NEW SYLLABUS UNDER THE NEW CURRICULUM w.e.f. July 2014
(Proposed changes considered and finalized by the Board of Studies)

POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOURS

SEMESTER ONE

Paper I Political Theory: Traditional and Modern

Module I
1. Nature and scope of Political Science; distinction between politics and government, political philosophy and Political Science.
2. Normative approach to the study of politics.
4. Select key concepts of politics: power, sovereignty, liberty, equality.

Module II
6. Post-Behaviouralism.

Paper II India: Constitution and Government

Module I
2. Fundamental Rights and Duties; Directive Principles of State Policy.
3. Nature of Federalism and Union-State relations.
4. Amendment procedure.

Module II
5. Union executive: President---election, position; Prime Minister and Council of Ministers---appointment, functions, position and relationship.
6. Union legislature: Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha---composition, functions and relationship; law-making, Speaker, Privileges, Committee system.
7. Composition of Government in the states: Governor, Chief Minister and Council of Ministers---position and functions.
8. Structure of the Judiciary: Supreme Court---composition, functions and jurisdictions; judicial activism in India.

SEMESTER TWO

Paper III Marxist Political Theory

Module I
1. Basic principles of Dialectical and Historical Materialism.
2. Theory of class and class struggle.
Module II
7. Gramsci’s concept of hegemony.

Paper IV Indian Politics: Institutions and Processes

Module I
1. Electoral system; composition, functions and role of the Election Commission; politics of defections and electoral reforms.
2. Party system---features and trends; regionalisation of the party system; coalition politics in India.
3. National political parties in India: ideology, programme and electoral performance; state parties in India with special reference to West Bengal.
4. Select pressure groups in India---business groups and trade unions.

Module II
5. Identity politics in India: a) religion, b) language, c) caste, d) tribe.
6. New Social Movements: a) environmental movements, b) women’s movements, c) human rights movements.

SEMESTER THREE

Paper V Comparative Politics: Theories and Concepts

Module I
1. Comparative Politics: Development, scope and purpose; distinction with Comparative Government.
2. Methods of comparison.

Module II
4. Types of political systems: Liberal and Socialist---basic features; role of conventions, rule of law.
7. Rights of citizens (the UK, the USA); rights and duties of citizens (the PRC).

Paper VI International Relations: Theories and Issues

Module I
1. International Relations as an academic discipline---development, nature, scope.
2. Representative theories in International Relations: Realism, Pluralism, World Systems and Dependency theory.

Module II
4. From Cold War to Post Cold War; bipolarity, unipolarity and changes in great power system.
5. Globalisation and its impact on international relations; role of non-state actors.
6. Select issues in contemporary international relations: terrorism, ethnicity.

SEMESTER FOUR

Paper VII Comparative Politics: Structure and Process

Module I
1. Executive: the UK, the USA, the PRC, France.
2. Legislature: the UK, the USA, the PRC.
3. Relationship between the executive and the legislature in the UK, the USA, the PRC.
4. Judiciary: the UK, the USA, the PRC.

Module II
5. Unitary and Federal systems: cases of federalism---the USA and Russia.
6. Political parties: features and role of party systems in the UK, the USA, the PRC.
7. Interest groups: Roles and performance in the UK and the USA.

Paper VIII International Relations: Foreign Policy and International Organisations

Module I
1. Foreign policy: concept and techniques---diplomacy, war. Role of media in foreign policy.
2. Indian foreign policy: ideological foundation, evolution, geo-strategic context.
3. India’s bilateral relations with the USA, Pakistan, and the PRC.
4. Foreign policies of the USA and the PRC: ideological foundations and geo-strategic contexts.

Module II
7. Role of regional organisations: ASEAN, SAARC, EU.

Paper IX Political Sociology: Key Concepts

Module I
1. Emergence of Political Sociology---from Sociology of Politics to Political Sociology.
2. Power, authority, legitimacy.
3. State and civil society.
4. Political elites: Michels, Mosca, Pareto.

Module II
5. Political culture and socialisation.
6. Political communication: concept and structures---new developments.
7. Political participation: concept and types; determinants of electoral behaviour.
8. Groups in politics: political parties and pressure groups.

