UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Notification No. CSR/48/18

It is notified for information of all concerned that the Syndicate in its meeting held on 13.07.2018 (vide Item No.11) approved the Syllabus of Two-Year (Four-Semester) M.A. Course of Study in Political Science under CBCS in the Post-Graduate Departments of the University and in the affiliated Colleges offering Post-Graduate Courses under this University, as laid down in the accompanying pamphlet.

The above shall be effective from the academic session 2018-2019.

SENATE HOUSE
KOLKATA-700073
The 13th August, 2018

(Debabrata Manha)
Deputy Registrar (Acting)
Political Science

M.A. Syllabus and Examination Rules

University of Calcutta
1. The Syllabus, if approved, will be operational from the session indicated in the order of the appropriate authority.
2. The M.A. Syllabus in Political Science will be of two years' duration to be divided into 4 semesters of even duration, that is 06 (six) months.
3. There will be 20 Courses – each with 4 credits thereby totalling 80 credits.
4. Each Course will be divided into two Units.
5. Each Course will be of 50 marks – 10 of which will be earmarked for Mid-Semester Internal Assessment in such forms as Written Examinations, Book Reviews, Review Essays, Interviews, Short Projects or any other form that may be decided by the Postgraduate Board of Studies in Political Science from time to time.
6. Reference Lists are only indicative and not exhaustive.
7. Each semester will consist of 5 courses as per the following sequence:

Semester I:

Core Cluster A: Western Political Thought and Theory
Course CCI: Enlightenment and Liberalism
Course CCII: Enlightenment: Lineages and Critiques

Core Cluster B: Modern India: Ideas, Governance, Politics
Course CCIII: Ideational Trajectories and Movements
Course CCIV: State, Society and Economy

Core Cluster C: Public Administration
Course CCV: Theories, Concepts and Organization

Semester II:
Core Cluster C: Public Administration (Continued)

Course CCVI: Public Policy Analysis and Indian Administration

Core Cluster D: International Relations

Course CCVII: Theories, Concepts and Issues

Course CCVIII: Political Economy and India's External Relations

Core Cluster E: Political Sociology

Course CCIX: State and Society: Key Concepts

Course CCX: Conflicts, Development and Communication

Semester III:

Core Cluster F: Politics of Development

Course CCXI: Concepts, Theories and Contexts

Course CCXII: Themes and Issues

Plus

[Eligible students are to choose any two DSE Clusters (each Cluster consisting of 03 Courses) from out of the following – one each for Semester III and Semester IV respectively. The exact number of DSE clusters to be opened in a particular semester will be decided by the Departmental Committee before the semester.]

DSE Cluster A: Development Studies

DSE AI: The Global-Transnational and the Local

DSE AII: The Rural and the Urban

DSE AIII: The Indian Context

DSE Cluster B: Research Methodology
DSE BI: Concepts, Debates and Issues

DSE BII: Research Methods

DSE BIII: Term Paper/Dissertation/Poster Presentation/Assignment Writing or any other form that may be decided by the Postgraduate Board of Studies in Political Science from time to time

DSE Cluster C: Contemporary India: Society and Politics

DSE CI: State, Society and Politics

DSE CII: Development and Politics

DSE CII: Region, State, Supra- and Sub-State Politics

DSE Cluster D: Contemporary India: Society and Politics

DSE DI: Gender and Sexuality

DSE DII: Public Institutions in India

DSE DIII: Term Paper/Dissertation/Poster Presentation/Assignment Writing or any other form that may be decided by the Postgraduate Board of Studies in Political Science from time to time

DSE Cluster E: Politics in South Asia

DSE EI: States, Nations and Region

DSE EII: Debates on Democracy and Development

DSE EIII: Issues, Challenges and Resistance

DSE Cluster F: Gender and Politics

DSE FI: Feminism: Concepts and Issues

DSE FII: Feminist Perspectives

DSE FIII: Gender Politics in India
Semester IV:

[Eligible students are to choose one DSE cluster from the above list, other than the one they have already chosen plus two GE Courses from outside the Department. The Department offers the following GE Courses. The Departmental Committee will determine the exact number of GE Courses to be opened for a particular semester before the Semester.]

