

## Shyama Prasad Mukherji College

### Teaching Plan

Course and Year: B.A (Hons) IIIrd Year Taught : Individually

**Paper: Indian Political thought**

Faculty: Dr. Namita kumari

No. of Lectures per week: 5

Tutorials- 2

Course objective: This course introduces the specific elements of Indian Political Thought spanning over two millennia. The basic focus of study is on individual thinkers whose ideas are however framed by specific themes. The course as a whole is meant to provide a sense of the broad streams of Indian thought while encouraging a specific knowledge of individual thinkers and texts. Selected extracts from some original texts are also given to discuss in class. The list of additional readings is meant for teachers as well as the more interested students.

Semester: V

I. Traditions of Pre-colonial Indian Political Thought (8 lectures)

- a. Brahmanic and Shramanic
- b. Islamic and Syncretic.

II. Ved Vyasa (Shantiparva): Rajadharma (5 lectures)

III. Manu: Social Laws (6 lectures)

IV. Kautilya: Theory of State (7 lectures)

V. Aggannasutta (Digha Nikaya): Theory of kingship (5 lectures)

VI. VI.Barani: Ideal Polity (6 lectures)

VII. Abul Fazal: Monarchy (6 lectures)

VIII. Kabir: Syncretism (5 lectures)

#### READING LIST

I .Traditions of Pre-modern Indian Political Thought:

Essential Readings:

B. Parekh, (1986) 'Some Reflections on the Hindu Tradition of Political Thought', in T. Pantham, and K. Deutsch (eds.), *Political Thought in Modern India*, New Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 17-31.

A. Altekar, (1958) 'The Kingship', in *State and Government in Ancient India*, 3rd edition, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 75-108.

II. Ved Vyasa (Shantiparva): Rajadharma

Essential Readings:

The Mahabharata (2004), Vol. 7 (Book XI and Book XII, Part II), Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.

V. Varma, (1974) *Studies in Hindu Political Thought and Its Metaphysical Foundations*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 211- 230.

B. Chaturvedi, (2006) 'Dharma-The Foundation of Raja-Dharma, Law and Governance', in *The Mahabharata: An Inquiry in the Human Condition*, Delhi: Orient Longman, pp. 418- 464. III. Manu: Social Laws

Essential Readings:

Manu, (2006) 'Rules for Times of Adversity', in P. Olivelle, (ed. & trans.) *Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Manava- Dharmasastra*, New Delhi: OUP, pp. 208-213.

V. Mehta, (1992) 'The Cosmic Vision: Manu', in *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 23- 39.

IV. Kautilya: Theory of State

Essential Readings:

Kautilya, (1997) 'The Elements of Sovereignty' in R. Kangle (ed. and trns.), *Arthashastra of Kautilya*, New Delhi: Motilal Publishers, pp. 511- 514.

V. Mehta, (1992) 'The Pragmatic Vision: Kautilya and His Successor', in *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 88- 109.

R. Kangle, (1997) *Arthashastra of Kautilya-Part-III: A Study*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, rpt., pp. 116- 142.

VI. Barani: Ideal Polity

Essential Reading:

I. Habib, (1998) 'Ziya Barni's Vision of the State', in *The Medieval History Journal*, Vol. 2, (1), pp. 19- 36.

VII. Abul Fazal: Monarchy

Essential Readings:

A. Fazl, (1873) *The Ain-i Akbari* (translated by H. Blochmann), Calcutta: G. H. Rouse, pp. 47- 57.

V. Mehta, (1992) 'The Imperial Vision: Barni and Fazal', in *Foundations of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 134- 156.

VIII. Kabir: Syncreticism

Essential Readings:

Kabir. (2002) *The Bijak of Kabir*, (translated by L. Hess and S. Singh), Delhi: Oxford University Press, No. 30, 97, pp. 50- 51 & 69- 70.

