Honours Course: Discipline Specific Core II

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<tr>
<th>Semester ____</th>
<th>One</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper Number</td>
<td>HPSCR1021T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Title</td>
<td>Constitutional Government and Democracy in India</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of Credits</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theory/Composite</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of periods assigned</td>
<td>Th: 5+1 Tutorial class</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Faculty member(s)</th>
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<th>Course description/objective</th>
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This course acquaints students with the constitutional design of state structures and institutions, and their actual working over time. The Indian Constitution accommodates conflicting impulses (of liberty and justice, territorial decentralization and a strong union, for instance) within itself. The course traces the embodiment of some of these conflicts in constitutional provisions, and shows how these have played out in political practice. It further encourages a study of state institutions in their mutual interaction, and in interaction with the larger extra-constitutional environment.

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<th>Syllabus</th>
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**MODULE I (40 Marks)**

I. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution
   Role of the Constituent Assembly in framing the Constitution; Philosophy of the Constitution: the Preamble, Features of the Constitution(5 lectures)

II. Organs of Government
   a. The Legislature: Parliament---structure and functions, Speaker, Privileges, Committee system (7 lectures)
   b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister---powers, position, Emergency provisions, inter-relation (10 lectures)
   c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court and High Courts, powers, functions and jurisdictions; judicial activism(8 lectures)

**MODULE II (40 Marks)**

III Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles (10 lectures)

IV Federalism and Decentralization (20 lectures)
   a. Federalism: Division of Powers, Fifth and Sixth Schedules (12 lectures)
   b. Panchayati Raj and Municipalities: structure and functions(8 lectures)

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<th>Texts</th>
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<td>Reading/Reference Lists</td>
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| **I. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution**  
Philosophy of the Constitution, the Preamble, and Features of the Constitution  
Essential Readings:  
Additional Reading:  
**II. Organs of Government**  
a. The Legislature: Parliament  
Essential Readings:  
b. The Executive: President and Prime Minister  
Essential Readings:  
c. The Judiciary: Supreme Court  
Essential Readings: |

Additional Reading:

**III. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles**

Essential Readings:

Additional Reading:

**IV. Federalism and Decentralization**

a. Federalism: Division of Powers, Fifth and Sixth Schedules

Essential Readings:
### Additional Readings:

### Essential Readings:
- Baviskar, B.S and George Mathew (eds) 2009 Inclusion and Exclusion in local governance: Field Studies from rural India, New Delhi, Sage.

### Evaluation
- **CIA:** 20
- **End-Sem:** 80
- **Short Notes:** 2 out of 3 of 5 marks each (2x5=10)
- **Essay Type:** 3 out of 4 (3X10= 30) (40 marks per module)
- 40+40 (Module I + Module II= 80) (80+20 CIA=100)