THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN

SYLLABUS OF TWO YEAR POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

IN

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Under

Curriculum and Credit Framework for Postgraduate Programme (CCFPP), as per N.E.P. 2020

w.e.f. 2026 – 2027

Semester wise and Course wise Distribution of Credit & Marks under CCFUP as per NEP, 2020

SEMESTER	Course Type	Code& Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
I	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1011 (400-499)**	Research Methodology	6		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1012 (400-499)**	Statecraft and Politics in Ancient India	6		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1013 (400-499)**	Advanced Political Theory	6		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1014 (400-499)**	Comparative Politics	6		75	60 – … – 15
	Minor Course	**PG2POLS1021 (300-399)**	Public Policy in India	4		75	60 – … – 15
	Total			**28**		**375**	60 – … – 15
II	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2011 (400-499)**	IR & Politics in South Asia	6		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2012 (400-499)**	Indian Politics: Structures and Processes	4		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2013 (400-499)**	State Formation and Political Regime	4		75	60 – … – 15
	Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2014 (400-499)**	Public Administration and Public Policy	4		75	60 – … – 15
	Minor Course	**PG2POLS2021 (300-399)**	Politics of Human Rights	4		75	60 – … – 15
	Total			**22**		**375**	

SEMESTER I

Course Type	Code	Name of the Course	Credit	Marks
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1011**	Research Methodology	6	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1012**	Statecraft and Politics in Ancient India	6	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1013**	Advanced Political Theory	6	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS1014**	Comparative Politics	6	75
Minor Course	**PG2POLS1021**	Public Policy in India	4	75

PG2POLS1011: Research Methodology

1.Meaning and significance of research----information, knowledge and policy; verstehen

2.Research Design and Report Writing

3. Survey of literature and hypothesis formulation; research question.

4. Ethnographic research and its significance

5.Quantitative research--- collection and analysis of data; Statistical Tools, sampling and types of interview.

6.Qualitative research methods---elite interview; participant observation and content analysis; questionnaire and schedule.

7.Public opinion and survey

8.Ethical issues in Social Science Research

Course outcome:

- ✓ The course acquaints the students with the various nuances of social science research**.**
- ✓ Critically evaluate research literature and interpret research findings using suitable analytical tools**.**
- ✓ Acquiring ability to apply quantitative and qualitative research methods in social science**.**

Suggested readings

1. Research Methods in Politics: CR Kothari & Gourav Garg, New Age international, 2019
2. Methods In Social Research: William Good and Philip Hatt, Surjeet Publications, 2019
3. Research Methods: Ram Ahuja, Rawat Publication, 2018
4. Revisiting Qualitative Methods in Social Science Research: Bonita Aleaz and Parth Pratim Basu, Orient Black Swan, 2019
5. Methods in Political Enquiry: Rakhahari Chatterjjee, World Press, 1979
6. Explanation and Understanding in the Human Sciences: Gurpreet Mahajan, OUP, 1993
7. Social Research Methods: W Lawrence Neuman, Pearson, 2015
8. Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences: Howard Lune and Bruce l Berg, Pearson, 2018

PG2POLS1012: Statecraft and Politics in Ancient India

1. Rig-Veda and Atharvaveda: power and authority of the ruler; the supremacy of law and traditions.
2. The Buddhist Traditions: Relation between Politics and Ethics in the Buddhist tradition;
3. The Buddhist Tradition: Theories of the Origin of the temporal ruler-powers and obligations of the authority.
4. The Arthasastra of Kautilya: Dandaniti; Saptanga Theory, Mandala Theory; Foreign policy and diplomacy
5. The Sukraniti: powers and functions of the temporal ruler; morality and politics; principles of governance
6. The Mahabharata (Shantiparva): The conceptions of Rajdharma; authority of the temporal ruler and obligations;
7. The Mahabharata: Principle of government, Foreign Policy Principles.

Course outcome

- ✓ This course focuses in understanding the major issues in Indian political philosophy involving the concepts of authority, rule of law, morality in public life, governance and foreign policy.
- ✓ Ability to evaluate the significance of key concepts such as *dharma*, *rajadharma*, *dandaniti*, and statecraft in Ancient Indian Political Thought and critically compare their relevance with the contemporary governance challenges.