V. Mehta, (1992) *Foundation of Indian Political Thought*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 157- 183.

■ **Additional Readings, E-references given to the students :**

1. Fernando Tola and Carmen Dragonetti (*Institute of Buddhist Studies Foundation, FIEB/ CONICET/Argentina*) Brahmanism And Buddhism: Two Antithetic Conceptions of Society in Ancient India.
2. State And Society in ancient India (Only Read Half of The Text)
3. Dharmasastra and Modern Indian Society (Only Half of The Text to Be Used)
4. Jeffery D. Long. Hindu Relations with the Religious Other
5. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCoXRYh\\_r3g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCoXRYh_r3g)
6. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsPfltYHS-0>
7. Sraman Tradition: Its History and Contribution to Indian Culture ( G. pandey,1978)
8. 'Some Reflections on the Hindu Tradition of Political Thought' ( B. Parekh, 1986 )

#### ■ Additional books:-

Pratap Kumar- Bhartiya rannitik chintan

V R Mehta- Bhartiya rannitik chintan ka adhar

Kiran Tandon- Prachin Bhartiya rajanitik chintan

SC sinhal- Prachin bhartiya rannitik chintan

Ruchi Tyagi- Bhartiya rannitik chintan

#### ■ Reading provided on google classroom

#### **Methodology of Teaching:**

1. Close readings of Texts/articles
2. Movie screening related to the topic
3. Debate and presentation
4. Surprise tests
5. Discussion based participatory teaching
6. **Online extra classes**

## **ASSESSMENT**

### **Tentative date of assessments/ assignments (time frame):**

One month teaching followed by assignment, test and presentation in the interval of every 20 days. For each assignment, test and presentation 10 days are given to the students for preparation. Final result will be submitted at the end of the semester.

### **Criteria of Assessment:**

Following criteria are used for assessment:

- (1) Conceptual clarity
  - (2) Quality of presentation or writing
  - (3) Participation in the classroom.
  - (4) Attendance in the classroom**
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**Shyama Prasad Mukherji College**  
**Teaching Plan**  
**(2021-22)**

**Course and Year: GE, Political Science, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year**

**Semester: 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Taught individually or shared: Individually**

**Paper: Understanding Ambedkar**

**Faculty:**

**Dr. Namita Kumari**

**No. of Classes (per week): 5**

**Tutorial - 2**

**Teaching Plan**

This course is broadly intended to introduce Ambedkar's ideas and their relevance in contemporary India, by looking beyond caste. Ambedkar's philosophical contributions towards Indian economy and class question, sociological interpretations on religion, gender, caste and cultural issues; ideas on politics such as concepts of nation, state, democracy, law and constitutionalism are to be pedagogically interrogated and interpreted. This will help students to critically engage themselves with the existing social concerns, state and economic structures and other institutional mechanisms. This also will facilitate them to strengthen their creative thinking with a collective approach to understand ongoing social, political, cultural and economic phenomena of the society.

**Name of the Unit:**

**I. Introducing Ambedkar (1 week)**

- a. Approach to Study Polity, History, Economy, Religion and Society

**II. Caste and Religion (3 weeks)**

- a. Caste, Untouchability and Critique of Hindu Social Order
- b. Religion and Conversion

**III. Women's Question (2 weeks)**

- a. Rise and Fall of Hindu Women
- b. Hindu Code Bill

**IV. Political Vision (2 weeks)**

- a. Nation and Nationalism
- b. Democracy and Citizenship

**V. Constitutionalism (2 weeks)**

- a. Rights and Representations
- b. Constitution as an Instrument of Social Transformation

**VI. Economy and Class Question (2 weeks)**

- a. Planning and Development

b. Land and Labor

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**Readings (in APA format)****Readings prescribed in the syllabus for each unit****Unit I: Introducing Ambedkar****Essential Readings:**

Omvedt, G. (2008) 'Phule-Remembering The Kingdom of Bali', Seeking Begumpura Navyana, pp. 159-184. 77

Gore, M. S. (1993) The Social Context of an Ideology: Ambedkar's Political and Social Thought, Delhi: Sage Publication, pp. 73-122 ; 196-225.

Ambedkar, B. R. (1989) 'Annihilation of Caste with a Reply to Mahatma Gandhi', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches: Vol. 1, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 23-96.

**Additional Readings:**

Zelliot, E. (1996) 'From Untouchable to Dalit: Essays on the Ambedkar Movement', in The Leadership of Babasaheb Ambedkar, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 53-78.

Omvedt, G. Liberty Equality and Community: Dr. Ambedkar's Vision of New Social Order, Available at <http://www.ambedkar.org/research/LibertyEquality.htm>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.

I.