One DSE Cluster for this Semester

plus

Two GE Courses (for the students from outside the Department)

GEI: Urban Governance in India
GEII: Human Rights in India
GEIII: Globalization and Politics
GEIV: Social and Political Movements in Modern India
GE V: Politics of the Himalayan Region
GE VI: Environmental Governance
M.A. Syllabus in Political Science
University of Calcutta
Core Cluster A

Western Political Thought and Theory
Course – CCI (50 Marks)

Enlightenment and Liberalism

Unit I: Enlightenment

1. European Enlightenment and Origins of Modernity
2. Immanuel Kant: Enlightenment and Autonomy
3. Hegel: Recognition and Civil Society

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Liberalism

1. Precursors and Exponents of Classical Liberalism
2. Contemporary Liberalism: Rawls, Nozick and Dworkin
3. Critiques of Liberalism: Communitarianism; Multiculturalism; Deliberative Democracy

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-CCII (50 Marks)**

**Enlightenment: Lineages and Critiques**

**Unit I: Interrogating Enlightenment**

1. Nietzsche’s Theory of Will to Power
2. From Modernity to Post-Modernism: An Overview
3. Theories of Postcolonialism
4. Feminist Responses to Enlightenment
5. Ecological Critique

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Marxism and Post-Marxism**

1. Marx: Ideology, Civil Society and State
2. Hegemony, Ideology and State: Gramsci, Althusser, Poulantzas
3. Post-Marxism: Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe
4. Sources of Cultural Marxism

References (Indicative Only):

**Core Cluster B**

*Modern India: Ideas, Governance, Politics*

**Course-CCIII (50 Marks)**

**Ideational Trajectories and Movements**

**Unit I: Ideational Trajectories**

2. Socialist ideas: Nehru, J.P. Narayan and Vinobha Bhave
3. ‘Organising’ Religions: Thoughts of M.S. Golwalkar and M. Iqbal

**References (Indicative Only):**


**Unit II: Social and Political Movements**

1. Social Movements: ‘Old’ and ‘New’
2. Mobilizations in Agriculture and Industry: An Overview
3. Contemporary Social Movements: Identity politics; Dalit assertions; Women’s movements; Human rights issues; Environmental concerns; Livelihood movements; Movements by the Sexual minorities

**References (Indicative Only):**


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**Course-CCIV (50 Marks)**

**State, Society and Economy: Interfaces**

**Unit I: State and Society**

1. Perspectives on Indian Social Structure: Debates on Hierarchy and Equality
2. Religion
3. Caste
4. Gender
5. Class

**References (Indicative Only):**


**Unit II: State, Economy, Market**

1. Development Planning: Rationale; Challenges
2. Coming of the Market in the 1990s
3. Market and the changing Institutions of Governance
4. Key Sectors: Power, Communications, Education and Health

References (Indicative Only):


Core Cluster C

Public Administration

Course-CCV (50 Marks)

Theories, Concepts and Organization

Unit I: Theoretical and Conceptual Developments
1. From ‘Government’ to ‘Governance’: Paradigm Shift. State, Market and Civil Society in Administration
2. New Approaches: New Public Management; Public Choice Theory; Entrepreneurial Government; Feminist approach
3. Emerging concepts: Corporate Governance; e-Governance; Green Governance

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Organization Theory: Foundations and Transitions

1. Modern Organization in/as Society; Organizational Revolution—emergence and impact
2. The ‘politics’ in organizations —theoretical and methodological dimensions
3. Key factors: Creativity- Motivation- Leadership- Communication
4. Limitations of the Modern paradigm: Postmodern Turn; Critique and ‘Post-Postmodern’

References (Indicative Only):

1. Public Policy as a concept and field of study
2. Public Policy, Administration and Political Environment, Rise and Growth of Policy Analysis
3. Policy dynamics: context, actors and agenda-Setting
4. Approaches: Rationalist; Incrementalist; Political Economy
5. Policy Evaluation Techniques

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Public Administration in India

