

**B. A. Political Science**  
**Level 5 (First Semester)**  
**Basic Concepts of Political Theory**

**Discipline Centric Core Course Code: POL5001T**

**Contact hours per week: 6**

**Course Credits: 6**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Examination Duration: 3 hours**

**Internal: 20 External: 80**

**Course Objective:**

This course helps the student familiarize with the basic concepts of political theory. Each concept is related to a crucial political issue that requires analysis with the aid of our conceptual understanding. This exercise is designed to encourage critical and reflective analysis and interpretation of social practices through the relevant conceptual toolkit. This also introduces the students to the important debates in the subject.

**Course Outcome:**

At the end of the course, students should be able to have clear understanding of normative concepts of political theory. They should also be able to develop critical thinking and understand the important debates in the subject.

**Course Contents:**

- Unit 1 Meaning, nature and Scope of Political Theory
- Unit 2 State – Its nature, The organic theory of the state, Functions of the State, The concept of Welfare State
- Unit 3 The concept of Sovereignty, it's essential elements and types; Austine's theory of Sovereignty
- Unit 4 Basic Concepts – Power, Authority, Political Culture
- Unit 5 The Concept of Democracy – Its meaning, merits and demerits ; Montesquieu's theory of Separation of Powers

**राजनीति सिद्धान्त की मूल अवधारणा**

- इकाई 1 राजनीति सिद्धान्त का अर्थ, प्रकृति और क्षेत्र
- इकाई 2 राज्य : उसकी प्रकृति, राज्य का आंगिक सिद्धान्त; राज्य के कार्य; लोक कल्याणकारी राज्य की अवधारणा
- इकाई 3 सम्प्रभुता की अवधारणा : इसके आवश्यक तत्व व प्रकार; ऑस्टिन का संप्रभुता सिद्धान्त
- इकाई 4 आधारभूत अवधारणाएँ : शक्ति, सत्ता, राजनीतिक संस्कृति
- इकाई 5 लोकतंत्र की अवधारणा : अर्थ, गुण एवं दोष ; मॉण्टेस्क्यू का शक्ति पृथक्करण सिद्धान्त

**Recommended Readings**

- 1 Sir, E.Barker, Principles of Social and Political Theory, Calcutta, Oxford University Press, 1976.
- 2 N.P.Barry, Introduction to Modern Political Theory, London, Macmillian, 1995.
- 3 M.Carnoy, The State and Political Theory, Princeton NJ, Princeton University Press, 1984.
- 4 G.Catlin, A Study of the Principles of Politics, London and New York, Oxford University Press, 1930.
- 5 R.Dhal, Modern Political Analysis, Englewood Cliffs NJ, Prentice Hall, 1963.
- 6 D.Germino, Beyond Ideology : The Revival of Political Theory, New York, Harper and Row, 1967.
- 7 D.Held, Models of Democracy, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1987.
- 8 D.Held, Political theory and the Modern State, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1989.
- 9 D.Held, Political Theory Today, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1991.
- 10 C.B.Macpherson, Democratic Theory : Essays in Retrieval, Oxford, The Clarendon Press, 1977.
- 11 D.Miller, Social Justice, Oxford, The Clarendon Press, 1976.

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