

Course Code	Course Name	Credit
26PL515	THEMES IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	4

Course Objectives

- To understand the nature and evolution of political philosophy.
- To examine major political thinkers, traditions, and philosophical approaches.
- To develop critical, analytical, and interpretive skills in political thought.
- To relate classical political ideas to contemporary issues such as democracy, inequality, gender justice, and power relations.

Learning Outcomes

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

- Understand foundational concepts of political philosophy and its relevance.
- Critically analyze key political thinkers in relation to their historical and intellectual contexts.
- Evaluate competing theories of democracy.
- Apply theoretical concepts to real- world political issues.
- Develop critical thinking and argumentation skills through engagement with philosophical texts and debates.

Unit I: Introduction to Political Philosophy (10 hrs)

Normative and empirical approaches; Contemporary relevance of political philosophy

Unit II: Romantics (13 hrs)

Jean Jacques Rousseau: Critique of modern civilization; origins of inequality; state of nature and contract; general will; Mary Wollstonecraft: Women and paternalism; sentiment and reason; legal rights and representation.

Unit III: Modernity and its Discourses (12 hrs)

Kant as an Enlightenment thinker; faith on reason; ethics and politics; Michel Foucault: Discourse, Power and Knowledge

Unit IV: Democracy (13 hrs)

David Held: Models of Democracy; Gutmann and Thompson: Deliberative democracy

Unit V: Radicals (12 hrs)

Hegel: family, civil society and state; Karl Marx: Historical materialism; concept of value

Required Readings

1. Skoble, and T. Machan (2007) Political Philosophy: Essential Selections, New Delhi: Pearson Education.

Romantics

1. M.Keens-Sooper (2003) 'Jean Jacques Rousseau: The Social Contract', in M. Forsyth and M. Keens-Soper (eds) A Guide to the Political Classics: Plato to Rousseau. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 171-202.
2. C. Jone (2022) 'Mary Wollstonecraft's Vindications and their Political Tradition' in C. Johnson (ed) The Cambridge Companion to Mary Wollstonecraft, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 42-58.

Modernity and its Discourses

1. Gordin, Colin (1980), 'Michel Foucault: Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews and other Writings, 1972- 1977, Panthen Books.
2. Kant. (1784) 'What is Enlightenment?' available at <http://theliterarylink.com/kant.html>, Accessed: 19.04.2013
3. Gutting, Gary (2005), 'Foucault: A Very Short Introduction', Oxford University Press
4. Rabinow, Paul (1984) (eds), The Foucault Reader, Vintage Press.
5. Foucault, Michel (2020 Paperback), The History of Sexuality, Volume 1, Penguin Classics, United Kingdom.

Democracy

1. Gutmann Amy, Why Deliberative Democracy, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 2004.
2. Held David, Models of Democracy, 3rd ed., Polity, London, 2006.

- Keenan A., Introduction, Democracy in Question, 2003.

Radical

- Hegel's Philosophy of Right, <https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/works/pr/philosophy-of-right.pdf>
- J. Cropsey (1987) 'Karl Marx, in L. Strauss and J. Cropsey (eds) History of Political Philosophy, 2nd edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press, pp. 802-828.
- L. Wilde (2003) 'Early Marx' in D. Boucher and P. Khelly (eds) Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 404- 435.

COs and Bloom's Taxonomy Level (BTL) Mapping- 26PL515		
Course Outcomes	On completing P.G. program in Political Science the students will be able to	BTL
CO1	Explain and differentiate normative and empirical approaches and evaluate its relevance.	K1, K2, K4
CO2	Analyze and evaluate the political ideas of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Mary Wollstonecraft on inequality, gender, and modern civilization.	K4, K5
CO3	Interpret and critically assess the contributions of Immanuel Kant and Michel Foucault concerning reason, ethics, discourse, and power-knowledge relations.	K4, K5
CO4	Evaluate models of democracy proposed by David Held, Amy Gutmann, and Dennis Thompson, and apply deliberative democratic principles to contemporary issues.	K3, K5
CO5	Critically examine the radical theories of G. W. F. Hegel and Karl Marx, and develop reasoned arguments relating these ideas to current socio-economic realities.	K4, K5, K6

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

Relationship Matrix- 26PL515													
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	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	1	1.6
CO2	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	3	2	1	3	1	2.0
CO3	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	2	1	3	2	2.3
CO4	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	2	1	3	2	2.3
CO5	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	2	1	3	2	2.3
												Total	2.1

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