1. From welfare state to managerial state; Impact of Liberalization on Indian Administration (with specific case studies)
2. Public-Private debate in Indian Administration; Public-Private Partnership
3. Public Interest and Public Management: changing scenario
4. Policy Appraisal: Health; Education; Water; Agriculture; Transport; Energy; Environment [select cases]

References (Indicative Only):


(Also, Special Issues of the *Indian Journal of Public Administration*).
Core Cluster D

International Relations
Course-CCVII (50 Marks)
Theories, Concepts and Issues

Unit I: Theories and Concepts

1. Introducing ‘Great Debates’
2. Realism and Neo-Realism
3. Liberalism and Neo Liberalism
4. Social Constructivism
5. Marxist, Neo-Marxist, Critical and Post Modern theories

References (Indicative only):

Unit II: Key Issues

1. Cold War and its Interpretations

References (Indicative Only):

**Course-CCVIII (50 Marks)**

**Political Economy and India’s External Relations**

**Unit I: Political Economy of International Relations**

1. Theories of International Political Economy: Liberal Interdependence Theory; Hegemonic Stability Theory; Dependency Theory and beyond

2. Developments in IPE: Changing Trade Regimes — Bretton Woods System, IMF, World Bank, GATT, WTO; Issues related to Global Trade and Security; Regional Political Economic Formations (ASEAN, APEC, SICA, NAFTA, SAFTA, BRICS); Protests in the Age of Globalisation

References (Indicative Only):

Unit II: India and the World

1. Theoretical Perspectives
2. India and its Neighbours
3. India and the Great Powers
4. India and South East and East Asia
5. India and International Organisations

References (Indicative Only):


Core Cluster E

*Political Sociology*

Course-CCIX (50 Marks)

State and Society: Key Concepts

Unit I: State-in-Society and Beyond

1. State and non-State actors—Emerging Dialectics
2. Civil Society
3. Political Society
4. Rights
5. Citizenship

References (Indicative Only):

**Unit II: Key Concepts**

1. Power
2. Participation
3. Risk
4. Representation
5. Commodification and Consumption
6. Gender and Sexuality

References (Indicative Only):


**Course - CCX (50 Marks)**

Conflicts, Development and Communication

**Unit I: Adversarial Dimensions**

1. Conflict/Domination
2. Violence
3. Insurgency
4. Terrorism
References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Development-Communication Dynamics

1. Development and communication: Modernization Strategies; Critique. ‘Third Worldism’
2. Political Communication: Forms and Modes; Liberal democracy and ‘informed citizenry’
3. (New)Technology and Technocentricty: Myths and Stereotypes; Dis/Information Society
4. Mediated Politics: Mediation to Mediatization. Mass Media and Social Media

References (Indicative Only):


Core Cluster F

*Politics of Development*

**Course - CCXI (50 Marks)**

**Concepts, Theories and Contexts**

**Unit 1: Conceptual and Institutional Foundations**
The concept of Development: Emergence and evolution. The ‘political’ in Development

3. Development as growth. Critique
4. The Development Impasse debate; Democracy-development debate

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Approaches and Paradigms

1. Gandhian approach
2. Marxist and Neo-Marxist approaches
3. Neo-liberal paradigm
4. Post-development Paradigm

References (Indicative Only):


Course-CCXII (50 Marks)

Themes and Issues

Unit 1: (Wo)man, Nature, Resources
1. Human Development--- origin; indices
2. Natural Resource imbalance and counteractions
3. Environment--- sustainable development; political ecology

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Key Themes

1. Gender--- equality, justice, rights and division of labour. Gender Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Index (GEM)
2. Migration and Displacement: Changing nature and trends. Typology
   Relief, resettlement and rehabilitation

References (Indicative only):


DSE Cluster A

Development Studies

Course-DSE AI (50 Marks)

The Global-Transnational and the Local

Unit I: The Global-Transnational

1. Liberalization-Privatization-Globalization in contemporary development dynamics
2. Role of transnational actors—World Bank; IMF; WTO
3. Role of UN: Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit 2: The Local**

