PSE 460: POLITICS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA (OE)

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce to the students the salient features of Indian politics

2. To enable students to recognise the nature and trends in Indian politics

3. To enable students to comprehend the domestic and external settings of the operation of Indian politics

4. To enable students to identify and reflect on the major issues confronting Indian politics

Course Outcomes:

The course will equip students to –

1. Develop a critical perspective on Indian politics

2. Conceptually grasp the institutional dynamics and political processes in contemporary India

3. Have a competence to make informed choices and active participation in Indian politics

4. To locate the internal and external factors determining the Indian politics.

UNIT 1:   **Framework**

    1.1   Nationalist Movement India

    1.2   Legacies and influences on the Indian Constitution

    1.3   Making of the Indian Constitution – Significance of Constituent Assembly Debates

    1.4   Indian Constitution – Features and Philosophical Foundations

UNIT 2:   **Indian Constitution**

    2.1   Parliamentary Democracy in India

    2.2   Fundamental Rights, Duties and Directive principles

    2.3   Centre- State relations

    2.4   Amendment procedure and major amendments

UNIT 3:   **Politics in India**

    3.1   Identity Politics – Caste, Class, Gender, Religion, Region, Language, Culture

    3.2   Socio- Economic balancing- Inequality and Affirmative action; Debate on reservation

    3.3   Major debates in Indian Politics – Democracy, Secularism, Development

    3.4   Party system in India; Anti-defection law; Judicial activism and PLI

UNIT 4:   **India's engagement with the world**

    4.1   India's Foreign Policy – Legacies and Underlying principles

    4.2   Indian Foreign Policy – Non-Alignment to pragmatism

    4.3   India and its neighbours

    4.4   India's approach towards global issues – Nuclear, Terrorism, WTO

Basic Readings:

1. Austin G., *Working in a Democratic Constitution; The Indian Experience*, Delhi: OUP, 1999.

2. Basu, Durga Das, *Introduction to the Constitution of India,* Nagpur: Lexis Nexis Butterworths Wadhwa, 2013.

3. Chatterjee, Partha., (ed.) *State and Politics in India*, New Delhi: OUP, 1998.

4. Khilnani, S., *The Idea of India;* London: Hamish Hamilton, 1997.

5. Kohli, Atul, ed., *The Success of India's Democracy*, Cambridge: CUP, 2001.

6. Paul, Brass R., *Routledge Handbook of South Asian Politics, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal,* New York: Routledge, 2010.

7. Sathyamurthy, T.V., *Social Change and Political Discourse in India : Structures of Power, Movements of Resistence, Vol. 4,* Oxford: OUP, 1996.

8. Weiner, M., *The Indian Paradox: Essays in Indian Politics*, New Delhi: Sage, 1999.

Suggested Readings:

1. Austin, G., *The Indian Constitution: The Corner stone of a Nation*, Oxford: OUP, 1966.

2. Chaube, S.K., *Constituent Assembly of India : Springboard of Revolution,* New Delhi: PPH, 1973.

3. Cobridge, S., and Hariss, J., *Reinventing India : Liberalization, Hindu Nationalism and Popular Democracy*, Delhi: OUP, 2001.

4. Chatterjee, Partha.,*Nation and its Fragments*, New Delhi: OUP, 1997.

5. Frankel, F.R., and Rao, M.S.A., eds., *Dominance and State Power in Modern India : Doctrine of a Social Order,* Delhi: OUP, 1989.

6. Frankel, F.R., and et.al., eds., *Transforming India : Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy,*

1. New Delhi: OUP, 2000.

7. Fuller, C. and Jaffrelot, C.,eds., *The BJP and the Compulsions of Politics in India*, Delhi: OUP, 1998.

8. Gallanter, Marc.,*Competing Equalities, Law and Backward classes in India*, New Delhi: OUP, 1984.

9. Jaffrelot, C., *The Hindu Nationalist Movement in India*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1996.

10. Karat, P. *Language and Nationality Politics in India*, Bombay: Orient Longman, 1973.

11. Kohli, Atul.,*Democracy and Discontent : India's growing crisis of governability,* Cambridge: CUP, 1991.

12. Kohli, Atul., ed., *The Success of India's Democracy*, Cambridge: CUP, 2001.

13. Kothari, Rajani.,*Politics in India*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, 1970.

14. Kaviraj, Sudipta., ed., *Politics in India*, New Delhi, OUP, 1997.

15. Madan, T.N., *Modern Myths, Locked Minds: Secularism and Fundamentalism in India*, New Delhi: OUP, 1997.