

Four Year Undergraduate Programme (B.A.)

As per NEP 2020

**Department of Political Science
School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

H.N.B. Garhwal University

Srinagar (Garhwal)

Approved by

**Board of Studies
(For Academic Session 2025-26)**

Semester I and II

HNB Garhwal University (A Central University)

Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand

Course Structure

Course Category	Semester-I		
	Subject/Title	No. of paper	Credits
Discipline Specific Core	Introduction to Political Theory	1	4
MD/ID	Course Name: Indian Constitution: Political and Governance Name of Paper: Foundations of the Indian Constitution	1	4
SEC/AEC	SEC: Dynamics of Public Opinion-I	1	2

Course Category	Semester-II		
	Subject /Title	No. of paper	Credits
Discipline Specific Core	Indian Government and Politics	1	4
MD/ID	Course Name: Indian Constitution: Political and Governance Paper: Structure and Functioning of Government	1	4
SEC/AEC	SEC: Dynamics of Public Opinion-II	1	2

Syllabus

NHEQF Level–4.5

B.A. I Semester (2025-26 Onwards)

DSC

Course Title: Introduction to Political Theory

Credits: 4

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the concept, scope, and relevance of political theory and political philosophy.
 2. Analyze key political concepts such as state, democracy, liberty, equality, justice, rights, duties, gender, and civil society.
 3. Critically examine major debates in political theory and their contemporary significance.
 4. Develop analytical skills for interpreting theoretical frameworks and applying them to political issues.
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Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain and evaluate the meaning, nature, and scope of politics and political theory.
 2. Compare and contrast key political concepts in theory and practice.
 3. Engage critically with debates on democracy, censorship, protective discrimination, and state intervention.
 4. Apply theoretical perspectives to analyze real-world political and social issues.
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Course Content

Unit 1: Foundations of Political Theory

- a. Concept of Politics: What is Politics
 - b. Political Theory, Political Philosophy and its Relevance
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Unit 2: The State and its Dimensions

- State: Meaning, Nature and Elements
 - Multi-culturalism and Pluralism
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Unit 3: Core Political Concepts

- Democracy
- Liberty
- Equality

- Justice
- Rights and Duties
- Gender
- Civil Society and Civil Movements

Unit 4: Debates in Political Theory

- a. Democracy and Its Compatibility with Economic Growth and Development
 - b. Justification of Censorship and Limitations on Censorship
 - c. Protective Discrimination and Principles of Fairness
 - d. State Intervention in the Affairs of Social Institutions
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Essential Readings

- Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-17.
- Bhargava, R. (2008) 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 18-37.
- Semwal, M.M. & Mishra, M.K. (2018) (eds.) 'राजनीतिक क्या है ?' in *राजनीतिक के व्यवहारक आयाम (Dynamics of Politics)*, New Delhi: Academic Publication, pp. 3-90.
- Sriranjani, V. (2008) 'Liberty', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 40-57.
- Acharya, A. (2008) 'Equality', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 58-73.
- Menon, K. (2008) 'Justice', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 74-82.
- Talukdar, P.S. (2008) 'Rights', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 88-105.
- Srinivasan, J. (2008) 'Democracy', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 106-128.
- Roy, A. 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 130-147.
- Das, S. (2008) 'State', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 170-187.
- Singh, M. (2008) 'Civil Society', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 188-205.
- Menon, N. (2008) 'Gender', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Pearson Longman, pp. 224-235.

- Shorten, A. (2008) 'Nation and State', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 33-55.
- Christiano, Thomas. (2008) 'Democracy', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 80-96.
- Riley, J. (2008) 'Liberty', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 103-125.
- Casal, P. & William, A. (2008) 'Equality', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 149-165.
- Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 241-259.
- Chambers, C. (2008) 'Gender', in McKinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*. Oxford University Press, pp. 241-288.
- Swift, A. (2001) *Political Philosophy: A Beginners Guide for Students and Politicians*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Johari, J.C. (2019) *Contemporary Political Theory: New Dimensions, Basic Concepts & Major Trends*. Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd.
- Heywood, A. (2015) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. Macmillan.
- Gauba, O.P. (2021) *An Introduction to Political Theory*. National Paperback.
- Vermani, R.C. (2020) *Political Theory: Concepts and Debates*. Gitanjali Publishing House.
- Sushila, R. (2020) *Political Theory: Ideas and Concepts*. PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd.