1. The idea of locality. Local development, local governance and local democracy: linkages and tension zones. Local-global dynamics
2. Development intervention and local community mobilization
3. State, NGOs and struggle for local space
4. Development communication. Media and extra-media information

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-DSE AII (50 Marks)**

**The Rural and the Urban**

**Unit 1: The Rural**

1. Rural development---Approaches and theories
2. Rural development: specific strategies
3. Rural local governance: Panchayat and Panchayati Raj in India (including the West Bengal context)
4. Rural poverty, unemployment: policy measures
5. Land question and development: emerging issues

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: The Urban

1. Urbanism, Urban development, urbanization, urban/city managerialism--- approaches and theories
2. Urban local governance: institutional arrangements and strategies
3. Urban economy, Urban Informality, Urban culture
5. Urban poverty, Urban movements

References (Indicative Only):

Course - DSE AIII (50 Marks)

The Indian Context

Unit I: Culture, Development and Decentralization

1. Popular cultural perceptions of State and administration
2. State and Development Planning in India. Development in Five Year Plans
3. Modes of decentralization and participatory development

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Market, Information Technology and Questions of Inclusion

1. Social opportunities and social inclusion: challenge of poverty and inequality
3. Role of information technology: e-Governance and Digital India--- policy evaluation

References (Indicative Only):


DSE Cluster B

Research Methodology

Course-DSE BI (50 Marks)

Methodological Issues

Unit I: Concepts and Debates
1. Basic concepts in research
2. Positivism and Empiricism - Problem with Empirical theory
3. Anti-Positivist response
4. Ethics and politics in research

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Basic Issues in Research
1. Elements of Research Design
2. Sampling and Measurement
3. Methods of Data Collection
4. Data Analysis: Quantitative – Basic Statistics; Qualitative Methods
5. Writing Research Report

References (Indicative Only):


Course-DSE BII (50 Marks)

Research Methods

Unit I: Quantitative Methods
1. Survey research
2. Experimental research
3. Aggregate Data analysis
4. Content analysis
References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Qualitative Methods**

1. Archival study
2. Field Research
3. Focus group
4. Case study
5. Discourse analysis
6. Action research

Select methods to be taught in Unit I and II.

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-DSE BIII (50 Marks)**

Units I and II: Term Paper/Dissertation/Poster Presentation/Assignment Writing or any other form that may be decided by the Postgraduate Board of Studies in Political Science from time to time
Contemporary India: Society and Politics

Course-DSE CI (50 Marks)

State, Society and Politics

Unit 1: Understanding Contemporary India

1. Approaches to the Study of Indian Politics
2. Constitutionalism and its Philosophy
3. Politics and Culture
4. Issues of Citizenship

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Social Structure and Politics

1. Debates on ‘the Sociology for India’
2. Anthropology of the Indian State
3. Tribes in India
4. Language Politics in India
5. Ethnicity in the Age of Globalization

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-DSE CII (50 Marks)**

**Development and Politics**

**Unit I: Political Economy of Development**

1. Understanding Political Economy of Development. Planning in Post-Independent India
2. State and Economic Reforms in the Age of Globalization
4. Non-State Experiments with Development

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Reading Texts of Protest**

Detailed reading of any one or two texts will be taken up in the class from out of the following:

1. Ambedkar, B. R. *Annihilation of Caste*
4. Tripathi, Lakshminarayan. *Me Lakshmi, Me Hijra,*

**Course-DSE CIII (50 Marks)**

**Region, State, Supra- and Sub-State Politics**

**Unit I: Federal and Regional Politics**

1. Understanding Region, Regionalism and State Politics in India: An Overview
2. Changing Nature of Federal Politics in Post-Reform India
3. Ethnicity, Regionalism and Citizenship

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Regions and Movements**

1. Political Economy of Regional Development
2. Regions within Regions
3. Regional and Autonomy Movements

References (Indicative Only):


**DSE Cluster D**

*Contemporary India: Society and Politics*

**Course-DSE DI (50 Marks)**

**Gender and Sexuality**

**Unit 1: Gender Studies**

1. Evolution of Gender Studies in India
2. Religion, Women and Patriarchy
3. Gender and Law

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Gender and Sexuality

1. Changing Nature of Women’s Movements in Post-Reform India
2. Women and the Ecological Debates
3. Politics of Sexuality

