

**C3PS230621T**

<b>Semester: VI</b>	
<b>Programme: POLITICAL SCIENCE</b>	
<b>Course: MODERN WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT</b>	
<b>Paper code: C3PS230621T</b>	<b>Credits: 4</b>
<b>Hours/week: 4</b>	
<b>Category: CORE (MAJOR)</b>	
<b>Theory / Practical / Composite: THEORY</b>	
<b>No of Modules: TWO</b>	
<b>Course Overview:</b> Attempts to develop an understanding of political reality based on distinct perspectives in varied traditions of western political thought. The course attempts to familiarize students with the manner in which political questions were posed in the modern western societies and the reflections of thinkers on the ideas and practices related to state and government. Students are able to comprehend the implications of various political concepts like state, political obligation, government, rights and liberty, socialism and democracy. Facilitates reflection on diverse aspects of political thought and their relevance to contemporary political issues. Students are able to understand the context of the emergence of various contemporary political ideas and practices in the context of the modern western world.	
<b>Course Outcome:</b>	
1. <b>Remember-</b> how political thinkers sought to address tensions and problems in the context of their respective societies; they can estimate their relevance in addressing contemporary political problems in their own societies.	
2. <b>Understand-</b> the various approaches and perceptions in political thought on part of eminent thinkers on political reality. Students are able to comprehend the genesis of various political concepts and categories that originated with political thinkers as they sought to respond to the problems of their times.	
3. <b>Apply-</b> the ability to trace, analyze and interpret contemporary political ideas in the light of questions raised and views expressed by philosophers in the western world.	
4. <b>Analyze-</b> the contemporary political and social problems and aids analysis of the solutions and recommendations furnished by scholars in modern western societies for dealing with multifarious political problems and crises.	
5. <b>Evaluate-</b> the suggestions proposed by the great minds to resolve the problems of their times. They are able to understand the elements in their recommendations that have proved precious and valuable and have stood the test of time. They are also able to detect loopholes in established political concepts and ideas.	
6. <b>Create-</b> comparative reflections, creative responses, or thematic projects that synthesize insights from the political thought of political thinkers to explore contemporary political and social problems.	
<b>Prerequisites: Basic knowledge about any prior course</b>	
<b>SYLLABUS</b>	

UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	1. Hobbes- views on materialist politics and political obligation 2. Locke - views on consent, liberty, property 3. Rousseau- concept of freedom and General Will 4. Hegel- views on civil society and state	26	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6
II.	5. Bentham- foundation of Utilitarianism 6. J.S. Mill- views on liberty and representative government 7. Marx- theory of Dialectical and Historical Materialism 8. Non-Marxist Socialism- Fabianism and German Revisionism	26	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6

#### Suggested readings

1. Nelson, Brian R (1982), *Western Political Thought: From Socrates to the Age of Ideology*, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall
2. Berki, R.N (1977), *The history of political thought – a short introduction*, London: Dent
3. Coker, Francis W (1962), *Recent political thought*, New York and London: D Appleton Century Company
4. Rosen, Michael & Wolff, Jonathan (eds.) (1999), *Political Thought*, New York: Oxford University Press
5. Mukhopadhyay, Amal K, (1988), *Western Political Thought: From Plato to Marx*, Kolkata, K.P. Bagchi & Co.
6. Cornforth, Maurice (1997), *Dialectical Materialism- An Introductory course*, Kolkata: National Book Agency Pvt. Ltd.

#### Evaluation: Theory

CIA: 30 marks (Mid-semester exam: 20+ Assignment: 5+ Attendance: 5)

End semester exam :70 marks

#### Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam Module:

Short Notes: 3 out of 5 of 5 marks each (3x5=15),

Essay Type: 2 out of 4 of 10 marks each (2x10= 20) (35 marks per module)

35+35 (Module I + Module II=70); (70+30=100)

### Course outcomes (COs) and Cognitive Level Mapping

COs	CO Description	Cognitive levels
CO1	<b>Remember:</b> how political thinkers sought to address tensions and problems in the context of their respective societies; they can estimate their relevance in addressing contemporary political problems in their own societies.	<b>K1</b>
CO2	<b>Understand:</b> the various approaches and perceptions in political thought on part of eminent thinkers on political reality. Students are able to comprehend the genesis of various political concepts and categories that originated with political thinkers as they sought to respond to the problems of their times.	<b>K2</b>
CO3	<b>Apply:</b> the ability to trace, analyze and interpret contemporary political ideas in the light of questions raised and views expressed by philosophers in the western world.	<b>K3</b>
CO4	<b>Analyze:</b> contemporary political and social problems and aids analysis of the solutions and recommendations furnished by scholars in modern western societies for dealing with multifarious political problems and crises.	<b>K4</b>
CO5	<b>Evaluate:</b> the suggestions proposed by the great minds to resolve the problems of their times. They are able to understand the elements in their recommendations that have proved precious and valuable and have stood the test of time. They are also able to detect loopholes in established political concepts and ideas.	<b>K5</b>
CO6	<b>Create:</b> comparative reflections, creative responses, or thematic projects that synthesize insights from the political thought of political thinkers to explore contemporary political and social problems.	<b>K6</b>