Suggested readings

1. A History of Indian Political Ideas: U. N. Ghoshal, Oxford University Press,1959.
2. Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India: Ram Sharan Sharma, Motilal Banarsidass, 1991
3. State and Government in Ancient India: Anant Sadashiv Altekar, Motilal Banarsidass., 1958
4. The History and Culture of the Indian People: R. C. Majumdar, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1951

PG2POLS1013: Advanced Political Theory

1. Classical Marxist Theories of the State
2. Totalitarianism: Arendt; Populism: Chantal Mouffe
3. Theory of Justice: Rawls, Nozick and Sen
4. Communitarianism: basic tenets; civic republicanism
5. Multiculturalism: basic tenets; multiculturalism in the non-western world
6. Civil Society and Hegemony: Gramsci
7. Structuralism: Althusser
8. Post-modernism: Lyotard, Foucault, Derrida
9. Post-colonialism: Fanon, Said
10. Feminism: Three schools of feminism; liberal, socialist and radical.

Course outcome

- ✓ This course highlights the various debates of liberal and postliberal political theory, concerning liberty, justice, issues of authoritarianism, multiculturalism, communitarianism and postcolonialism.
- ✓ Ability to apply advanced political concepts and theories to analyze contemporary issues of state, civil society, citizenship, justice, rights.

Suggested reading:

1. Twentieth Century Political Theory: A Reader: Stephen Eric Bronner (Ed), Routledge, 1997
2. Considerations on Western Marxism: Perry Anderson, New Left Books, 1976
3. Political Ideologies: An Introduction*:* Andrew Heywood: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017
4. Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction: Will Kymlicka, Oxford University Press 2002
5. An Introduction to Modern Political Theory: Norman P. Barry, Macmillan 1995.
6. The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory: John S. Dryzek, Bonnie Honig, and Anne Phillips (Ed), OUP, 2006
7. Contemporary Political Theory: Andrew Shorten, Red Globe Pr, 2015

PG1POLS1014: Comparative Politics: Principles and Approaches

1. Comparative politics: old and new---an overview
2. Comparative methods: Comparative method as basic scientific method; experimental method; statistical method; case study method.
3. Comparative Approaches: a) Structural Functionalism, b) Political Development (Lucian Pye, Huntington), c) Modernization (David Apter), d) Institutionalism and Neo- institutionalism; political system
4. Political parties and pressure groups
5. Democratization
6. Political culture (Almond) & political socialization

Course outcome

- ✓ The paper focuses on the trajectory from the comparative government to comparative politics in addition to several approaches to the study of comparative politics and issues of comparative institutions and government.
- ✓ Ability to apply comparative methods to analyze political institutions, political processes, and governance structures across different countries and regions.

Suggested reading

1. "What Do We Know about Democratization after Twenty Years?", Barbara Geddes Annual Review of Political Science 2: 115–144, 1999.
2. The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics: Charles Boix & Susan Stokes (eds.), Oxford University Press, 2009.
3. "The Comparative and Historical Study of Revolutions.": Jack A. Goldstone Annual Review of Sociology, vol. 8, 1982, pp. 187–207.
4. "Structural and Institutional Aspects of Corruption.": Joseph La Palombara, Social Research, vol. 61, no. 2, 1994, pp. 325–50.
5. Comparative Politics: Explaining Democratic Systems: Judith Bara & Mark Pennington (eds.), SAGE: 2009
6. Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics: Todd Landman, Routledge, 2016
7. Principles of Comparative Politics: William Roberts Clark, Matt Golder, & Sona Nadenichek Golder SAGE, 2013
8. Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction: Rod Hague, Martin Harrop and John McCormick, Palgrave Macmillan 2019.

PG2POLS1021: Public Policy in India

1.Birth of policy sciences; globalization and public policy

2. Public policy in India: Evolution and development

3. Elements of Policy Making systems; Actors of public policy making;

4.Historical and structural contexts of public policy

5.Constraints of Public Policy- economic, political, socio-cultural

6. Public Health Policy in India

7. Education Policy in India

8. Environment Policy in India.

Course outcome

- ✓ Students will be able to understand and explain the concepts, processes, and institutional mechanisms involved in public policy making in India, including agenda setting, policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation.
- ✓ Students will be able to critically analyze major public policies and governance initiatives in India and assess their impact on social and economic development.