MD Course I
Course Title: Indian Constitution: Politics and Governance
Paper Title: Foundations of the Indian Constitution
Credits: 4

Learning Objectives

1. Trace the historical evolution of constitutional developments in India from 1909 to 1947.
 2. Understand the process of constitution-making, including the composition and functioning of the Constituent Assembly.
 3. Analyze the philosophical foundations of the Preamble and the salient features of the Constitution.
 4. Examine the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, and the sources from which the Indian Constitution draws inspiration.
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Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the historical background and developments of the Indian Constitution.
 2. Critically assess the debates within the Constituent Assembly
 3. Interpret the philosophy and significance of the Preamble.
 4. Identify and analyse the sources of the Indian Constitution and its core ideals.
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Course Content

Unit I: Historical Context

- Constitutional Developments (1909–1947)
- Cabinet Mission Plan

Unit II: Making of the Constitution

- Constituent Assembly: Composition, Working, Committees
- Major Debates: Secularism, Federalism, Rights

Unit III: Preamble and Salient Features

- Philosophy of the Preamble
- Salient Features of the Indian Constitution

Unit IV: Philosophy and Ideals

- Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity
 - Sources of the Indian Constitution
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Suggested Readings

1. Austin, Granville. *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*. Oxford University Press.
2. Austin, Granville. *Working a Democratic Constitution: The Indian Experience*. Oxford University Press.
3. Basu, D.D. *Introduction to the Constitution of India*. LexisNexis.
4. Kashyap, Subhash C. *Our Constitution*. National Book Trust.
5. Noorani, A.G. *Constitutional Questions in India: The President, Parliament and the States*. Oxford University Press.
6. Sharma, Brij Kishore. *Introduction to the Constitution of India*. Prentice-Hall.
7. Jain, M.P. *Indian Constitutional Law*. LexisNexis.
8. Pylee, M.V. *An Introduction to the Constitution of India*. Vikas Publishing.
9. Constituent Assembly Debates (Official Reports), Volumes I–XII.

AEC/SEC

Course Title: Dynamics of Public Opinion – I

Credits: 2

Learning Objectives

1. To understand the meaning, nature, and theoretical foundations of public opinion.
 2. To analyze the role of public opinion in democratic societies, with special reference to India.
 3. To examine the processes and factors influencing the formation of public opinion.
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Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Define and explain the concept and nature of public opinion.
 2. Discuss major theories and dimensions of public opinion.
 3. Assess the significance of public opinion in democratic governance.
 4. Relate the process of public opinion formation to policy-making.
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Course Content

Unit I:

- Public Opinion: Meaning and Nature

Unit II:

- Theories of Public Opinion and Its Dimensions

Unit III:

- Public Opinion in a Democratic State

Unit IV:

- Formation of Public Opinion and Its Relationship with Public Policy
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Essential Readings

1. Erikson, R. & Tedin, K. (2011). *American Public Opinion* (8th ed.). New York: Pearson Longman.
2. Gallup, G. (1948). *A Guide to Public Opinion Polls*. Princeton University Press.
3. Donsbach, W. & Traugott, M.W. (2007). *The SAGE Handbook of Public Opinion Research*. Sage Publications.
4. McCombs, M. (2014). *Setting the Agenda: The Mass Media and Public Opinion*. Polity Press.
5. Glynn, C.J. (2016). *Public Opinion* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

B.A. Semester II –
DSC
Course Title: Indian Government and Politics
Credits: 4

Learning Objectives

1. To introduce students to the theoretical approaches and nature of the Indian state.
 2. To explain the constitutional framework, political institutions, and judicial structures of India.
 3. To analyze the socio-political forces and party systems influencing Indian politics.
 4. To examine social movements and development strategies in post-independence India.
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Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and compare different theoretical approaches to the study of Indian politics.
 2. Analyze the working of the Constitution and political institutions.
 3. Assess the role of caste, class, religion, and social movements in shaping Indian politics.
 4. Critically evaluate India's developmental strategies since independence.
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Unit-wise Course Content

Unit 1: Approaches, Nature of the State, and Constitutional Framework

- Approaches to the Study of Indian Politics: Liberal, Nationalist, Marxist, and Gandhian
- Nature of the State in India
- The Indian Constitution: Preamble and Basic Features
- Debates on Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles

Unit 2: Political Institutions and Judiciary

- Prime Minister, Parliament, and Committee System
- Supreme Court, Judicial Review, and Judicial Activism

Unit 3: Power Structure, Parties, and Party Systems

- Caste, Class, Religion, Regionalism, and Communitarianism
- Evolution and Nature of Party Systems in India

Unit 4: Social Movements and Development Strategies

- Peasant Movements, Environmental Movements, Women's Movement, Subaltern Movements
- Strategies of Development since Independence: Planned Economy, Mixed Economy, Liberalism, and Neo-liberalism

