

## **University of Kashmir, Srinagar**

### **P.G. Entrance Syllabus for 1-Year P.G. Programme in Political Science, 2026 (NEP 2020)**

#### **Unit 1: Political Science: Introduction**

1. Understanding Politics
2. Perspectives on Politics: Liberal and Marxist
3. Normative and Scientific Debates in Politics
4. State: Evaluation and Elements; Theories of its origin, Difference between State, Civil Society and Nation
5. Perspectives of State: Liberal, Marxist and Feminist

#### **Unit 2: Political Theory: Concepts**

1. Liberty: Negative vs. Positive
2. Equality: Liberal, Libertarian and Socialist Perspectives
3. Justice: Procedural and Distributive
4. Democracy: Procedural and Substantive
5. Power and Legitimacy: Gramsci and Althusser

#### **Unit 3: Indian Government and Politics: Institutions**

1. Constituent Assembly of India: Formation and Working
2. Basic Features of Indian Constitution
3. Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy
4. Union Legislature and Executive: Structure and Powers
5. Supreme Court and Election Commission: Composition and Jurisdiction

#### **Unit 4: Indian Politics: Processes**

1. Indian Federalism: Nature and emerging issues
2. Decentralization(73rd and 74th Amendments)
3. Party System: Working and Dynamics
4. Religion and Caste in Indian Politics
5. Ethnicity and Regional Disparities

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### **Unit 5: International Relations: Introduction and Key Concepts**

1. International Relations: Meaning and Evolution
2. Nature, Scope and Significance of International Relations
3. Nation-State System: Emergence and Features
4. National Power and National Interest: Meaning and Elements
5. Balance of Power, Arms Race and Disarmament

### **Unit 6: Cold war and Post-Cold War Global Issues**

1. Cold War: Origin, Phases and End
2. UNO: Working, Organs and Reforms
3. Globalization: Different Perspectives
4. Non-Alignment: Historical Context and Contemporary Relevance
5. Contemporary Global Issues: Climate Change, Human Security, Poverty and Hunger

### **Unit 7: Indian Political Thought**

1. Ancient and Modern Indian Political Thought: Salient Features
2. Indian Renaissance: M. N Roy and Sir Syed
3. Gandhi and Ambedkar: Modernity, Swaraj and Emancipatory thought
4. Nationalism: Maulana Azad and V D Savarkar
5. Alternative Discourses: Tagore and Iqbal

### **Unit 8: Political Ideologies**

1. Ideology: Meaning, Significance and Different Approaches
2. End of Ideology Debate
3. Liberalism: Nature, Foundations and Principles
4. Conservatism: Nature, Foundations and Principles
5. Marxism: Dialectical and Historical Materialism

### **Unit 9: Contemporary Political Theory**

1. Debate on Decline and Resurgence of Political Theory
2. John Rawls and: Distributive Justice and Libertarianism
3. Robert Nozick: Libertarianism

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4. Michael Sandel: Communitarianism
5. Will Kymlicka: Aboriginal Rights

## **Unit 10: India's Foreign Policy**

1. Understanding Foreign Policy: Decision Making Approach
2. Determinants of India's Foreign Policy
3. Changing Nature of India's Foreign Policy: From Nonalignment to Multi-alignment
4. India's Neighbourhood Policy (SAARC and Relations with Neighbours)
5. Look East Policy

## Unit 11: Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies

1. Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies
2. Peace and Conflict Studies: Different Theories
3. Sources of Conflict: Socio-Economic, Ethnic, Religious and Environmental
4. Mediation and Negotiation
5. Peace Building and Post-Conflict Reconstruction
6. Contemporary Issues: Cyber Security, Human Rights and Migration

## Unit 12: Post-Colonial Theory and Practice

1. Post-Colonial Theory: Definition and Key Concepts—Orientalism, Subaltern and Hybridity
2. Key Thinkers and Texts: Said's *Orientalism* and Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*
3. Neocolonialism and Economic Dependency
4. Post-Colonial Perspectives on Global Institutions
5. Constitutionalism and Development Models in Postcolonial Societies

## Unit 13: Classical Political Philosophy

1. Meaning and Methods of doing Political Philosophy—Textual and Contextual
2. Plato and Aristotle: Basic Themes from *The Republic* and *The Politics*
3. Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau: Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract
4. Jeremy Bentham and J S Mill: Utilitarianism and Liberty
5. Karl Marx: Alienation, Class and Revolution

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Head  
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John Bonner

#### **Unit 14: Theories of IR and Politics of South Asia**

1. Realism: Morgenthau and Waltz
2. Liberalism: Complex Interdependence (Keohane and Nye) and Democratic Peace Thesis (M. Doyle)
3. Critical Perspectives: Critical Theory, Constructivism and Feminism
4. South Asia as a Region: Colonialism and Nationalism
5. Democracy, Political Economy and Human Development in South Asia

#### **Unit 15: Gender and Human Rights**

1. Feminism and its Waves
2. Patriarchy, Gender and Public/Private Dichotomy
3. Meaning and Different Perspectives on Human Rights
4. Human Rights of Children, Migrants and Refugees
5. Politics of Gender and Human Rights in India

#### **Unit 16: Foreign Policy Decision Making, Media, and Political Communication**

1. Rational Actor and Bureaucratic Models of Decision Making
2. Role of Public opinion and Media in shaping Foreign Policy/Decision Making
3. Meaning, Nature and Scope of Political Communication
4. Political Campaigning Strategies and Formation of Public Opinion
5. Opinion Polls, Surveys and Social Media

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