

CORE- I: UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL THEORY

Course Objective: This course is divided into two sections. Section A introduces the students to the idea of political theory, its history and approaches, and an assessment of its critical and contemporary trends. Section B is designed to reconcile political theory and practice through reflections on the ideas and practices related to democracy.

I: Introducing Political Theory (30 Lectures)

1. What is Politics: Theorizing the 'Political'
2. Traditions of Political Theory: Liberal, Marxist, Anarchist and Conservative
3. Approaches to Political Theory: Normative, Historical and Empirical
4. Critical and Contemporary Perspectives in Political Theory: Feminist and Postmodern

II: Political Theory and Practice (30 Lectures)

The Grammar of Democracy

1. Democracy: The history of an idea
2. Procedural Democracy and its critique
3. Deliberative Democracy
4. Participation and Representation

Essential Readings

I: Introducing Political Theory

Bhargava, R. (2008) 'What is Political Theory', in Bhargava, R and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political*

Theory: An Introduction. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 2-16.

Bellamy, R. (1993) 'Introduction: The Demise and Rise of Political Theory', in Bellamy, R.

(ed.) *Theories and Concepts of Politics*. New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 1-14.

Glaser, D. (1995) 'Normative Theory', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and*

Methods in Political Science. London: Macmillan, pp. 21-40.

Sanders, D. (1995) 'Behavioral Analysis', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 58-75.

Chapman, J. (1995) 'The Feminist Perspective', in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds.) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*. London: Macmillan, pp. 94-114.

Bhargava, R. 'Why Do We Need Political Theory', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 17-36.

Bannett, J. (2004) 'Postmodern Approach to Political Theory', in Kukathas, Ch. and Gaus, G.

F. (eds.) *Handbook of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Sage, pp. 46-54.

Vincent, A. (2004) *The Nature of Political Theory*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004, pp. 19-80.

II: The Grammar of Democracy

Srinivasan, J. (2008) 'Democracy', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 106-128.

Owen, D. (2003) 'Democracy', in Bellamy, R. and Mason, A. (eds.) *Political Concepts*. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, pp. 105-117.

Christiano, Th. (2008) 'Democracy', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 80-96.

Arblaster, A. (1994) *Democracy*. (2nd Edition). Buckingham: Open University Press.

Roy, A. 'Citizenship', in Bhargava, R. and Acharya, A. (eds.) *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New Delhi: Pearson Longman, pp. 130-146.

Brighouse, H. (2008) 'Citizenship', in Mckinnon, C. (ed.) *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 241-258.