



**NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM**

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

**DETAILS OF COURSE OFFERED**

**ODD SEMESTER (V) – ACADEMIC YEAR: .....**

| <b>SL. NO</b> | <b>COURSE CODE</b>              | <b>COURSE TITLE</b>            | <b>L</b>                  | <b>T/P</b>                | <b>CR</b> | <b>CH</b> |
|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>1</b>      | <b>501<br/>PSC MJ V<br/>(I)</b> | <b>THEORIES OF<br/>JUSTICE</b> | <b>4<br/>PER<br/>WEEK</b> | <b>1<br/>PER<br/>WEEK</b> | <b>4</b>  |           |

- A. CODE AND TITLE OF THE COURSE: 501 PSC MJ V (I), THEORIES OF JUSTICE**
- B. COURSE CREDIT: 4 (TOTAL MARKS: 200)**
- C. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH**
- D. COMPILED BY: DR MAYENGBAM NANDAKISHWOR SINGH**
- E. COURSE INSTRUCTOR: DR MAYENGBAM NANDAKISHWOR SINGH**

## **1. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course on Theories of Justice comes under the Political Thought. The course of Political Thought, a major branch of Political Science is meant to train and equip the students the comprehensive knowledge and ideas of various political thinkers, ranging from the classical to the contemporary times. Political thought essentially deals with the views, ideas and speculations of different political thinkers on numerous political aspects from time to time. As a matter of fact, political thought is a study of how political thinkers attempt to explain the causes and consequences of various political issues and problems. It also analyses as to how political thinkers have provided different frameworks and propositions to address the problems occurring in society, thereby showing the ways for better alternatives.

In this course on Theories of Justice, the objective is to introduce students to various theories of justice. This course aims to dissect various thinkers from diverse schools of thought who propound theories of justice. As there is progress in human society each passing day, new challenges and needs keep recurring. The question of justice keeps coming throughout the human history. It is extremely pertinent for students to understand the theories of justice—past and present. This course is also designed with a view to widening the horizons of students on the complexities inherent in the theories of justice. With several theories on justice having been advanced by several thinkers, the scope of discussion on justice has also vastly widened. This course also aims to re-examine many of the leading theories on justice afresh.

## **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 and clear their doubts through discussion.

### 3. COURSE OUTCOMES

- On completion of the course, students are expected to understand the nuances of justice. Students will be able to familiarise with various political thinkers who have advanced several theories of justice
- This course will enable students to fathom the complexities involved in trying to arrive at the definite theory of justice
- As this course aims to expand the horizons of the students in the field of justice, students will be in the better position to engage effectively on the question of justice
- Moreover, it will enable them to look at various thinkers who propound powerful theories of justice and assess them afresh.

### 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)<br>(2 Assignments of 20 marks each)   | 40 marks         |
| 2.      | Seminar/Group Discussion<br>( topics will be announced by concerned course teacher) | 20 marks         |
| 3.      | Class Tests<br>( 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

- Justice: Meaning, Kinds, Schools, Importance, Difficulties of Defining Justice

#### MODULE II

- Greek Theories of Justice:
- Plato and Aristotle
- Anarchist Theories of Justice:
- Bakunin and Proudhon

### **MODULE III**

- Liberal Theories of Justice:
- John Rawls and Robert Nozick
- Communitarian Theories of Justice:
- Michael Sandel and Michael Walzer
- Utilitarian Theories of Justice:
- Jeremy Bentham and J S Mill

### **MODULE IV**

- Socialist Theories of Justice
- Karl Marx and Utopian Socialists

## **6. PRESCRIBED READINGS:**

Aristotle. *The Politics*. England: Penguin Books, 1992.

Barker, Ernest. *Greek Political Thought*. New Delhi: Cosmo Publications, 2008.

Barker, Ernest. *The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle*. Memphis: General Books, 2012.

Bhandari, D. R. *History of European Political Philosophy*. Bangalore: Bappco, 1969.

Feser, Edward. *On Nozick*. Singapore: Thomson Wadsworth, 2004.

Freeman, Samuel. *Rawls*. London: Routledge, 2007.

Gauba, O. P. *Western Political Thought*. Delhi: Macmillan Publishers India Ltd, 2013.

Held, David. *Political Theory and the Modern State*. London: Polity Press, 1994.

Kamenka, Eugene, ed. *The Portable Karl Marx*. New York: Penguin Books, 1983.

Kymlicka, Will. *Contemporary Political Philosophy*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Nozick, Robert. *Anarchy, State, And Utopia*. New York: Basic Books, 1974.

Plato. *The Republic*. England: Penguin Books, 2007.

Ratnapala, Suri, *Jurisprudence*. New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Rawls, John. *A Theory Of Justice*. New Delhi: Universal Law Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd, 2010.

Sabine, George H. *A History of Political Theory*. New Delhi: Oxford Publications, 1973.

Schneewind, J. B. *The Basic Writings of John Stuart Mill*. New York: The Modern Library, 2002.

Sen, Amartya. *The Idea of Justice*. London: Penguin Books, 2010.

Singh, Sukhbir. *History of Political Thought*. Vol. 1. Meerut: Rastogi publications, 1999.

Singh, Sukhbir. *History of Political Thought*. Vol. 2. Meerut: Rastogi publications, 1999.

Wayper, C, L. *Political Thought*. Bombay: B. I. Publications, 1974.