



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

PROGRAMME: B.A., LL.B. (HONS.) FYIC

DETAILS OF COURSE OFFERED

ODD SEMESTER (I) – ACADEMIC YEAR:

SL. NO	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	L	T/P	CR	CH
1	102 PSC MJ I	PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE	4 PER WEEK	1 PER WEEK	4	

A CODE AND TITLE OF THE COURSE: 102 PSC MJ I, PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

B COURSE CREDIT: 4 (TOTAL MARKS 200)

C MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH

D COURSE COMPILED BY: DR MAYENGBAM NANDAKISHWOR SINGH

E COURSE INSTRUCTOR: DR MAYENGBAM NANDAKISHWOR SINGH

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

There is a close relationship between Political Science and the legal studies. Both Political Science and Law constantly influence each other. Legal studies remain incomplete unless the study of Political Science is pursued in a proper way. Laws are largely shaped by the prevailing political systems. Legal structure in a society is influenced by its political environment. At the same time, the functioning nature of a political system is also affected by the prevailing legal system. Hence, it becomes imperative for the students to acquire the fundamental knowledge of political systems to understand the process and jurisprudential developments of any legal system. What is equally important for the law students is to grasp the fundamental concepts of Political Science. For a student of law, it is necessary to understand core political concepts in order to develop a critical and analytical mind. The present course has been incorporated to acquaint students with the fundamental political concepts and certain basic political theories. Besides, this course intends to introduce the students to the basic political ideas and basic theoretical framework of Political Science. With this objective, National Law and Judicial Academy, Assam has introduced this course to provide a proper understanding of vital political concepts and theories for students which are directly relevant to the legal studies.

2. TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

National Law University, Assam has framed its own teaching methodology to train its students in learning and understanding of political aspects and issues. The teaching methodology is not just confined to a traditional lecture method but a participatory teaching method with an aim to discuss on various current political aspects. The pedagogy followed is the combination of lectures and intense discussions in the class.

This course requires students to engage in seminars or group discussions for which topics and themes will be assigned well in advance. Assignments will be also assigned to the students as a part of the course. The students are also encouraged to do independent research on their respective assignments. Every student is required to present their topics in the classroom and clear their doubts through discussion.

3. COURSE OUTCOMES

- On completion of the course, the students are expected to understand the nuances of each module and thereby they shall be in a position to undertake political issues with confidence in the society
- The course will also help students to have a clear understanding of the nature and functioning of various political institutions and they can also interpret them with alternative perspectives.

4. COURSE EVALUATION METHOD:

The course will be evaluated for 200 marks. The Evaluation process will be as follows:

Internal Assessment: 70% (140 marks)

External Assessment: 30% (60 marks)

Sl. No.	Internal Assessment	
1.	Assignments (written or in presentation mode) (2 Assignments of 20 marks each)	40 marks
2.	Seminar/Group Discussion (topics will be announced by concerned course teacher)	20 marks
3.	Class Tests (twice in a semester)	2x 35 = 70 marks
4.	Attendance in class	10 marks
5	Semester End Examination	60 marks

5. DETAILED STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE (SPECIFYING COURSE MODULES AND SUB-MODULES)

MODULE I

Political Science and Politics: Meaning, Nature, Scope, Relevance

Political Science and other Social Sciences: Political Science and History; Political Science and Sociology; Political Science and Jurisprudence; Political Science and Economics

MODULE II

State: Idea of State, Elements of State

Modern State: Concept and Characteristics

Emergence of the Post Modern State

Theories of Origin of State: Divine Right Theory; Patriarchal and Matriarchal Theories; Evolutionary Theory

Social Contract Theory: Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, J. J. Rousseau

Marxist Theory of Origin of State

MODULE III

Sovereignty: Meaning, Features and Challenges

Nominal or Titular Sovereignty: Concept and Features

Real Sovereignty: Concept and Features

De Jure Sovereignty: Concept and Features

De Facto: Sovereignty: Concept and Features

Political Sovereignty; Legal Sovereignty; Popular Sovereignty

Organs of Government:

Legislature, Features and Functions

Executive, Features and Functions

Judiciary, Features and Functions

Relationship between Judiciary and Legislature

Independence of Judiciary: Pre-requisites, Merits and Demerits

MODULE IV

Theory of Checks and Balances: Concept, Merits and Demerits

Theory of Separation of Powers: Concept, Merits and Demerits

Rule of Law: Concept, Significance and Challenges

Liberty and Equality

Power, Authority and Legitimacy

6. PRESCRIBED READINGS:

Agarwal, R. C. *Political Theory*. New Delhi: S. Chand and Company Ltd., 2006.

Appadurai, A. *The Substance of Politics*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Barker, Ernest. *Principles of Social and Political Theory*. New Delhi: Surjit Publications, 2005.

Barry, Norman, P. *An Introduction to Modern Political Theory*. London: Macmillan, 1988.

Bhargava, Rajeev. *What Is Political Theory and Why Do We Need It?* New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2011.

- Gauba, O. P. *An Introduction to Political Theory*. New Delhi: Macmillan Publishers India, 2009.
- Hacker, Andrew. *Political Theory: Philosophy, Ideology and Science*. Toronto: Macmillan Publishers, 1961.
- Held, David. *Political Theory and the Modern State*. London: Polity Press, 1994.
- Heywood, Andrew. *Political Theory: An Introduction*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004.
- Heywood, Andrew. *Politics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2002.
- Joad, C. E. M. *Introduction to Modern Political Theory*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1973.
- Johari, J. C. *Contemporary Political Theory: New Dimensions, Basic Concepts and Major Trends*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers Private Limited, 2009.
- Kapoor, A. C. *Principles of Political Science*. New Delhi: S. Chand and Co., 2008.
- Mahajan, V, D. *Political Theory*. New Delhi: S. Chand and Company Ltd, 2005.
- Ramaswamy, Sushila. *Political Theory: Ideas and Concepts*. New Delhi: Macmillan Publishers, 2003.
- Ray, Amal and Mohit Bhattacharya. *Political Theory: Ideas and Institutions*. Kolkata: The World Press Pvt. Ltd., 1988.
- Varma, S. P. *Modern Political Theory*. New Delhi: Vikash Publishing House, 2009.