Recommended Readings

1. Singh, M.P. & Raj, S.R. (2012). *The Indian Political System*. Pearson.
 2. Khosla, Madhav (2020). *India's Founding Moment: The Constitution of a Most Surprising Democracy*. Oxford University Press.
 3. Khosla, Madhav (2012). *The Indian Constitution*. Oxford University Press.
 4. Austin, Granville (1966). *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*. Oxford University Press.
 5. Austin, Granville (1999). *Working a Democratic Constitution: A History of the Indian Experience*. Oxford University Press.
 6. Kothari, Rajni (2010). *Caste and Politics*. Orient BlackSwan.
 7. Brass, Paul R. (2003). *Indian Politics Since Independence*. Pearson.
 8. Kohli, Atul (2016). *Routledge Handbook of Indian Politics*. Routledge.
 9. Hasan, Zoya (2002). *Parties and Party Politics in India*. Oxford University Press.
 10. Chatterjee, Partha (1999). *State & Politics in India*. Oxford University Press.
 11. Abbas, H., Kumar, R. & Alam, M.A. (2011). *Indian Government and Politics*. Pearson.
 12. Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2010). *India After Independence*. Penguin.
 13. Menon, N. & Nigam, A. (2007). *Power and Contestation: India Since 1989*. Zed Books.
 14. Jayal, N.G. & Mehta, P.B. (eds.) (2010). *The Oxford Companion to Indian Politics*. Oxford University Press.
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MD Course Part II
Course Title: Indian Constitution: Politics and Governance
Paper Name: Structure and Functioning of Government
Credits: 4

Learning Objectives

1. To familiarize students with the structure, composition, and functioning of the Union and State executives and legislatures in India.
 2. To examine the powers, roles, and responsibilities of key constitutional functionaries.
 3. To understand the legislative process at both Union and State levels.
 4. To assess the inter-relationship between various organs of the government.
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Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the constitutional provisions and functions of the Union and State executives.
 2. Explain the composition, powers, and functioning of the Union and State legislatures.
 3. Analyze the law-making process at both levels.
 4. Evaluate the effectiveness and limitations of different organs of government in India's parliamentary democracy.
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Course Content

Unit I: Union Executive

- President: Election, Powers and Functions
- Prime Minister and Council of Ministers: Composition, Powers, and Responsibilities

Unit II: State Executive

- Governor: Appointment, Powers, and Functions
- Chief Minister and Council of Ministers: Composition, Powers, and Responsibilities

Unit III: Union Legislature

- Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha: Composition, Powers, and Functions
- Law-making Procedure at the Union Level

Unit IV: State Legislature

- Unicameral and Bicameral Legislatures: Structure and Functions
 - Legislative Process at the State Level
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Recommended Readings

1. Basu, D.D. (2022). *Introduction to the Constitution of India*. LexisNexis.
2. Bakshi, P.M. (2020). *The Constitution of India*. Universal Law Publishing.
3. Austin, Granville (1999). *Working a Democratic Constitution*. Oxford University Press.

4. Noorani, A.G. (2010). *Constitutional Questions in India*. Oxford University Press.
5. Kashyap, Subhash C. (2011). *Our Parliament*. National Book Trust.
6. Johari, J.C. (2014). *Indian Government and Politics*. Sterling Publishers.

SEC/AEC

Course Title: Dynamics of Public Opinion – II

Credits: 2

Learning Objectives

1. To understand the methodologies used in conducting public opinion surveys.
2. To introduce students to sampling techniques and the importance of sample design in research.
3. To develop skills in questionnaire design and interview scheduling.
4. To provide basic training in quantitative data analysis.
5. To explore the uses and applications of public opinion data in democratic governance.

Course Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and apply suitable methods for measuring public opinion.
2. Design appropriate sampling strategies for research studies.
3. Prepare questionnaires and interview schedules for data collection.
4. Conduct basic quantitative data analysis and interpret results.
5. Assess the role of public opinion data in shaping policy and governance.

Course Content

Unit I: Methods and Measurement of Public Opinion Survey

Unit II: Sampling – Necessity, Principles, and Sample Design

Unit III: Formation of Questionnaire and Interview Schedule

Unit IV: Introduction to Quantitative Data Analysis, Public Opinion Data, Interpretation and Uses

Recommended Readings

English

1. Gallup, G. (1948). *A Guide to Public Opinion Polls*. Princeton University Press.
2. Kalton, G. (1983). *Introduction to Survey Sampling*. Sage Publications, Beverly Hills/New Delhi.
3. Lokniti Team. (2009). “National Election Study 2009: A Methodological Note.” *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLIV (39).
4. Erikson, R., & Tedin, K. (2011). *American Public Opinion* (8th ed.). Pearson Longman.
5. Agresti, A., & Finlay, B. (2009). *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences* (4th ed.). Pearson–Prentice Hall.
6. Kumar, S., & Rai, P. (2013). “Chapter 1” in *Measuring Voting Behavior in India*. Sage Publications.
7. Cochran, W. (2007). “Chapter 1” in *Sampling Techniques*. John Wiley & Sons.