

POLITICAL SCIENCE

M. Phil/Ph.D Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	Type	Credits	Total
PSC-RS-C101	Research Methodology	C	4	100
PSC-RS-C102	Emerging Trends in Political Science	C	4	100
PSC-RS-C103	Literature Review and Research Proposal Writing	C	4	100

PSC-RS-C101: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Unit I: Foundations, Approaches and Epistemologies of Political Science Research

Philosophy of Research; Research in Political Science and its Scope; Approaches to Research in Political Science: Traditional and Behavioural Approaches; Post-Behavioural Approaches: Critical, Constructivist, Marxist. Social Science and the Question of Objectivity.

Epistemologies: Hermeneutics and Hermeneutics Phenomenology; Modernity and Post Modernity; Feminist Methodology.

Unit II: Scientific Method in Research

Problem Formulation and Hypothesis; Identification of Variables, Concepts and Operationalisation of Concepts; Linking Data with Concepts and Units; Data analysis; basics of SPSS; Plagiarism and Copyrights.

Unit III: Research Design and Method of Data Collection

Purposes of Research: Exploration, Description and Explanation; Unit of Analysis: Individuals, Groups, Organisations and Social Artifacts; Design of Research Projects; Issues in qualitative and quantitative designs.

Method of Data Collection: Questionnaire; Interviews (Face to Face, Interview Schedule, Telephone Interview, Internet Interview); Participant Observation, Focussed Group Discussion, In-depth Interview, Ethnographic Method; Case study.

Unit IV: Sampling and Writing Social Research

Population and Sample: Types of Sampling Methods: Probability and Non Probability Sampling; Types of Sampling Designs: Simple Random, Systematic, Stratified, Multi-stage Cluster, Purposive, Snowballing and Quota; Writing Research Proposal.

Essential Readings

- Bleicher, J. (1980). *Contemporary Hermeneutics-Hermeneutics as Method, Philosophy and Critique*. London: Routledge.
- Chakravorty Spivak, Gayatri (1999). *A Critique of Postcolonial Reason: Toward a History of the Vanishing Present*. Harvard: Harvard University Press.
- Cresswell, John W. (2003). *Research Design. Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed methods approaches*. New Delhi: Sage.
- Giddens, Anthony (1991). *The Consequences of Modernity*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- McNabb, David E. (2004). *Research methods for Political Science. Quantitative and Qualitative Methods*. New Delhi: Prentice Hall.
- Punch, Keith F. (2005). *Introduction to Social Research. Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*. Sage.
- King, Gary, Keohane, Robert O. & Verba, Sidney. (1994). *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Nachmias, C. & Nachmias, D. (1992). *Research Methods in the Social Sciences*. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Pennings, Paul, Keman, Hans & Kleinnijenhuis, Jan (2006). *Doing research in Political Science*, New Delhi: Sage.
- Verma, S.L. (1989). *Research Methodology in Political Science: Theory and Analysis*. Jaipur: Rawat.

PSC-RS-C102: EMERGING TRENDS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Unit I: Contemporary Political Theories

Liberalism, Neo-liberalism; Libertarianism, Communitarianism; Post-Modernism; Post-Colonialism; Structuralism; Post-Marxism; Scientific Humanism.

Unit II: Contemporary Political Ideologies

Ideology: Nature and Functions; Feminism; Environmentalism; Neo-Marxism; Multiculturalism.

Unit III: Contemporary Theories in World Politics

Contemporary Theories to International Relations: Critical Theory, Postmodernism, Constructivism, Gender and Culture in world politics.

Unit IV: Contemporary Theories of Democracy

Liberal Democracy; Liberal democratic theory; Protective and Developmental, Participatory Democracy and Deliberative Democracy; Radical Pluralism.

Essential Readings

- Cunningham, Frank. (2002). *Theories of Democracy: A Critical Introduction*. New York: Routledge.
- Dougherty, James E. & Pfaltzgraff, Robert L. (2001). *Contending Theories of International Relations: A Comprehensive Survey (5th Edition)*, New York: Longman.
- Eatwell, Roger & Wright, Anthony. (1999). *Contemporary Political Ideologies*. London: Continuum International Publishing Group.
- Gandhi, Leela (2005). *Post-Colonial Theory*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Hyland, James L. (1995). *Democratic Theory: The philosophical foundations*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- James, M. (2004). *Deliberative Democracy and the Plural Polity*. Lawrence: University Press Kansas.
- Rawls, John (1993). *Political Liberalism*. Columbia: Columbia University Press.
- Roach, Steven C. ed. (2009). *Critical Theory and International Relations: A Reader*. New York: Routledge.
- Vincent, Andrew. (1993). *Modern Political Ideologies*. London: Blackwell.
- Walters, Margret (2008). *Feminism*. New Delhi, Oxford University Press.

PSC-RS-C103: REVIEW OF LITERATURE AND RESEARCH PROPOSAL WRITING

The Literature Review and Research Proposal will be a written report providing an outline of the research to be undertaken by the student as part of the MPhil/PhD programme. The research proposal will include background information in the form of a literature review, aims and significance of the research and the methodology/experimental design to be used. This will be undertaken in the first semester of the MPhil/PhD programme. This paper is of 4 credits and 100 marks.