

POLITICAL SCIENCE (852)

Aims:

1. To enable students to gain an understanding of basic concepts in Political Science.
2. To facilitate acquisition of knowledge and understanding of the practices of governance.
3. To develop logical reasoning, research and application skills.
4. To create awareness of rights and duties and to sensitise students towards social concerns.
5. To expose students to divergent views and encourage them to develop their own world view.

CLASS XI

There will be **two** papers in the subject

Paper I: Theory 3 hours ----- 80 marks

Paper II: Project Work -----20 marks

PAPER I (THEORY) – 80 Marks

Part I (20 marks) will consist of **compulsory** short answer questions, testing knowledge, application and skills relating to elementary/ fundamental aspects of the entire syllabus.

Part II (60 marks) will be divided into **two** sections A & B. Candidates will be required to answer **three** questions out of **five** from Section A and **two** questions out of **three** from Section B. Each question in this part shall carry **12** marks.

SECTION A

Political Theory

1. Introduction to Political Science

- (i) Meaning of Political Science; Scope of contemporary Political Science: Political Theory, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Public Administration and Political Economy. Nature of Political Science.

Meaning of Political Science; Scope of contemporary Political Science with reference to Political Theory, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Public Administration and Political Economy. Nature of Political Science - Is Political Science a Science?

- (ii) Fundamental Concepts

State and its elements; Difference between State and Society, State and Association, State and Government, State and Nation; Nationality.

Definition of State and elements of the State: (a) Population (b) Territory (c) Government (d) Sovereignty. Definition of Society; Association; Nation and nationality. Differences between – State and Society; State and Association; State and Government; State and Nation.

2. The Origin of the State

Divine Origin Theory; the Social Contract Theory (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau); the Evolutionary Theory.

Various theories of the origin of State:

Divine Theory: brief history of this theory, divine rights of the kings - examples from modern monarchical states like England and Bhutan. Critical evaluation of the theory.

The Social Contract theory: Views of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau; Critical evaluation of the theory.

Evolutionary Theory: factors for the growth of this theory such as kinship, religion, economic factors, wars and conflicts and the need for political power.

3. Political Ideologies

Liberalism, Socialism; Communism and Fascism.

Liberalism, Socialism; Communism and Fascism: Meaning, features with reference to the purpose of the State. Critical evaluation of each ideology.

4. Sovereignty

Meaning, kinds and characteristics. A historical analysis and contemporary issues.

Meaning, definition and characteristics. Kinds: Titular and Real, Legal and Political; de-jure and de-facto Sovereign, Popular Sovereignty. Is Sovereignty absolute and indivisible? Brief study of Austin's Theory and Pluralistic view of Sovereignty with reference to Laski and MacIver. Sovereignty in a globalised World: the role of non-state actors.

5. Law

Meaning; Sources and Kinds of Law.

Meaning, definition of law. Sources - Customs, Usages, Religion, Judicial Decisions, Scientific Commentaries, Equity, Legislation. Kinds of law – definition and examples of Municipal, National, Constitutional and International Law, Statute Law, Ordinances.

6. Liberty

Meaning; Dimensions and kinds of Liberty; Relationship between Liberty and Law; safeguards of liberty.

Definition and meaning of Liberty; Dimensions - negative and positive; kinds of Liberty - Civil, Political and Economic Liberty. Relationship between Liberty and Law: Does Law help or hinder Liberty? Safeguards of Liberty - fundamental rights. Separation of judiciary from executive, well-knit party system, economic justice for all, free press and media, vigilance by the people.

7. Equality

Meaning and kinds of Equality; Relationship between Equality and Liberty.

Meaning and kinds of Equality– legal, social, political and economic; relationship between Equality and Liberty: How do they complement each other?

8. Justice

Meaning, Kinds and Contemporary theories.

Meaning of Justice; kinds: Legal, Social, Economic and Political. Theories of Justice – John Rawls and Amartya Sen.

SECTION B

Contemporary International Relations

9. End of Cold War and its impact on the World Order

Disintegration of the Soviet Union and its impact on the World Order.

A brief overview of the Cold War (for reference only). Impact of disintegration of the Soviet Union on the World Order – end of Cold War confrontation, change of power equations in world politics, emergence of new countries.

10. Unipolar World

U.S. unilateralism: case studies of U.S. intervention in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Meaning of unilateralism.

Case studies of the following:

Iraq - Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom; Afghanistan - Operation Enduring Freedom.

11. Regional Cooperation

ASEAN and the European Union,

Aims, achievements and challenges.

12. The Non-Aligned Movement

Relevance of Non-Aligned Movement

Relevance of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in the contemporary World.

PAPER II (PROJECT WORK) – 20 MARKS

Candidates will be required to undertake **one** project which **may** be any one of the following:

- (i) A case study.
- (ii) Survey study with a questionnaire.
- (iii) Research based project with in depth analysis.
- (iv) Local/ national/ global political issue.
- (v) Book review/ film review/ documentaries/ posters/ newspapers/ advertisements/ cartoons and art.

The project must not be based primarily on the syllabus; students must be encouraged to produce original, creative and insightful perspectives on an allied aspect of the topic.

CLASS XII

There will be **two** papers in the subject

Paper I: Theory 3 hours ----- 80 marks

Paper II: Project Work ----- 20 marks

PAPER I (THEORY) – 80 Marks

Part I (20 marks) will consist of **compulsory** short answer questions, testing knowledge, application and skills relating to elementary/ fundamental aspects of the entire syllabus.

