



Department of Political Science with Rural Administration

Vidyasagar University

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M. Phil Programme in Political Science

SYLLABUS



Department of Political Science with Rural Administration

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Integrated M. Phil. / Ph. D. Programme

Syllabus

Year	Semester	Course No	Course Title	Full Marks	
1 st Year	I (For M. Phil. And Ph. D.)	PLS- 111	Social Science Research: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS- 112	Logic of Scientific Inquiry	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS- 113	Research Methods and Techniques	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS- 114	For M. Phil. Statistical Methods and Techniques	For Ph. D. Project Work Under the Supervisor	50 (For Ph. D.) (Exam.- 40+ IA 10 – M. Phil)
	II (For M. Phil. Only)	PLS- 121	Advance Areas in Political Theory	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS- 122	Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Challenges	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS-123	Emerging Areas in International Relations	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)	
		PLS- 124	Social and Political Movements		
	2 nd Year	(For M. Phil. Only)	PLS- 201	Dissertation	100 (Written-70. Viva- Voce-30)

M.Phil. First Semester

Course No: PLS-111

Social Science Research: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives

Group-A

1. Inductive and Deductive Methods
2. Ethical Controversies in Social Sciences
3. Qualitative versus Quantitative Methods
4. Methodological Individualism

Group-B

5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Normative versus Empirical.
6. Positivist Methodology in International Relations.
7. Post-Positivist Methodologies: Post-Modernism, Constructivism and Critical Theory.
8. Explaining IR versus Understanding IR: Ontology and Epistemology.

M.Phil. First Semester

Course No: PLS-112

Logic of Scientific Inquiry

Group- A

1. Basic Orientations Towards the Scientific Method – Characteristics of Scientific Knowledge
2. Science, Theory and Fact – Role of Theory in Social Science Research.
3. Concepts, Variables and Hypotheses as building blocks of Theory.
4. Role of 'Value' in Social Science Research.

Group – B

5. Reading Politics : Causal, reason- action, hermeneutic, postmodern
6. Ideology and Interpellation :Althusseis intervention
7. Positivism :Auguste Comte's contributions
8. Karl Popper : 'Falsifiability' of scientific theory

M. Phil. 1st Semester

Course No. PLS-113

Research Methods and Techniques

Group - A

1. Stages of Conducting Research: (a) Formulating Research Questions; (b) Literature Review; (c) Formulating the Hypothesis; (d) Defining the Concepts; (e) Operationalizing the Concepts etc.
2. Action Research Design and Case Study Design
3. Causal Design and Descriptive Design
4. Mixed Design.

Group - B

5. Survey Research: Meaning, Different Phases and Components
6. Different Techniques and Methods of Survey Research: Sampling, Interview and Questionnaire.
7. Analysis of Survey Data: Formatting a Data file; constructing a Code; Approaches to Data Entry; Data Cleaning.
8. Ethical Issues in Survey Research.

M. Phil. 1st Semester

Course No. PLS-114

Statistical Methods and Techniques

Group- A

1. Introduction
2. Statistics in Social Science Research
3. Collection of Data
4. Organisation of Data

Group- B

5. Presentation of Data
6. Frequency Curves and Diagrams
7. Measures of Central Tendency
8. Measures of Dispersion

M.Phil. Second Semester

Course No: PLS-121

Advance Areas in Political Theory

Group A

1. Agamben's concept of Sovereign Power and 'bare life'.
2. Identify, Difference, Toleration
3. Multiculturalism and its cities.
4. Political Theory and the Environment.

Group B

5. Issues of 'identity' and 'distribution' in post liberal times: the debate between Nancy Fraser and Axel Honneth
6. David Harvey : primitive accumulation after globalisation
7. Mikhail Bakhtin : Dialogue and Heteroglossia
8. Reading novels as dialogues

M. Phil Second Semester

Course No. PLS-122

Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Challenges

Group A

1. Secularism
2. Censorship in Post-Colonial India
3. Gender Inequality in India
4. Military and Democracy in India

Group B

5. Socio Historical Foundations of Indian Democracy
6. Democracy and Development
7. Media and Politics in India
8. Anti-Corruption Politics in India

M.Phil. Second Semester

Course No: PLS-123

Emerging Areas in International Relations

Group-A

1. The future of international relations (Fred Halliday)
2. The classical international theory. [Is there a classical international theory?]
[Robert Jackson]
3. The achievements of Post-Structuralism. [Richard Ashley]
4. The contributions of feminist theory to international relations. [Christine Sylvester]

Group-B

5. Post-colonial theory of world politics. [Christine Sylvester] [Baylis and Smith]
6. Regionalism in international affairs. [Edward Best] [Baylis and Smith]
7. Globalisation and the post-cold war order. [Ian Clark] [Baylis and Smith]
8. Human security. [Amitabh Acharya]

M. Phil. 2nd Semester

Course No. 124

Social and Political Movements

Group - A

1. Social and Political Movements: Conceptual and Theoretical Framework
2. Civil Rights Movements
3. Women Movements in India
4. Minority Groups and Students Movements in India

Group -B

5. Tribal Movements in India
6. Dalit Movements in India
7. Farmers Movement in India
8. Environmental Movements in India