Suggested reading

1. Understanding Public Policy: Thomas R. Dye, Longman Higher Education, 1986
2. Understanding Public Policy: Theories and Issues, Paul Carney, Red Globe Press, 2011
3. Public Policy: Bidyut Chakraborty, Sage, 2016
4. Gender And Public Policy: Cases And Comments: Kenneth Winston and Mary Bane, West View, 1993
5. Elites, Ideas, and the Evolution of Public Policy : Political Evolution and Institutional Change: Smyrl and Geniyes, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008
6. Globalization and Public Policy: by David Audretsch , Erik Lehmann , Aileen Richardson, Silvio Vismara: Springer nature, 2015
7. Governance Globalization and Public Policy: Patricia Kennett, Edward Edgar Publishing Ltd, 2009
8. Making Public Policy: Institutions, Actors, Strategies: M Considine, Polity Press, 2014

SEMESTER II

Course Type	Code	Name of the Course	Credit	Marks
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2011**	IR & Politics in South Asia	6	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2012**	Indian Politics: Structures and Processes	4	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2013**	State Formation and Political Regime	4	75
Major/Core Course	**PG2POLS2014**	Public Administration and Public Policy	4	75
Minor Course	**PG2POLS2021**	Politics of Human Rights	4	75

PG2POLS2011: IR & Politics in South Asia

1. The concept of South Asia as a region
2. Problems of state-formation and nation-building in South Asia: An Overview
3. Problems of ethnicity, religion and language in South Asia: India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh
4. Democratization in South Asia
5. The Role of military in South Asian politics: Pakistan and Bangladesh
6. Federalism: India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
7. Regional challenges in South Asia: Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal
8. Human Security: Maldives, Bhutan and Afghanistan
9. SAARC- Challenges and Prospects

Course outcome

- ✓ Students will be able to understand and explain the major political developments, institutions, and governance structures in South Asian countries such as India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bhutan.
- ✓ Students will be able to critically analyze regional political issues in South Asia, including democracy, ethnic conflict, development challenges, and regional cooperation within organizations such as South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

Suggested reading

1. Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy; Sugata Bose, Ayesha Jalal, Routledge, 2022
2. Political Dimensions of South Asian Cooperation: V. Kanesalingami (ed), Macmillan India, 1991
3. Routledge Handbook of South Asian Politics: Brass, Paul (Ed), Routledge, 2010
4. Legitimacy and Conflict in South Asia: Subrata Kr. Mitra and Dietmar Rothermund eds. Manohar, 1997
5. The States of South Asia: The Problems of National Integration: A. J. Wilson and D. Dalton eds. Vikas, 1982
6. Ethnicity of Nationalism in South Asia: Rajat Ganguly and Urmila Phadnis, Sage, 2001
7. The South Asia Papers- A Critical Anthology: Cohen, P, Herper Collins, 2016

PG2POLS2012: Indian Politics: Structures and Processes

1. The framing of the Indian Constitution
2. Debates over Parliamentary sovereignty and the rise of the executive
3. Supreme Court: Judicial Activism vis-à-vis Parliamentary supremacy
4. Federalism in India: Globalization and neo-liberal reforms
5. Political parties: types; ideology and role
6. Politics of pressure groups: An overview
7. Election Commission in India: Structure, Functions, Role; Electoral Reforms
8. National Human Rights Commission and state Human Rights Commission: Structure, functions and role

Course outcome

- ✓ This paper explores various theoretical issues pertaining to the understanding Indian politics.
- ✓ Students will be able to analyze major political processes in India such as electoral politics, party systems, interest groups, and policy-making, and assess their role in shaping democratic governance.

Suggested reading

1. Routledge handbook of Indian politics: Atul Kohli and Prerna Singh, eds, Routledge, 2013
2. Success of India's Democracy: Atul Kohli, Oxofrd university Press, 2010
3. The Oxford Handbook of Indian Politics: Ganguly, Sumit, and Eswaran Sridharan, eds, 2024
4. Unravelling the Nation: Sectarian Conflict and India's Secular Identity: Kaushik Basu and Sanjay Subrahmanyam, Penguin, 1996
5. Contemporary India: Dynamics of the Party System, Secularism, Federalism, and Decentralization: Neera Chandhoke and Praveen Priyadarshi (ed.), Pearson, 2009
6. The Politics of India since Independence: Paul Brass, Cambridge University Press, 2003
7. Secularism and its Critics: Rajiv Bhargava (ed.), Oxford university Press, 1999
8. Ethnicity and National Building in South Asia: Urmila Phadnis and Rajat Ganguly, Manul Publications, 1990

PG2POLS2013: State Formation and Political Regime

1.Absolutist state: its features functions and decline; Perry Anderson

2.Rise of the nation-state in the West- contending approaches: Gellner, Smith

3. Nation as imagined Community: Benedict Anderson and Hobsbawm

4. Max Weber's theory of the nation-state

5.State formation: Giddens, Tilly and Fukuyama

6.Post-colonial States: various forms

7. Post-Soviet states: an overview

8. Globalization and the nation-state: various approaches

Course outcome:

- ✓ The course emphasizes on issues and theories relating to the origin of nation-state in the west, the process of state-formation and the nature of political regimes.