Paper X Research Methodology

Module I
1. Fundamental issues in Research Methodology: concepts, variables, propositions and hypothesis; hypothesis construction and verification; measurement---scales: nominal, ordinal, interval, ratio.
2. Research design: definition, purpose of research, units of analysis---ecological fallacy and fallacy of reductionism, factors affecting research design.
3. Sampling---definition, probability and non-probability sampling.
4. Statistical method: definition of statistical analysis; types of statistics--- descriptive and inferential; measures of central tendencies; measures of dispersion; graphic representation of data (bar graph, histogram, pie chart, ogives).
5. Sources and techniques of data collection---quantitative and qualitative data.

**Module II**
7. Participatory Field research---definition, design, validity and reliability.
8. Case study method.
9. Content analysis.
10. Aggregate Data Analysis.
12. Focus Group Studies.

**SEMESTER FIVE**

**Paper XI Key Issues in Political Sociology**

**Module I**
1. Social stratification: class, caste, ethnicity.
2. Gender and politics: basic issues.

**Module II**
4. Nationalism and state formation in the Third World and West Europe.
5. Political Development.

**Paper XII Western Political Thought: Ancient and Medieval**

**Module I**
1. Greek political thought: main features.
2. Plato’s views on Justice and Communism.
3. Aristotle’s views on the state, and education.
4. Roman political thought: theories of law and citizenship.

**Module II**
5. Medieval thought in Europe: main features with special reference to the views of St Augustine, Marsilius of Padua.
6. St Acquinas, the Conciliar theory.
7. Jean Bodin and his concept of sovereignty.
8. Political thought in the age of Reformation.

**Paper XIII Indian Political Thought**

**Module I**
1. Ancient Indian Political Thought: an overview of Hindu and Buddhist traditions.
3. Manusmriti and Mahabharata: contribution to ethics of kingship.
4. Medieval political thought: politics and religion in the theory of Islamic kingship; duties and responsibilities of Muslim rulers.

**Module II**
5. Rammohun Roy: beginning of modern political thought.
8. Tagore: ideas on nationalism and internationalism.

**Paper XIV Emerging Issues in Political Science (title tentative, to be confirmed later)**

**Module I**
1. Communitarianism, Multiculturalism, Feminism
2. ‘People power’ and politics.
3. Migration; diaspora.

**Module II**
4. The idea of governance: distinction between ‘government’ and ‘governance’.
5. Key concepts: transparency; accountability; responsiveness; efficiency and effectiveness; equity; access.
7. Global governance; Local governance; Global-local interface.

**SEMESTER SIX**

**Paper XV Modern Western Political Thought**

**Module I**
1. Machiavelli and scientific politics.
3. Locke: views on liberty, property, consent.
4. Rousseau: concept of General Will.

**Module II**
5. Hegel: civil society and state.
7. Utopian and Scientific Socialism---basic principles.

**Paper XVI Indian Political Ideas and Movement**

**Module I**
2. Swaraj, Satyagraha and Trusteeship: Gandhi.

**Module II**
5. The INC: its emergence and evolution; Moderate and Extremist phases.
6. Partition of Bengal and the Swadeshi movement.
7. Khilafat and the Non-Cooperation movement; Civil Disobedience movement.
8. Working class and peasant movements: an outline.
9. Roots of communal politics: Savarkar and Hindu nationalism; Jinnah and two-nation theory.
10. Quit India movement; INA; Naval uprising; Partition.

Paper XVII Public Administration

Module I
2. Key concepts: Organisation; Hierarchy; Unity of Command; Span of Control; Authority and Responsibility; Centralisation and Decentralisation; Delegation; Line and Staff.
3. Major approaches: New Public Administration; Comparative Public Administration; Development Administration; New Public Management.
5. Public policy formulation and implementation: strategies and relevance.

Module II
6. Organisation of the Union Government: Secretariat administration; PMO; Cabinet Secretariat.
7. Organisation of the State Government: Chief Secretary and State Secretary.
8. Major institutions: Planning Commission; Comptroller and Auditor General; Public Accounts Committee.
9. Administrative Accountability and Transparency: The idea of Lokpal; Lokayukta; Right to Information.
10. Administration and politics at the local level. Local Government in India: Urban and rural organs. Overview of 73rd and 74th Amendments.

Paper XVIII Dissertation