UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

SYLLABUS

FOR

THREE-YEAR HONOURS
DEGREE COURSE OF STUDIES

POLITICAL SCIENCE

2010
Syllabus for Three-Year B.A. (Honours) Course in

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Part I                          F.M. 200

Paper I: POLITICAL THEORY:                                             100-Marks

Unit I
1. What is Politics – Approaches to the study of Politics: Normative, Behavioural and Post-behavioural. Feminist views to Politics.
2. Theories of the State (a) Origin: Social Contract Theory; (b) Nature:Idealist, Liberal and Neo-liberal theories.

Unit II
1. Democratic Theories: David Held’s Classification: Protective (Bentham), Developmental (J.S. Mill), Participatory.

Unit III
1. Marxist approach to the study of Politics.

Unit IV

PAPER II: COMPARATIVE POLITICS & GOVERNMENT          100 Marks

Unit I
1. Distinction between Comparative Politics and Comparative Government – Development of Comparative Politics.
2. Scope, purposes and methods of comparison – Approaches to the study of Comparative Politics.
3. Federal systems: federalism in USA and Russia.
Unit II
1. Nature of liberal and socialist political systems – their distinguishing features, with special reference to conventions, rule of law, parliamentary sovereignty (UK), separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review (USA), ideology, democratic centralism (PRC), referendum, initiative (Switzerland).
2. Political Parties: features and role of party system/parties in UK, USA and PRC. Interest groups: their roles and performance in UK and USA

Unit III
1. Legislature in UK and PRC: composition and functions of the legislative chambers – the NPC in PRC – role of second chambers in UK and USA – Committee system in UK and USA – role of speakers in parliamentary and presidential systems (UK and USA).
2. Executive in UK, USA, France and Russia: A comparative study of (i) Russian, French and American Presidency; (ii) British and French cabinet systems.

Unit IV

Unit III
3. Role of business, working class, peasants in Indian politics.

Unit IV
1. Role of (a) religion (b) language (c) caste (d) tribe and (e) regionalism in Indian politics.
2. New Social Movements since the 1970s: (a) environmental movements, (b) women’s movements, (c) human rights movements.

PAPER IV: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 100 Marks

Unit I
1. International Relations: a brief outline of its evolution as an academic discipline.
2. Some representative theories of International Relations: (a) Realism (b) Pluralism (c) World Systems theory.
3. Emergent issues in International Relations: (a) Development (b) Regionalism and Integration (c) Terrorism.

Unit II
1. Some basic concepts in International Relations: (a) Balance of Power (b) Bipolarity and Unipolarity (c) Neo-colonialism (d) Globalization.
2. Foreign Policy: concept and techniques: diplomacy, propaganda, military.

Unit III
2. Europe in transition: (a) European Union (b) Ethnicity and nationalism in Eastern Europe since 1990s.
3. Problems of developing countries: NAM – contemporary relevance, Regionalism: ASEAN, AU (African Union), OPEC, SAFTA and SAARC – West Asia and the Palestine question after the cold war.

Unit IV
1. Indian Foreign Policy: basic principles and evolution.
2. Foreign policies of USA and China: Evolution and basic issues after the cold war.
3. UNO: Background; Organs with special reference to Security Council, General Assembly and Secretariat – role of the UNO in peace-keeping and human rights.
Part – III

F.M. 400

PAPER – V: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT 100 Marks

Unit I
3. Medieval Political Thought in Europe: Main features.

Unit II
1. Medieval political thought in Europe: main features.
2. Political thought of Reformation.

Unit III
2. Locke: founder of Liberalism: views on natural rights, property and consent.
3. Rousseau’s views on Freedom and Democracy.

Unit IV
1. John Stuart Mill’s views on liberty and representative government.
3. Utopian and Scientific socialism: basic characteristics – Anarchism: an outline.
4. Varieties of non-Marxist socialism: Fabianism, Syndicalism, Guild Socialism, German Revisionism.

PAPER VI: INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT AND MOVEMENT 100 Marks

Unit I
2. Medieval political thought in India: legitimacy of kingship – duties and responsibilities of a Muslim ruler.

Unit II
3. Narendra Deva: contributions to socialism.
Unit III
1. Foundation of the Indian National Congress.
2. Bengal Partition and Swadeshi movement.
3. Khilafat and Non-Cooperation Movement – Civil Disobedience movement
4. Alternatives to Congress politics: (a) Subhas Chandra Bose and Forward Bloc (b) Congress Socialist Party (c) the Communists.

Unit IV
1. Movements against caste system and untouchability – Ambedkar’s views on Social Justice and Depressed Class.
2. Class and the nationalist movement under colonial rule: working class movement and peasant movement.
3. Roots of communal politics: Savarkar and Hindu nationalism, Jinnah and two-nation theory.

PAPER VII: POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY 100 Marks

Unit I
1. Social bases of politics.
2. Process of State formation and nationalism in West Europe and third world.
3. Social stratification and politics: caste, class, elite.

Unit II
1. Gender and politics: basic issues.
2. Power, Authority and Legitimacy.

Unit III
1. Classification and types of political systems.
2. Political culture and Political socialization: nature, types and agencies.
3. Political participation: concept and types.

Unit IV
1. Political communication: concept and features.
2. Electorate and electoral behaviour (with reference to India)
4. Political development and social change – role of tradition and modernity.
PAPER VIII: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
100 Marks

Unit I
2. Challenges to the discipline of Public Administration and responses: New Public Administration, Comparative Public Administration and Development Administration (with special reference to India).
3. Major concepts of administration: (a) Hierarchy (b) Unity of command (c) Span of control (d) Authority (e) Centralization, Decentralization and Delegation (f) Line and Staff.

Unit II
1. Ecological approach to Public Administration: Riggsian Model.
2. Administrative Processes: (a) Decision making (b) Communication and Control (c) Leadership (d) Co-ordination.

Unit III
1. Continuity and change in Indian administration: a brief historical outline.
2. The Civil Service in India (Bureaucracy): recruitment (role of UPSC, SPSC), training.
3. Organization of the Union Government: Secretariat Administration: PMO, Cabinet Secretariat.
4. Organization of the State Government: Chief Secretary – relationship between Secretariat and Directorate.

Unit IV
3. Financial Administration: Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee – role of CAG.
**Question Pattern**

The present system should continue. Students will have to write (i) two short notes – each carrying 5 marks – out of four, and (ii) one broad question of 15 marks out of two from each Unit.

**Number of Lectures**

There should be 64 classes per week for 8 honours papers, i.e. 8 classes a week for each paper.

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**NOTE**: The syllabus of General Course remain unchanged.