environment (c) Terrorism (d) Migration (e) Security.

Module II:

5.2.1. Making of foreign policy.

5.2.2. Indian foreign policy: 1950s to late 1980s.

5.2.3. Sino-Indian relations; Indo-US relations;

Module III:

5.3.1. Cold War and its evolution: outline. Emergence of Third World: NAM; Pan Africanism. Post-Cold War world: overview.

5.3.2. Europe in transition: European Union, Brexit (overview).

5.3.3. Major institutions of global governance: IMF, World Bank, WTO--- overview. Major regional organizations: ASEAN, OPEC, SAFTA, SAARC and BRICS. West Asia and the Palestine question.

Module IV:

5.4.1. Indian and her neighbours I: Pakistan; Bangladesh.

5.4.2. India and her neighbours II: Nepal; Sri Lanka.

5.4.3. UNO: background; Major organs--- General Assembly, Security Council and Secretariat (with focus on Secretary General). Role of UNO in peace-keeping, human rights, and development (Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals).

Paper VI: POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY**100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)****Module I:**

6.1.1. Social bases of politics. Emergence of Political Sociology--- from Sociology of Politics to Political Sociology.

6.1.2. Political culture and Political socialization: nature, types and agencies.

6.1.3. Political participation: concept and types.

Module II:

6.2.1. Social stratification and politics: caste, class, elite.

6.2.2. Gender and politics: basic issues.

6.2.3. Religion, Society and Politics: different perspectives.

Module III:

6.3.1. Classification and types of political systems.

6.3.2. Organizations in politics: parties--- typology; functions. Pressure groups. NGOs--- emergence and role.

6.3.3. Military and politics: conditions and modes of intervention.

Module IV:

6.4.1. Political communication: concept; structures. Media and politics (with focus on democracy).

6.4.2. Electorate and electoral behaviour (Indian context). Electoral reforms.

6.4.3. Political development and social change – role of tradition and modernity.

Paper VII: WESTERN POLITICAL THEORY AND THOUGHT**100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)****Module I:**

7.1.1. Greek political thought: main features – Plato: justice, communism – Aristotle: state, classifications of constitutions.

7.1.2. Roman political thought: theories of Law and Citizenship – contributions of Roman thought.

7.1.3. Medieval political thought in Europe: major features.

7.1.4. Significance of Renaissance. Political thought of Reformation. Contribution of Machiavelli.

Module II:

- 7.2.1. Theory of Sovereignty: Bodin, Austin. Pluralist critique.
- 7.2.2. Hobbes: founder of science of materialist politics.
- 7.2.3. Locke: founder of Liberalism. views on natural rights, property and consent.
- 7.2.4. Rousseau: views on freedom and democracy.

Module III:

- 7.3.1. Bentham: Utilitarianism. John Stuart Mill: views on liberty and representative government.
- 7.3.2. Hegel: Civil Society and State.
- 7.3.3. Rawls on justice.
- 7.3.4. David Held: classification of democracy--- Protective (Bentham), Developmental (J.S. Mill), Participatory.
- Huntington: three waves of democratization.

Module IV:

- 7.4.1. Utopian and Scientific Socialism: basic characteristics.
- 7.4.2. Varieties of non-Marxist socialism: Fabianism, Syndicalism, Guild Socialism, German Revisionism.
- 7.4.3. Anarchism: overview.
- 7.4.4. Post-Marxism: overview.

Paper VIII: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

100 Marks (25 x 4 Modules)

Module I:

- 8.1.1. Nature, Scope and Evolution of Public Administration – Private and Public Administration. Principles of Socialist Management.
- 8.1.2. Challenges to discipline of Public Administration and responses: New Public Administration, Comparative Public Administration, Development Administration (with focus on Indian context).
- 8.1.3. Major concepts of administration: (a) Hierarchy (b) Unity of Command (c) Span of Control (d) Authority (e) Centralization, Decentralization and Delegation (f) Line and Staff.
- 8.1.4. Public Administration in the era of globalization, liberalization and Privatization. Governance: conceptual emergence--- distinction with government.

Module II:

- 8.2.1. Bureaucracy: views of Marx and Weber.
- 8.2.2. Ecological approach to Public Administration: Riggsian Model.
- 8.2.3. Administrative Processes: (a) Decision making (b) Communication and Control (c) Leadership (d) Coordination.
- 8.2.4. Policy-making: models of policy making – policies and implementation.

Module III:

- 8.3.1. Continuity and change in Indian administration: brief historical overview.
- 8.3.2. Civil Service in India (Bureaucracy): recruitment (role of UPSC, SPSC), training.
- 8.3.3. Organization of Union Government: Secretariat Administration: PMO, Cabinet Secretariat.
- 8.3.4. Organization of State Government: Chief Secretary – relations between Secretariat and Directorate.
- 8.3.5. District Administration: changing role of District Magistrate.

Module IV:

- 8.4.1. Local Self Government: Corporations, Municipalities and Panchayats in West Bengal--- structure and functions. 73rd and 74th Amendment: overview.
- 8.4.2. Planning: Planning Commission, National Development Council. District Planning. Changing nature of planning: NITI Ayog.
- 8.4.3. Financial Administration: Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee – role of CAG.
- 8.4.4. Citizen and administration: functions of Lokpal and Lokayukt. Right to Information--- Citizen Charter.
- 8.4.5. Citizen and social welfare: MGNREGA; Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA); National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

-
- ◆ **Pattern of questions:** Students are to write (i) two short notes – each carrying 5 marks – out of four, and (ii) one broad question of 15 marks out of two from each module.
 - ◆ **Number of Lectures:** There should be 64 classes per week for 8 honours papers, that is, 8 classes a week for each paper.