

# UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Bachelor of Arts (Programme) Political Science  
PAPERS FOR SEMSTER - I

(Academic Year 2019-20)



**Applicable for students registered with Regular Colleges, Non Collegiate Women's Education Board and School of Open Learning**

## Paper for SEMESTER - I

### A. Discipline Specific Core Course

1. Paper I - Introduction to Political Theory

### STRUCTURE FOR SEMESTER - I

S. NO.	Course		Paper	
	1.1	Subject - I Political Science - 1	Discipline Specific Core	Introduction to Political Theory
1.2	Subject - II (Any Other)	Discipline Specific Core		DSC IIA
1.3	English	Core (Compulsory)		CC
1.4	English/ MIL (Communication) / Environmental Science	Ability Enhancement (Compulsory)		AECC

# **Courses for B.A. (Programme) Political Science SEMESTER - I**

## **Paper I - Introduction to Political Theory**

**(62321101)**

**Core Course - (CC) Credit:6**

### **Course Objective**

This course aims to introduce certain key aspects of conceptual analysis in political theory and the skills required to engage in debates surrounding the application of the concepts.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

After completing this course students will be able to:

- Understand the nature and relevance of Political Theory
- Understand different concepts like liberty, equality, justice and rights.
- Reflect upon some of the important debates in Political Theory

### **Unit 1**

**What is Political Theory and what is its relevance?**

### **Unit 2**

**Concepts: Liberty, Equality, Justice, Rights**

### **Unit 3**

**Debates in Political Theory:**

- a. Protective discrimination and principles of fairness?
- b. The Public vs private debate: Feminist Perspective Censorship and its limits

### **References**

#### **Unit I**

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-17.

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 18-37.

#### **Unit 2**

Sriranjani, V. (2008) 'Liberty', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 40-57.

Acharya, A. (2008) 'Equality', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 58-73.

Menon, K. (2008) 'Justice', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 74-82.

Talukdar, P.S. (2008) 'Rights', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 88-105.

#### **Unit 3**

Acharya, A. (2008) 'Affirmative Action', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 298-307.

Frances E O. (1985) 'The Myth of State Intervention in the Family', *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform*. 18 (4), pp. 835-64.

Sethi, A. (2008) 'Freedom of Speech and the Question of Censorship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 308-319.

### Additional Resources:

Berlin, I. "Two Concepts of Liberty"

Rawls, John, *A Theory of Justice*

Jaggar, Alison, "Introduction", *Feminist Politics and Human Nature*

Kukathas, Chandran, "The Demise and Rise of Political Theory"

Riley, J. (2008) 'Liberty', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 103-125.

Casal, P. & William, A. (2008) 'Equality', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 149- 165.

Wolf, J. (2008) 'Social Justice', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 172-193.

Chambers, C. (2008) 'Gender', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-288.

Swift, A. (2001) *Political Philosophy: A Beginners Guide for Students and Politicians*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Jha, M. (2001) 'Ramabai: Gender and Caste', in Singh, M.P. and Roy, H. (eds.) *Indian Political Thought: Themes and Thinkers*, New Delhi: Pearson.

Menon, N. (2008) 'Gender', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 224-235.

### Hindi Reading

भार्गव, र. और अशोक आचार्य (एड.), *राजनीतिक सिधांत: एक परिचय*, दिल्ली: पिएर्सन, 2008.

कुमार, संजीव, "राजनीति क्या है : "राजनीतिक" का सिधान्तीकरण", संजीव कुमार (एड.), *राजनीति सिधांत की समझ*, दिल्ली: ओरिएंट ब्लैकस्वान, 2019, pp. 1-26.

संजीव कुमार (एड.), *राजनीति सिधांत की समझ*, दिल्ली: ओरिएंट ब्लैकस्वान, 2019.

### Teaching Learning Process

The teaching-learning process for this course would involve class lectures, class discussion, class presentation, debates on contemporary issues and relevant cases. Teaching would also involve methods like power point and film screening.

### Assessment Methods

Students will be assessed at different stages during the course learning process. After completing every unit they will be asked to take part in group discussions on any one important event or issue relevant for that unit. They will also do one presentation and one assignment.

### Keywords

Political Theory, Liberty, Equality, Justice, Rights, Protective Discrimination, Censorship