- ✓ Students will be able to analyze the relationship between state structures, institutions, and political regimes and evaluate how different regime types influence governance, political participation, and state–society relations.

Suggested reading

1.Political thought: Michael Rosen and Jonathan wolf, Oxford University Press,1999

2. Twentieth Century Political Theory: A Reader: Stephen Eric Bronner (Ed), Routledge, 1997

3. Considerations on Western Marxism: Perry Anderson, New Left Books, 1976

4. Political Ideologies: An Introduction*:* Andrew Heywood: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017

5. Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction: Will Kymlicka, Oxford University Press 2002

6. An Introduction to Modern Political Theory: Norman P. Barry, Macmillan 1995.

7. The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory: John S. Dryzek, Bonnie Honig, and Anne Phillips (Ed), OUP, 2006

8. Contemporary Political Theory: Andrew Shorten, Red Globe Pr, 2015

PG2POLS2014: Public Administration and Public Policy

1. Public administration: Evolution; identity distress; the state of theory building
2. Comparative and development administration: Concept, nature, scope and significance
3. Conceptualizing governance; types: E-governance, green governance, corporate governance
4. Recent trends in Public Administration: Global public administration, data governance, crisis governance
5. Public policy: Meaning, constituent elements, actors and resources
6. Evolution of the policy sciences: From positivist to post-positivist developments; importance of public policy in recent times
7. Major theoretical approaches to public policy analysis: rational choice, contextual orientation, incrementalism

8. Policy cycle: Policy formulation, policy implementation and impact assessment: actors and processes

Course outcome

- ✓ Students will be able to understand and explain the key concepts, theories, and institutional structures of public administration and the role of administrative agencies in governance.
- ✓ Students will be able to analyze the processes of public policy making, including agenda setting, policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation, particularly in the context of India.

Suggested reading

1.Understanding Public Policy: Thomas R. Dye, Longman Higher Education, 1986
2.Understanding Public Policy: Theories and Issues, Paul Carney, Red Globe Press, 2011
3.Public Policy: Bidyut Chakraborty, Sage, 2016
4.Gender And Public Policy: Cases and Comments: Kenneth Winston and Mary Bane, West View, 1993
5.Elites, Ideas, and the Evolution of Public Policy : Political Evolution and Institutional Change: Smyrl and Geniyes, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008
6.Globalization and Public Policy: by David Audretsch , Erik Lehmann , Aileen Richardson, Silvio Vismara: Springer nature, 2015
7.Governance Globalization and Public Policy: Patricia Kennett, Edward Edgar Publishing Ltd, 2009
8.Making Public Policy: Institutions, Actors, Strategies: M Considine, Polity Press, 2014

PG2POLS2021: Politics of Human Rights

1.Concept of Human Rights, definition and scope of the study- contending issues
2.A brief history of human rights: Evolution, three generations of human rights
3. Human rights documents- UDHR, ICCPR, ICESR, IRCAT, CEDAW, CRC
4. Three generations of human rights
5. Theoretical Perspectives: Universalism and cultural relativism;
6. The State and Human Rights - Indian perspective
7.National Human Rights Commission: Composition and functions
8.International Court of Justice (ICJ); International Criminal Court (ICC)

Course Outcomes

- ✓ Students will be able to understand and explain the theoretical foundations and evolution of human rights, including key international frameworks such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the role of institutions like the United Nations in promoting and protecting human rights.
- ✓ Students will be able to critically analyze the political challenges and debates surrounding human rights, including issues of state sovereignty, minority rights, gender justice, and human rights advocacy at national and global levels.

Suggested readings

1.The Future of Human Rights: Upendra Baxi , Oxford University Press, 2002.
2. Democracy, Difference and Social Justice: Gurpreet Mahajan Oxford University Press, 1999.
3.Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice: Jack Donnelly, Cornell University Press, 2013.
4.The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Origins, Drafting, and Intent; Johannes Morsink, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999.
5.The History of Human Rights: From Ancient Times to the Globalization Era: Micheline R. Ishay, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008.