

Shyama Prasad Mukherji College
Teaching Plan (August 2022- December 2022)

Course and Year: B.A. (H) Philosophy and 2nd year

Semester: III

Taught individually or shared: Individually

Paper: Social & Political Philosophy (Indian and Western)

Faculty: Chetna Gupta

No. of Classes (per week): 5 Lectures + 2 Tutorials

Learning Outcome: This paper aims at studying different range of social and political thinkers' theories and concepts. It would provide a broad survey of fundamental, social and political questions in current context discussing philosophical issues central to political and social thoughts. So that students can become a better citizens by understanding the notion of democracy.

Course objectives:

- This course is offered in B.A. (Hons.) Philosophy. This course aims at studying different range of social and political thinkers, theories and concepts.
- It would provide a broad survey of fundamental, social and political questions in current context discussing philosophical issues central to political and social thoughts.

Programme objectives:

- It inculcates strong curiosity about philosophy. It develops the understanding of definitions, key concepts, and principles of various theories of philosophers and develops comparing and contrasting techniques regarding the various theories.
- It enables learners/students to apply the knowledge and skills acquired by them to solve specific theoretical and applied problems in philosophy, especially ethical and bio ethical fields.
- It develops in students the ability to apply critical thinking tools developed in philosophical theorising to handle issues and problems. It enables students to think logically and critically and analytically.

UNIT-I: (26th August- 26th September)

- **Understanding Political Philosophy**

Readings:

- a) Bhargava, Rajeev. "What is Political Theory", What is Political Theory and Why do we need it?. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010.
- b) Kumar, Sunalini. Political Theory and Introduction, Bhargava, Rajeev & Acharya, Ashok. (eds). Socialism. Pearson, India, 2012.
- c) Immanuel Kant. "On Enlightenment". (Towards Perpetual Peace and Other Writings, Yale, 2006).
- d) Locke, John. The Second Treatise on Civil Governance, "On Liberty" 1690.
- e) Rawls, John. "Fundamental Ideas" in justice as fairness, 1971.
- f) Berlin, I. "Two Concepts of Liberty" in Four Essays on Liberty, Oxford University Press.

Additional References

- a) Strauss, L. (1959). *What is Political Philosophy?* The University of Chicago Press.
- b) Raphael, D.D. (1990). *Problems of Political Philosophy*. Macmillan Press.
- c) Wolff, J. (2006). *An Introduction to Political Philosophy*. Oxford University Press.

No of classes required to complete the unit (approx.): 22

UNIT-II: (27th September-15th October)

- **Communitarianism, Multiculturalism and Minority Rights**

Readings:

- a) Taylor, Charles. Multiculturalism: Examining the politics of recognition. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.
- b) Kymlica, Will. *Multicultural Citizenship*, Justice and Minority Rights: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights. pg-107-120, Oxford Clarendon Press, 2004.

Additional Reference

- a) Kymlica, W. (2002). *Contemporary Political Philosophy*. Oxford University Press.

No of classes required to complete the unit (approx.): 14

UNIT-III: (16th October-16th November)

- **Contemporary Indian Thinker**

Readings:

- a) Tagore, R. "Nationalism in the west ", Nationalism. New Delhi: Rupa &co, New Delhi, 2005.
- b) Gandhi, M. K. "Critique of Modern Civilization, (Hind Swaraj), Ch- 6-13th, Parel A. (eds). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- c) Roy, M.N. "New Political Philosophy" In Radical Humanist: Selected Writings Kolkata, Premetheus.
- d) Rodrigue, Valerian (ed). 'Democracy', 'The Caste, Class and Democracy, The Essential Writing of Dr.B.R Ambedkar', OUP, 2013, pp.60-64, pp. 132-148.

No of classes required to complete the unit (approx.): 20

UNIT-IV: (17th November- 10th December)

- **Ideological Underpinning of Contemporary Indian Social and Political Movement- Marxist, Feminist, Dalit and Ecological movement.**

Readings:

- a) Rege, Sharmila. 'A Dalit Feminist Point of view', Journal 471, Nov. 1998, pp. 47-52.
- b) Omvedt, Gail. "Ambedkarism: The Theory of Dalit Liberation". Dalit and democratic revolution, Sage: pg. 223-259.
- c) Menon, Nivedita. "Political Theory An Introduction", Gender. Bhargava, Rajeev & Acharya, Ashok.(eds). New Delhi: Pearson, New Delhi, 2012.

Additional Reference

- a) Mies, M & Shiva, V. (1993). *Ecofeminism*. Zed books Ltd.

No of classes required to complete the unit (approx.): 17

Note: Revision of classes: 2

Teaching Learning Process/Methodology of Teaching:

- a) Lecture method and group discussion to be followed.
- b) Study material related to all units is shared on Class What's app group.

- c) All information related to assignments, test or viva-voce presentation is shared on What's app group.
- d) Value related a mechanism in my teaching apart from university syllabus is that I put my efforts to clarify the concepts by giving notes. I also translate material in Hindi for Hindi medium students.
- e) Questions and problems to be solved in tutorials.

Mode of Evaluation/ Criteria of Assessment:

Two tests and two assignments will be taken. Their marks will be discussed in the tutorials. Suggestion will be given to improve the tests and assignment marks, so that they can write better assignment and score well in test.

Tentative date of assessments/ assignments (time frame):

First Assignment on Unit-1 sub-topic: 6th September

First Test on Unit-2 sub-topic: 20th September

Second Assignment on Unit-3 sub-topic: 28th October

Second Test on Unit-4 sub-topic: 18th November