**Readings, e- references to be given to students but not prescribed in syllabus (if any) for each unit**

[www.Ambedkar.org](http://www.Ambedkar.org)

[www.veliwada.com](http://www.veliwada.com)

**Unit II: Caste and Religion****Essential Readings:**

Ambedkar, B. R. (1987). The Untouchables Who were they and why they become Untouchables?, accessed from <http://www.ambedkar.org/ambcd/>

39A.Untouchables%20who%20were%20they\_why%20they%20became%20PART%20I.htm, Accessed: 18.04.2013.

Ambedkar, B. R. (1989) 'The Hindu Social Order: Its Essential Principles', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches: Vol. 3, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, pp. 95-129.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'What way Emancipation?', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp-175-201.

**Additional Readings:**

Ambedkar, B. R. (1987) 'Philosophy of Hinduism', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 3, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp-3-92.

Zelliot, E. (2013) 'Ambedkar's World: The Making of Babasaheb and the Dalit Movement', in The Religious Conversion Movement-1935-1956, Delhi, pp. 143-173.

**Readings, e- references to be given to students but not prescribed in syllabus (if any) for each unit**

[www.Ambedkar.org](http://www.Ambedkar.org)

[www.veliwada.com](http://www.veliwada.com)

### **Unit III: Women's Question**

#### **Essential Readings:**

Rege, S. (2013) 'Against the Madness of Manu', in B. R. Ambedkar's Writings on Brahmanical Patriarchy, Navyana Publication, pp. 13-59 ; 191-232.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'The Rise and Fall of Hindu Woman: Who was Responsible for It?', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches Vol. 17- II, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 109-129.

#### **Additional Readings:**

Ambedkar, B. R. (1987) 'The Women and the Counter-Revolution', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 3, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 427-437.

Ramabai, P. (2013), The High Caste Hindu Woman, Critical Quest, Delhi.

**Readings, e- references to be given to students but not prescribed in syllabus (if any) for each unit**

[www.Ambedkar.org](http://www.Ambedkar.org)

[www.veliwada.com](http://www.veliwada.com)

### **Unit IV: Political Vision**

#### **Essential Readings:**

B. Ambedkar, (1991) 'What Gandhi and Congress have done to the Untouchables', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Education Deptt, Government of Maharashtra, Vol.9, pp. 40-102; 181-198; 274-297.

B. Ambedkar, (2003) 'Conditions Precedent for the successful working of Democracy', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 472-486.

G. Aloysius, (2009). Ambedkar on Nation and Nationalism, Critical Quest, Delhi. B. R. Ambedkar, (2003), 'I have no Homeland', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches Vol- 17, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp-51-58.

**Additional Readings:**

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003), 'Role of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Bringing The Untouchables on the Political Horizon of India and Laying A Foundation of Indian Democracy', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-I, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp-63-178.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'Buddhism paved way for Democracy and Socialistic Pattern of Society', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 406-409.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'Failure of Parliamentary Democracy will Result in Rebellion, Anarchy and Communism', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 423-437.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'Prospects of Democracy in India', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 519-523.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'People cemented by feeling of one country, One Constitution and One Destiny, Take the Risk of Being Independent', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 13-59.

**Readings, e- references to be given to students but not prescribed in syllabus (if any) for each unit**

[www.Ambedkar.org](http://www.Ambedkar.org)

[www.veliwada.com](http://www.veliwada.com)

**Unit V: Constitutionalism**

**Essential Readings:** Ambedkar, Evidence before South Borough committee on Franchise, Available at <http://www.ambedkar.org/ambcd/07.%20Evidence%20before%20the%20Southborough%20Committee.htm>, Accessed: 19.04.2013. 79

Constituent Assembly Debates, (1948) Ambedkar's speech on Draft Constitution on 4th November 1948, CAD Vol. VII, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Government of India, 3rd Print, pp. 31-41. B.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2013), States and Minorities, Delhi: Critical Quest.

**Additional Readings:**



Gajendran, A (2007) 'Representation', in S. Thorat and Aryama (eds.), Ambedkar in Retrospect: Essays on Economics, Politics and Society, Delhi: Rawat Publishers, pp. 184-194.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003), 'Depressed Classes against Second Chamber: Dr. Ambedkar on Joint Parliamentary Committee Report Provision for Better Representation Demanded', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-I, Education Deptt, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 231-243.

#### Unit VI: Economy and Class Question

##### **Essential Readings:**

Ambedkar, B. R. (1987) 'Buddha or Karl Marx', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 3, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp-442-462.