References (Indicative Only):


Course-DSE DII (50 Marks)

Public Institutions in India

Unit I:

1. Definition and evolution of the concept
2. Exploring the relationship between ‘Institutions’ and ‘Accountability’: Election Commission of India; Supreme Court

References (Indicative Only):

Unit II:

1. Policy Implementation and the ‘Public’: The Civil Service; Reserve Bank of India
2. ‘Public Money’ and Institutions: Finance Commission; Pay Commission
3. Economic Liberalisation, Institutions and ‘Justice’: Public Broadcasting Agencies; Academic Institutions

References (Indicative Only):


Course-DSE DII (50 Marks)

Term Paper/Dissertation/Poster Presentation/Assignment Writing or any other form that may be determined by the Postgraduate Board of Studies in Political Science from time to time.

DSE Cluster E

*Politics in South Asia*

Course-DSE EI (50 Marks)

Unit 1: Region and Regionalism

1. Emergence of South Asia – Historical Background
2. SAARC: Issues, Challenges and Politics of Regional Co-operation
3. Changing contours of region and regionalism; Sub-regionalism

References (Indicative Only):


### Unit 2: States and Nations in South Asia

1. Theorizing state and nation in the region
2. Borders, Sovereignty and Territoriality
3. Security: Traditional and Non-Traditional

### References (Indicative Only):


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**Course-DSE EII (50 Marks)**

**Debates on Democracy and Development**

### Unit 1: Debates on Democracy

1. The question of Democratic transition in select States
2. Political Institutions and Civil Society: An Overview
3. Religion and Secularism
4. Civil-Military Relations

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Development

1. Understanding Development in South Asian context
2. Alternative Models of Development
3. Globalisation and the Politics of Development
4. Development and Marginal Communities

References (Indicative Only):

Course-DSE EIII (50 Marks)

Issues, Challenges and Resistance

Unit 1: Issues and Challenges

1. Politics of Migration
2. Terrorism
3. Environment

References (Indicative Only):


Unit 2: Resistance and Protest Movements

1. Ethno Nationalist
2. Ultra Leftist
3. Civil Rights
4. Ecological/Anti-Nuclear

References (Indicative Only):


**DSE Cluster F**

*Gender and Politics*

**Course-DSE FI (50 Marks)**

**Feminism: concepts and issues**

**Unit I: Key Concepts**

1. Sex, gender and sexuality
2. Feminist Critique of Social Contract
3. Feminist Critiques of Patriarchy

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Major issues**

1. Power
2. Public-private dichotomy.
3. Inter-sectionality
4. Representation

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-DSE FII (50 Marks)**

**Feminist Perspectives**

**Unit I: Varieties of Feminism I**
1. Liberal Feminism
2. Marxist Feminism
3. Socialist Feminism
4. Radical Feminism

References (Indicative):


**Unit II: Varieties of feminisms II**
1. Postmodern Feminism
2. Postcolonial Feminism
3. Feminism and Queer Movements
4. Post Feminism – Overview

References (Indicative Only):


**Course-DSE FII (50 Marks)**

**Gender Politics in India**

**Unit 1: Genealogies and Frames**
1. Women and Social Reform Movements in 19th century India
2. Framing Gender: Caste, Class, Religion and Ethnicity
3. Women and Political Representation
4. Women and legal reforms: Personal law, Property rights

References (indicative Only):


**Unit 2: Development and Violence**

1. Gender and Development
2. Ecology and feminism
3. Gender and Violence
4. Gender and Sexuality – contemporary debates

References (Indicative Only):

Course GEI (50 Marks)
Urban Governance in India

Unit I: Institutional Development and Change

1. Understanding the ‘urban’, ‘urbanization’ and ‘governance’
2. Key trends in urban governance: Empowerment, e-governance and SMART City
3. Urban service delivery and reforms: Utility Infrastructure and PPP and access to services.

