

## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

1.	<b>Program</b>	BS Political Science																						
2.	<b>Title</b>	Western Political Philosophy (Modern Political Thought)																						
3.	<b>Semester</b>	6 <sup>th</sup>																						
4.	<b>Code</b>	BS -PS310																						
5.	<b>Rating</b>	04 Credit Hours																						
6.	<b>Type</b>	Core Course																						
7.	<b>Pre-requisites</b>																							
8.	<b>Introduction</b>	This course examines major texts in the history of political thought. Many of these texts pose difficult questions concerning the political community, social order, and human nature. This course asks how different views on human nature and the uses of history inform the design of government. It also considers the ways in which various thinkers have responded to the political problems of their times, and the ways in which they contribute to a broader conversation about human goods and needs, justice, democracy, and the ever- changing relationship between the citizen and the state.																						
9.	<b>Objectives</b>	One of our central aims in this course will be to gain a critical perspective on our times by evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of various regimes and philosophical approaches. We will also work to better understand those assumptions and basic concepts that define the field of political science. Each of the units that comprise this course is devoted to a broad theme central to understanding politics.																						
10.	<b>Contents</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Week</th> <th>Contents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Week 1-2</td> <td>Thomas Hobbes's Leviathan: His conception of Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, Sovereignty and Absolutism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 3-4</td> <td>John Locke: His conception of Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, Democracy, Liberty</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 5-6</td> <td>JJ Rousseau: Theory of Social Contract, General Will and Paradox of Freedom, Sovereignty</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 7-8</td> <td>Jeremy Bentham: Theory of Utilitarianism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 9</td> <td><b>Mid Term Exams</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 10</td> <td>J S Mill: On Liberty</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 11</td> <td>F. Hegel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 12-13</td> <td>Karl Marx: Economic Foundation, Surplus Value, Class Struggle, Dialectic Interpretation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 14-15</td> <td>I. Kant: Perpetual Peace and Liberalism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week 16-17</td> <td>Montesquieu's Theory of Separation of Powers and Sovereignty</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Week	Contents	Week 1-2	Thomas Hobbes's Leviathan: His conception of Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, Sovereignty and Absolutism	Week 3-4	John Locke: His conception of Human Nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, Democracy, Liberty	Week 5-6	JJ Rousseau: Theory of Social Contract, General Will and Paradox of Freedom, Sovereignty	Week 7-8	Jeremy Bentham: Theory of Utilitarianism	Week 9	<b>Mid Term Exams</b>	Week 10	J S Mill: On Liberty	Week 11	F. Hegel	Week 12-13	Karl Marx: Economic Foundation, Surplus Value, Class Struggle, Dialectic Interpretation	Week 14-15	I. Kant: Perpetual Peace and Liberalism	Week 16-17	Montesquieu's Theory of Separation of Powers and Sovereignty
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		Week 18	Final Term Exams
11.	<b>Outcome</b>	Students are expected to have the complete understanding of medieval and modern age political thinkers and their political thought. Students are expected to relate the philosophy to modern issues of political theory and practice.	
12.	<b>Recommended Books / Reference</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Judd Harmon, <i>Political Thought forms Plato to the Present</i>: New York, McGraw Hill, 1964.</li> <li>➤ Jha, Shefali. <i>Western Political Thought</i>, Publisher: Pearson India, <i>August 2009</i></li> <li>➤ Nelson, B.R (2006). <i>Western Political Thought: From Socrates to the Age of Ideology</i>. (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed) Pearson.</li> <li>➤ Paul Cartledge, “Greek Political Thought: The Historical Context”, in <i>Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Political Thought</i> (Cambridge, 2000)</li> <li>➤ Janet Coleman, <i>A History of Political Thought</i>, (Malden, MA, 2000)</li> <li>➤ Joseph Canning, <i>A History of Medieval Political Thought, 300–1450</i> (London, 1996)</li> <li>➤ R. W. Southern, <i>Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages</i> (New York, 1970)</li> <li>➤ E. A. Rees, <i>Political Thought from Machiavelli to Stalin</i> (Houndmills, 2004)</li> <li>➤ George Sabine, <i>A History of Political Theory</i> (Hinsdale, IL, 4th edn., 1973)</li> <li>➤ Christopher Rowe and Malcolm Schofield, eds, <i>The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Political Thought</i> (Cambridge, 2000).</li> <li>➤ Sheldon Wolin, <i>Politics and Vision: Continuity and Innovation in Western Political Thought</i> (Princeton, 2004)</li> </ul>	

**Assessment Criteria:**

<b>Requirements</b>	
Assignments/Quizzes/Project/Case Study/Team Presentations	
Mid-Term Exam	
Final Term Exam	