

University of Pune
S.Y.B.A Political Science

G-2 General Paper

POLITICAL THEORY& CONCEPTS

(80-20 Pattern to be implemented from 2014-2015)

Course Objectives:

This is an introductory paper to the concepts, ideas and theories in political theory. It seeks to explain the evolution and usage of these concepts, ideas and theories with reference to individual thinkers both historically and analytically. The different ideological standpoints with regard to various concepts and theories are to be critically explained with the purpose of highlighting the differences in their perspectives and in order to understand their continuity and change. Furthermore there is a need to emphasize the continuing relevance of these concepts today and explain how an idea and theory of yesteryears gains prominence in contemporary political theory.

Term-I

Unit: 1 - Introducing Political Theory

- a) Definitions, Nature & Scope
- b) Traditions of Political Theory: Liberal & Conservative

Unit: 2 - State

- a) Definitions Meaning and Elements
- b) Perspectives on State (Liberal, Marxist)

Unit: 3 - Power & Authority

- a) Conceptions of Power, Power as Exploitation, Authority, Hegemony, Foucault on Power
- b) Authority: Meaning, Nature & its forms

Unit-4 - Right and Justice

- a) Meaning, Nature & Kinds of Rights
- b) Dimensions of Justice (Social, Economic Political)

Term-II

Unit: 5 – Liberty and Equality

- a) Liberty: Meaning, Nature, Classification: Negative & Positive Liberty
- b) Equality: Meaning, Nature, Types of Equality: Equality OF Opportunity; political Equality, Affirmative Action

Unit: 6 – Democracy

- a) The Concept of Democracy, Direct Participatory & Liberal Democracy
- b) Perspectives on Democracy, Merits and demerits

Unit: 7 – Sovereignty

- a) Meaning & Characteristics of sovereignty**
- b) Theory of Popular Sovereignty**

Unit 8: Globalisation

- a) Definition, Meaning**
- b) Impact of Globalisation**

Readings:

Lodhi Kaniz Fatema, Political Theory

Chavan Shankar Political Theory , Pratima Prakshan ,Pune.

Benke Suvarna, Rajkiya Siddhant, Prashant Publication, Jalgaon

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