References (Indicative Only):
5. P.K. Chaubey, Urban Local Bodies in India: Governance with Self-Reliance, New Delhi: IIPA, 2004

**Unit II: Themes and Issues**

2. Mechanisms of urban management and policies: decentralized planning and devolution of funds; Rural-Urban conundrum — Migration, fringe area and urban hinterland
3. Emerging problems and challenges: Social Fragmentation, Dynamics of Urban Diversity and Inequality; Sustainability/Climate Change

**References (Indicative Only):**

1. K.C. Sivaramakrishnan,(ed.), *People’s Participation in Urban Governance*, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi, 2006

**Course GEII (50 Marks)**

**Human Rights in India**

**Unit I: The Concept of Human Rights**

1. Definition and scope of the study----contending issues (western and non-western)
2. A brief history of Human Rights: different generations and debates (political)
3. Contending Perspectives: universalism vs. cultural relativism; individualism vs. collectivism; objectivity vs. sentimentality

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Human Rights in India

1. Human Rights and Constitutional -- Legal Framework in India
2. Impact on Civil Society and Citizens Group: Gender, Caste and Organized groups; Media, NGO and New Social Movements
4. Emerging Challenges: Minorities and Communal Violence, Trans-border disturbance and Organized Crime

References (Indicative Only):

1. The Text of the Indian Constitution (latest amendment)
Course GEIII (50 Marks)

Globalisation and Politics

Unit I: Concepts and Theoretical Debates in Globalisation

1. Theoretical Debates and Concepts: Modernity, Late-Modernity
2. State and Society in the Global era: International-Transnational, Local-Global distinctions

References (Indicative Only):


Unit II: Political Economy and Issues in Globalisation

References (Indicative Only):


**Course GEIV (50 Marks)**

**Social and Political Movements in Modern India**

**Unit I: Class and Caste Movements**

1. Emerging landscape of social movements
2. Peasant movements (select cases): Land reform; Liberalization and its impact; Land acquisition debates
3. Industrial Working class movements
4. Dalit and Backward caste movement : types, issues and organizations
References (Indicative Only):

3. Ronald J. Herring, “Class Politics in India: Euphemization, identity and power” (Ch. 11); Jennifer Bussell, “People’s Movement in India” (Ch 15) in *The Routledge Handbook of Indian Politics*, Routledge, 2013.

Unit II: ‘New’ Movements

1. Women’s movements: Political representation and reservation debate; Personal laws; Violence against women
2. Environmental movements: Right over natural resources; Development and environment debate
3. Civil rights movement: Emergency and post-Emergency period
4. New People’s movements: Right to livelihood

References (Indicative Only):


Course GEV (50 Marks)
Politics of the Himalayan Region

Unit I: Understanding the Himalayas as a Region

2. Himalayan Region – Geography and Space, Historical Background and Colonial Politics
3. Language, Ethnicity and Nation in the Himalayas – Zones of Contestation

References (Indicative Only):

Unit II: Polities and Economies

1. Politics in the Himalayas – Democratisation, Political Movements, Role of Religion, Civil Society and Governance
2. ‘Economies’ of the Himalayan Region – Pastoralism/Nomadism, Agriculture, Trade, Liberalisation in the Himalayas
3. Emerging Issues – Migration, Climate Change, Development

N.B – Select topics will be taught in different semesters
References (Indicative Only):


**Course GEVI (50 Marks)**

**Environmental Governance**

**Unit I: Theoretical Debates**

1. Governance and Governmentality; Understanding Environmental Governance

2. Globalisation, Environmental Governance and Environmental Security

3. Environment and Sustainable Development: Role of State and Non-State Actors

4. Environmental Regimes

References (Indicative Only):


**Unit II: Major Issues**

1. Major Environmental Issues: Climate Change, Loss of Bio-diversity, Soil Erosion, Deforestation

2. WTO and Environmental Governance

3. Global Environmental Governance and the Global Commons

4. Ecological Conflicts and Environmental Movements in India: Select Cases

N.B – Select topics will be taught in different semesters

**References (Indicative Only):**