Part II (60 marks) will be divided into **two** sections A & B. Candidates will be required to answer **three** questions out of **five** from Section A and **two** questions out of **three** from Section B. Each question in this part shall carry **12** marks.

SECTION A

Constitution and Government

1. Forms of Government

Totalitarian and Authoritarian States, Liberal Democratic State, Unitary and Federal States, Parliamentary and Presidential forms of government.

Meaning and features of Totalitarian State, Authoritarian State and Liberal Democratic State.

Comparison between Totalitarian and Authoritarian States. Historic and contemporary examples of each.

Meaning and features of Unitary and Federal States with reference to U.K. as a Unitary state, U.S.A. as a Federal State and India as a federal state with subsidiary unitary features, comparison between unitary and federal state.

Meaning and features of Parliamentary and Presidential forms of government (U.K. and U.S.A.). Comparison between Parliamentary and Presidential forms of government.

2. Constitution

Meaning; kinds of Constitutions: Written and Unwritten, Rigid and Flexible, Enacted and Evolved: merits and demerits. Amending procedures; Conventions.

Meaning; kinds: Written and Unwritten, Rigid and Flexible, Enacted and Evolved: merits, demerits of each. Is the difference between Written and Unwritten, Rigid and Flexible a real one?

Amending procedures of the Constitutions of U.K., U.S.A and India.

Conventions: meaning and examples with reference to U.K., U.S.A. and India. The importance of Conventions in U.K.

3. Franchise and Representation

Universal Adult Franchise; Methods of Election; Constituency; Minority Representation. Political Parties; Party System.

Universal Adult Franchise - meaning, reasons for widespread acceptance.

Methods of Election: Direct and Indirect – meaning with examples.

Meaning of Constituency, Single member and Multi-member with examples.

First Past the Post System – meaning, merits and demerits.

Minority Representation - meaning, rationale (Why is it important for minorities to be represented properly).

Methods of Minority Representation: Proportional Representation (List system and single transferable vote system), Cumulative Vote System, Nomination and Reservation.

Political Parties - meaning, definition and functions. Kinds – Single party, Bi-party, Multi-party system - meaning, merits and demerits.

Organs of the Government

4. The Legislature

Functions of Legislature; Unicameral and Bicameral legislatures. The legislature in India and U.S.A. - a comparative study.

Meaning and functions of Legislature. Meaning of Unicameral and Bi-cameral legislature. The legislatures in India and U.S.A.- Composition (strength, method of election and tenure) and functions: legislative, constituent, executive (ways in which the legislature controls the executive), judicial, electoral and financial.

Composition and powers of the House of Representatives and the Senate, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (including special powers).

Unique powers of the Senate, why is the Senate considered the world's most powerful second chamber?

Comparison of the Rajya Sabha and the U.S. Senate; Lok Sabha with the U.S. House of Representatives.

5. The Executive

Functions; The Civil Services. Difference between the Political Executive and the Permanent Executive. Political Executive in India and U.S.A. - a comparative study.

Meaning, and functions of the Executive. Meaning and role of Civil Services.

Difference between the Political and Permanent Executive in India. Political Executive in India and U.S.A. - a comparative study. Powers and functions of executive heads of India (President and Prime Minister), and U.S.A. (President). Constitutional limitations on the powers of the President of the USA.

Changing role of the Indian Prime Minister with reference to the past two decades.

6. The Judiciary

Meaning and functions of Judiciary. Conditions of Independence of Judiciary. Judiciary in India and U.S.A. - a comparative study. Judicial Review.

Meaning and functions of judiciary; conditions of independence of judiciary with reference to India and U.S.A. The Judiciary in India and U.S.A. – composition and powers of Indian Supreme Court and American Supreme Court. Judicial Review – meaning, principles (maxims) and critical evaluation with special reference to U.S.A. and India. Meaning of Judicial Activism and Judicial Restraint. Comparative study of Indian and US Supreme Courts - Which is most powerful and Why?

SECTION B

Indian Democracy

7. Indian Constitution

(i) Preamble

Preamble and its importance. Meaning of the key words contained in the Preamble.

(ii) Salient features of the Indian Constitution.

Written and Comprehensive; a Constitution drawn from several sources; Federal structure with Unitary spirit; Partly rigid and Partly

flexible; Fundamental Rights and Duties; Directive Principles of State Policy; Parliamentary form of Government; Single Citizenship; Bi-cameral legislature; Universal Adult Franchise; Single Integrated and Independent Judiciary; Judicial Review; Emergency powers; Special provisions for Schedule castes and Schedule tribes.

8. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles

Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy.

Fundamental Rights: meaning and importance of Fundamental Rights; detailed study of all Fundamental Rights in India.

Directive Principles of State Policy: meaning and purpose; classification, importance and implementation.

Relationship between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy.

9. Local self-government

73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts.

Key features of the 73rd and 74th Amendments.

Three tier systems of Panchayati Raj: Rural and Urban local bodies - their composition. Challenges and solutions.

10. Democracy in India – a perspective of the challenges faced.

(i) Challenges faced by the Indian Democracy: Caste, Communalism, Regionalism and Political Violence. Strengthening Indian Democracy.

Caste: meaning, role of caste in Indian Politics.

Communalism: meaning and effects on the functioning of Indian democracy.

Regionalism: meaning and causes; kinds of regional aspirations (language issues, sons-of-the-soil policies, river water disputes, demand for new states, secessionist demands); responding to regionalism; strengthening the federal structure.

Political Violence: meaning, forms, causes and effects.

Strengthening Indian Democracy: measures to overcome the challenges faced by Indian Democracy.