

PSH 402: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Course Objectives:

1. To familiarize the students with various schools of political thought
2. To Enable students to critically reflect on the continuity and change in western political thought
3. To make students to critically examine the shades of political thought and the complex character of state and politics
4. To highlight and critically engage with the rational universe of the west and reflections on governance

Course Outcomes:

The course will equip students to –

1. Theoretically locate the diverse intellectual traditions of the west
2. Have a nuanced reflection on its impact on contemporary world
3. Examine and locate the changing patterns of western political thought
4. Have a critical perspective on the state-society-politics interaction and implications

UNIT 1: Foundation of Western Political Thought

- 1.1 Western Political thought- Importance of the study
- 1.2 Pre-Platonic Political Thought; Socrates
- 1.3 Plato- Republic & Later Writings
- 1.4 Aristotle – On politics & Ethics; Cicero

UNIT 2: Medieval and Political Thought in Transition

- 2.1 St. Augustine
- 2.2 St. Thomas Aquinas
- 2.3 Marsilius of Padua
- 2.4 Political thought in transition - shift and features; Machiavelli

UNIT 3: Liberals and Utilitarians

- 3.1 Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau
- 3.2 T. H. Green
- 3.3 Jeremy Bentham
- 3.4 J. S. Mill

UNIT 4: On State and Society

- 4.1 Immanuel Kant
- 4.2 G. W. F Hegel
- 4.3 Karl Marx
- 4.4 Lenin

Basic Readings:

1. Andrew, Hacker, *Political theory: philosophy, ideology, science*, Michigan: Macmillan, 1961
2. Ebenstein, William, *Great Political Thinkers Plato to the Present*, New Delhi: Oxford, 1970
3. George, Sabine H and Thomas L, Thorson., *A History of Political Theory*, New Delhi: Oxford and IBH, 1973
4. Robert, Peri and Peter Such., *An Introduction to Political Thought A Conceptual Toolkit* Edinburg: Edinburgh University Press, 2005.
5. Boucher, D., and Kely, P., ed., *Political Thinkers From Socrates to the Present*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.
6. Coker F.W., *Readings in Political Philosophy*, New York: Macmillan, 1938.
7. Coleman J., *A History of Political Thought*, Oxford: Blackwell, 2000.
8. Skinner, Quentin., *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought*, Cambridge: OUP, 1978.
9. Bellamy, R., ed., *Victorian Liberalism Nineteenth Century Political Thought and Practice*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 1990.
10. Burnham, J., *The Machiavellians*, New York: John Day Co, 1943.
11. Cranston, M., *Western Political Philosophers*, London: Fontane, 1964.

Suggested Readings:

1. Barker, Ernest, *Aristotle Politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press 1995.
2. Barker, Ernest, *Greek Political Theory Plato and His Predecessors*, London: Merhuen. 1947
3. Bartney J., *Aristotle A very Short Introduction*, oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000
4. Heinemann, R. Ed., *Aristotle and Moral Realism*, London: VCL Press, 1998
5. Hughes G, *Philosophy Guidebook to Aristotle on Ethics*, London: Routledge 2001
6. Macintyre, Alasdair, *After Virtue: A Study in Moral Theory* Notre Dame, 2007.
1. 7. Mukherjee, Subrata and Sushila, Ramaswamy, *A History of Political Thought Plato to Marx*, New Delhi: PHI, 2014.
7. O'Connor D., *Aquinas and Natural Law*, London: Macmillan, 1967
8. Sreedathan G., *Western Political Thought and Theories*, New Delhi: Deep and Deep, 2006
9. Thakurdas, Frank, *Essays in Political Theory* New Delhi: Gitanjali, 1982.
10. Baumgold, D., *Hobbes Political Theory*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.
11. Berlin, Isaiah., *The Age of Enlightenment The Great Age of Western Philosophy*, Houghton: Mifflin Boston 1952.
12. Botomore, T., *Karl Marx*, Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1973.
13. Brome, J.H., *Rousseau: A study of His thought*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1963.
14. Canver., T., *Marx and Engels: The Intellectual Relationship*, Brighton: Harvester, 1983.
15. Cohen, G., *A Karl Marx's Theory of History A Deference*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1979.
16. Coleman, F.W., *Hobbes and America, Exploring the Constitutional Foundations*, Toronto: Toronto University, 1977.
17. Cook, J., *Reading Mill studies in Political Theory*, London: Macmillan, 1998.
18. Durkheim, E., *Montesquieu and Rousseau*, Ann Arbor, MUP, 1960.
19. Gray, J., *Mill on Liberty A Defence*, London: Routledge, 1983.