



ARSD College, University of Delhi

Lesson Plan

Course Name : BA (Hons) Political Science						
Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)	Credit (C)
Vlth	12321601	Modern Political Philosophy	5	3		06
Teacher/Instructor(s)		Dr. Indrajeet Kumar Jha				
Session		2021-22				

Course Objective:

This course aims to expose the students to the manner in which the questions of politics have been posed in terms that have implications for larger questions of thought and existence in society and is being solved. By introducing the philosophers from different traditions students will be able to answer few fundamental political questions: Why do we live in political communities? What is the 'best' form of government? How human nature influences political decision making? How and in what circumstances we need to resist bad rulers?

Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course students would be able to:

- Understand the idea of modernity and establish a connection between societal changes posed through modernity and its prescribed political suggestions.
- Identify various tendencies in political philosophical discourse and manage to answer various fundamental questions through problem-solving aptitude.

Lesson Plan:

Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be covered
Unit- 1	Modernity and its discourses	1-8 (8 Lectures)	Kant on Modernity
		9-14 (6 Lectures)	Faith on Reason, Understanding Nature's nature
Unit- 2	Romantics	15-22 (8 Lectures)	Jean Jacques Rousseau: Critique of Modernity; State of Nature (evolution of

			Nobel savage, what corrupts the society?), Origin of inequality, General Will; direct democracy; self-government
		23-28 (6 Lectures)	Mary Wollstonecraft: Women and paternalism; critique of Rousseau's idea of education and proposed educational reforms; legal rights and representation
Unit- 3	Liberal socialist	29-42 (14 Lectures)	John Stuart Mill: Mill's hedonistic principle of utility; difference with other utilitarian, Liberty, suffrage and change in democracy; rights of minorities; subjection of women
Unit-4	Radicals	43-50 (8 Lectures)	Hegel Ethical life: family, civil society and state
		51-60 (10 Lectures)	Karl Marx Difference with other kinds of materialism; Concepts of values; critique of Capitalism; inevitability of class struggle; establishment of utopian society

Teaching Learning Process:

The teaching-learning process for this course would involve class lectures, class discussion, class presentation, debates on contemporary issues and relevant cases. Teaching would also involve methods like power point and film screening.

Details of the Course		
Unit	Contents	Contact Hours
Unit- 1	Modernity and its discourses	14 Lectures
	a. Kant on Modernity b. Faith on Reason, Understanding Nature's nature	
Unit- 2	Romantics	14 Lectures
	a. Jean Jacques Rousseau: Critique of Modernity; State of Nature (evolution of Nobel savage, what corrupts the society?), Origin of inequality, General Will; direct democracy; self-government b. Mary Wollstonecraft: Women and paternalism; critique of Rousseau's idea of education and proposed educational reforms; legal rights and representation	
Unit- 3	Liberal Socialist	14 Lectures
	John Stuart Mill: Mill's hedonistic principle of utility; difference with other utilitarian, Liberty, suffrage and change in democracy; rights of minorities; subjection of women	
Unit-4	Radicals:	18 Lectures
	a. Hegel	

	Ethical life: family, civil society and state	
	b. Karl Marx Difference with other kinds of materialism; Concepts of values; critique of Capitalism; inevitability of class struggle; establishment of utopian society	
Total		60 Lectures

Evaluation Scheme:

Students will be assessed at different stages during the course learning process. After completing every unit they will be asked to take part in group discussions on any one important event or issue relevant for that unit. They will also do one presentation and one assignment.

No.	Component	Duration	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment		25
	• Quiz/ Class Test		
	• Attendance		
	• Assignment/ Project		
2.	End Semester Examination	3 hrs	75

Suggested Books and Articles	
Unit- 1	Modernity and its discourses
	<p>Kant. (1784) 'What is Enlightenment?' available at http://theliterarylink.com/kant.html, Accessed: 19.04.2013</p> <p>S. Hall (1992) 'Introduction', in Formations of Modernity UK: Polity Press pages 1-16</p> <p>B. Nelson, (2008) Western Political Thought. New York: Pearson Longman, pp. 221-255.</p> <p>Rawls, J. Lectures on the History of Political Philosophy, Lectures on Rousseau, Harvard University Press, London pp: 191-229.</p>
Unit- 2	Romantics
	<p>M. Keens-Soper, (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.</p> <p>C. Jones, (2002) '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.</p>
Unit- 3	Liberal socialist
	<p>Ramaswamy, Shushila (2018), Women in Political Thought: the Quest for Gender Equality and Beyond, New Delhi: Orient Black Swan, pp.128-178.</p> <p>Mill, J.S. 'On Liberty' and other writings, Chapters 1, 3, and 4</p> <p>Mill, J.S. Utilitarianism, Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 2001, Chapters 1, 2, and 4</p>

	<p>Rawls, J. Lectures on the History of Political Philosophy, Lectures on Mill, Harvard University Press, London, pp. 251-314</p> <p>Action, H.B (1972), John Stuart Mill: Utilitarianism, Liberty and Representative Government, David Campbell Publishers Ltd.</p> <p>H. Magid (1987) ‘John Stuart Mill’, in L. Strauss and J. Cropsey, (eds), History of Political Philosophy, 2nd edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press, pp. 784-801.</p> <p>P. Kelly (2003) ‘J.S. Mill on Liberty’, in D. Boucher, and P. Kelly, (eds.) Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 324-359.</p>
Unit- 4	Radicals
	<p>Hegel’s Philosophy of Right, https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/works/pr/philosophy-of-right.pdf</p> <p>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.</p> <p>L. Wilde, (2003) ‘Early Marx’, in D. Boucher and P. Kelly, P. (eds) Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 404-435.</p>
	Additional Resources
	<p>A. Bloom (1987) ‘Jean-Jacques Rousseau’, in Strauss, L. and Cropsey, J. (eds.) History of Political Philosophy, 2nd edition. Chicago: Chicago University Press, pp. 559-580.</p> <p>A. Skoble and T. Machan (2007) Political Philosophy: Essential Selections, New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 328-354.</p> <p>B. Ollman (1991) Marxism: An Uncommon Introduction, New Delhi: Sterling Publishers.</p> <p>G. Blakely and V. Bryson (2005) Marx and Other Four Letter Words, London: Pluto</p> <p>A. Skoble, and T. Machan (2007) Political Philosophy: Essential Selections, New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 286-327.</p> <p>H. Arendt (1958), The Origins of Totalitarianism, New York: The World Publishing Company.</p>

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