

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
26PL513	DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA	04

Course Objectives

- To understand the concept and significance of human rights in governance and development.
- To examine the role of the state in the promotion and protection of human rights.
- To analyse issues of state violence, law, order, and necessity in democratic societies.
- To evaluate the relationship between democracy, state power, and human rights.

Learning Outcomes

After the completion of course, the students will be able to

- Explain the concept and universality of human rights and critically assess its major critiques.
- Analyze the relationship between democracy, rule of law, and human rights protection.
- Develop critical awareness of human rights theories, laws, and practices.
- Apply constitutional and international frameworks to analyze real-world human rights issues.
- Engage in informed debates on democracy, state power, and rights violations.
- Demonstrate analytical and reflective skills through case studies, reports, and documentary analysis.

Unit I: Understanding Human Rights (10 hrs)

Universality of Human Rights and its Critique; Locating Human Rights within the Constitution of India: Fundamental Rights and Duties, Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019

Unit II: International and National Covenants and Frameworks on Human Rights (12 hrs)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948; India's obligations to International Human Rights and Covenants

Unit III: Democracy and Human Rights Violations in India (13 hrs)

Concept of State Violence; Relationship between Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights; Exceptional Laws and State Violence in India: An analysis of the AFSPA, 1958

Unit IV: Human Rights Issues and Challenges in Indian Democracy (12 hrs)

Minority Rights and Issues of Minorities within Minorities; Women's Rights and Gender-based Violence; Contemporary Issues and Challenges to Human Rights in India

Unit V: Human Rights Enforcement Agencies in India (13 hrs)

NHRC, NCW, NCM, NPMHR; Analysis of the annual Indian Human Rights Report

Suggested Readings:

1. Alison Dundes Renteln, "The Concept of Human Rights", *Anthropos*, Bd. 83, H. 4./6. (1988), pp. 343-364
2. Banerjee, Prathama "State (and) Violence" *Seminar* 691 – March 2017, pp.26-30
3. Baxi, Upendra. "From Human Rights to the Right to be Human: Some Heresies". *India International Quarterly*, Vol. 13, No.3/4, The Right to be Human (December 1986) pp. 185-200.
4. Baxi, Upendra. "Sense and Sensibility", *Seminar*, Accessed from: <https://www.india-seminar.com/2002/511/511%20upendra%20baxi.htm>
5. Benjamin, Walter. "Critique of Violence", in *Reflections: Essays, Aphorisms, Autobiographical Writings*, Schocken Books, New York, 1978. pp. 277-300.
6. *Minority Rights: International Standards and Guidance for Implementation*, United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commission. United Nations, New York and Geneva, 2010.
7. Sambuddha Ghatak and E. Ike Udogu. "Human Rights Issues of Minorities in Contemporary India: A concise Analysis." *Journal of Third World Studies*, Vol. 29, No. 1, Global Change, Shifting Dynamics, And the Third World (SPRING, 2012), University Press of Florida, pp. 203-230.
8. Scott, David. "State Violence", in Sharon Morley (et.al). *Companion to State Power, Liberties and Rights*, Policy Press. June 2016.
9. Tomba, Massimiliano. Justice and Divine Violence: Walter Benjamin and the Time of Anticipation, Accessed from <https://escholarship.org/content/qt2hm8c3w0/qt2hm8c3w0.pdf>
10. Ursula A. O'Hare "Realizing Human Rights for Women", *Human Rights Quarterly*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (May, 1999), The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 364-402

11. Victoria Moraes, "What's Wrong with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?", August 10, 2020. Accessed from: <https://impakter.com/whats-wrong-with-the-universal-declaration-of-human-rights-udhr/>
12. Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958. Accessed from: https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/armed_forces_special_powers_act1958.pdf
13. The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019, Accessed from <https://nhrc.nic.in/acts-and-rules/protection-human-rights-amendment-act-2019>
14. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, accessed from https://www.ohchr.org/en/udhr/documents/udhr_translations/eng.pdf

COs and Bloom's Taxonomy Level (BTL) Mapping – 26PL513		
Course Outcomes	On completing P.G. program in Political Science the students will be able to	BTL
CO1	Recall the foundational principles of human rights, including their historical evolution and significance in the governance and administration of a democratic state like India	K1
CO2	Understand the complex relationship between democracy and human rights	K2
CO3	Apply theoretical frameworks and legal instruments related to human rights to analyze real-world scenarios	K3
CO4	Analyze instances of state violence and human rights violations in India	K4
CO5	Evaluate the role and responsibilities of a democratic state in safeguarding human rights, considering the ethical and legal implications of state actions and policies that impact the rights and dignity of individuals and communities	K5, K6

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

Relationship Matrix – 22PL513													
Course Outcomes	Programme Outcomes (POs)						Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs)						Mean Score of COs
	PO1	PO2	PO3	PO4	PO5	PO6	PSO1	PSO2	PSO3	PSO4	PSO5	PSO6	
CO1	3	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2.08
CO2	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2.58
CO3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2.75
CO4	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	2	2	3	2	2.41
CO5	3	3	3	2	1	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2.41
												Total	2.44

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