Thorat, S. (2007) 'Economic System, Development and Economic Planning', in S. Thorat and Aryama (eds), Ambedkar in Retrospect: Essays on Economics, Politics and Society, Delhi: Rawat Publishers, pp. 25-48.

Ambedkar, B. R. (1991) 'Labor and Parliamentary Democracy and Welfare', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 10, Education Deptt., Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 106-112; 139-143; 243-252.

Mungekar, B. (2007) 'Labour Policy' in S. Thorat and Aryama (eds), Ambedkar in Retrospect: Essays on Economics, Politics and Society, Delhi: Rawat Publishers, pp. 76-92.

##### **Additional Readings:**

Ram, R. (2010) 'Dr. Ambedkar, Neo Liberal Market-Economy and Social Democracy in India', in Human Rights Global Focus, Vol. V (384), pp. 12-38, Available at [www.roundtableindia.co.in](http://www.roundtableindia.co.in), Accessed: 19.04.2013.

Ambedkar, B. R. (2003) 'Trade Union must Enter Politics to Protect their Interests', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 17-III, Education Deptt, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp.174-192.

Ambedkar, B. R. (1991) 'Why Indian Labour determined to War', in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches, Vol. 10, Education Deptt, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai, pp. 36-43.

Teltumbde, A. and Sen, S. (eds), 'Caste Question in India', in Scripting the Change, Selected Writings of Anuradha Ghandi, pp. 62- 91. 80

**Readings, e- references to be given to students but not prescribed in syllabus (if any) for each unit**

[www.Ambedkar.org](http://www.Ambedkar.org)

**Additional books on Understanding  
Ambedkar- English and Hindi**

1. Lajpat Rai- Understanding Ambedkar
2. Aaron shoury- worshipping God
3. Dhannjay keer- Life and Philosophy of Ambedkar
4. Raghu Thakur: Ambedkar and Ghandhi
5. Balachandra Mungeskar- Understanding Ambedkar
6. HD sharma- Understanding Ambedkar

Hindi Medium:

7. Gail Omvet- Ambedkar
8. Dhananjay keer- Jiwan charitra : Ambedkar
9. Pankaj kishor- Ambedkar
10. ML share & Nalini anil- Ambedkar ka sangharsh

■ Topic wise Reading available on Google classroom

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**No of classes required to complete the unit (approx.):**

I. Introducing Ambedkar (5 classes)

- a. Approach to Study Polity, History, Economy, Religion and Society

II. Caste and Religion (15 classes)

- a. Caste, Untouchability and Critique of Hindu Social Order
- b. Religion and Conversion

III. Women's Question (10 classes)

- a. Rise and Fall of Hindu Women
- b. Hindu Code Bill

IV. Political Vision (10 classes)

- a. Nation and Nationalism
- b. Democracy and Citizenship

V. Constitutionalism (10 classes)

- a. Rights and Representations
- b. Constitution as an Instrument of Social Transformation

## VI. Economy and Class Question (10 classes)

- a. Planning and Development
- b. Land and Labor

### **Methodology of Teaching**

1. Close readings of Texts/articles
2. Movie screening related to the topic
3. Debate and presentation
4. Use of power point, and projector
5. Discussion based participatory teaching
1. Discussion on the Indian political thought and the renaissance period and how Ambedkar stands in the political discourse of the world in general and in India in particular.
2. Students are assigned one individual topics to prepare brief assignment in their own languages and present in the class.
3. Translation of English readings whose Hindi version is not available is also encouraged and mentored.
4. Students are provided with additional readings and question answer sessions to discuss conceptual and factual knowledge.
5. Film screening on the ideas pertaining to Ambedkar's thought is also forms the part of teaching this course.
6. Classroom examination is also held to examine and monitor and emphasise on the learning and reflective mode of the students.

### **Criteria of Assessment:**

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### **ASSESSMENT**

#### **Tentative date of assessments/ assignments (time frame):**

One month teaching followed by assignment, test and presentation in the interval of every 20 days. For each assignment, test and presentation 10 days are given to the students for preparation. Final results are submitted at the end of the semester.

### **Criteria of Assessment:**

Following criteria are used for assessment:

- (1) conceptual clarity
- (2) language skill to present the work

- (3) form of presentation or writing
- (4) Participation in the classroom.
- (5) Attendance in the classroom**