

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
26PL007	WESTERN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	4

### Course Objectives

- To understand major ideas, thinkers, and traditions in Western political thought.
- To examine key political concepts such as justice, liberty, equality, rights, and democracy.
- To analyze the evolution of political ideas and their influence on political systems.
- To develop critical and interpretative skills in relating political theory to contemporary issues.

### Learning Outcomes

#### After the completion of the course, the graduate will be able to

- Recall fundamental information on western political philosophers.
- Demonstrate and explain on main ideas and concepts in western political philosophy.
- Analyse and apply the current political issues through the lens of a particular philosopher's ideas.
- Compare and contrast the theories and examine the influence and evaluation on modern political systems.
- Evaluate the relevance and impact of theories in contemporary society.
- Formulate and propose new interpretation or critique of a major philosophical work.

#### Unit I: Classical Greek Political Thoughts (12 Hrs)

Nature and scope of political philosophy; Plato: Ideal state, Justice, and philosopher king; Aristotle: State, forms of government, justice, and citizenship

#### Unit II: Modern philosophers (12 Hrs)

St. Augustine: Two cities (city of God vs city of man); Niccolo Machiavelli: Power, statecraft, The Prince

#### Unit III: Social Contract Theorists (12 Hrs)

Thomas Hobbes: State of Nature, Absolute sovereignty; John Locke: Natural rights, limited government; Rousseau: General will, Popular sovereignty

#### Unit IV: Liberal and Utilitarian Thought (12 Hrs)

Jeremy Bentham: Utilitarian principles, hedonism; John Stuart Mill: Liberty, Harm principle, Individual freedom

#### Unit V: Marxism and Contemporary Thought (12 Hrs)

Karl Marx: dialectical materialism, historical materialism, class and class struggle; John Rawls: Theory of Justice, Veil of Ignorance

### Essential Readings:

1. Skoble and T. Machan (2007). *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education.
2. Macpherson (1962) *The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke*. Oxford University Press, Ontario
3. Boucher and P. Kelly (eds.) 2009. *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
4. George Klosko (ed.) 2011. *The Oxford Handbook of the history of Political Philosophy*. New York: Oxford University Press.
5. E Barker (1906), *The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle*, New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; London: Methuen
6. G Sabine and T Thorson (1973), *The Context of Political Theory*, in *A History of Political Theory* (4th edition), Oxford.
7. J. Coleman, (2000) 'Introduction', in *A History of Political Thought: From Ancient Greece to Early Christianity*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers
8. S.K. Sharma and Urmila Sharma 2006. *Western Political Thought: From Plato to Burke*. New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers.
9. Subrata Mukherjee and Sushila Ramaswamy 2011. *A History of Political Thought: Plato to Marx*. New Delhi: PHI Learning Private ltd.
10. Shlomo Avineri, 1968, *The New Society*, in *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*, Cambridge University Press

11. Skinner, Quentin. (2000) *'The Adviser to Princes'*, in *Machiavelli: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press
12. Tudor Jones (2002), *Modern Political Thinkers and Ideas*, Routledge, London and New York

<b>COs and Bloom's Taxonomy Level (BTL) Mapping- 26PL007</b>		
<b>Course Outcomes</b>	<b>On completing U.G. program in Political Science the students will be able to</b>	<b>BTL</b>
<b>CO1</b>	Recall fundamental information about western political philosophy and demonstrate comprehension of the main tenets or ideas of political philosophers.	K1, K2
<b>CO2</b>	Use the information in new situations or analyse the current political issues to predict and apply based on the current political environment on institutions, social and economic spheres through the lens of a particular philosopher's ideas.	K3
<b>CO3</b>	Break down the arguments and structures of western political philosophers and to examine the influence on modern political systems.	K4
<b>CO4</b>	Justify a stand or evaluate the effectiveness and implications of theories on its relevance in contemporary society.	K5
<b>CO5</b>	Formulate new ideas or theories to propose and develop interpretation of a major philosophical work that addresses modern issues based on western political philosophy.	K6

**BTL K1 and K2 – Remembering and Understanding, K3- Applying, K4 – Analyse, K5- Evaluate and K6- Create**

<b>Relationship Matrix- 26PL007</b>													
<b>Course Outcomes</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes (POs)</b>						<b>Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs)</b>						<b>Mean Score of COs</b>
	<b>PO1</b>	<b>PO2</b>	<b>PO3</b>	<b>PO4</b>	<b>PO5</b>	<b>PO6</b>	<b>PSO1</b>	<b>PSO2</b>	<b>PSO3</b>	<b>PSO4</b>	<b>PSO5</b>	<b>PSO6</b>	
<b>CO1</b>	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1.5
<b>CO2</b>	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	2	2.1
<b>CO3</b>	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	2	2.1
<b>CO4</b>	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	3	2	2.2
<b>CO5</b>	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2.3
	<b>Total</b>												<b>2.04</b>

**Mean Score: 3- High, 2- Medium/Moderate, 1-Low**