L. D. Arts College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad

Detailed Syllabus

Curriculum Designed for:	**Self-Finance Programme: UG**
Semester: 2	**Course Code: 122 |** **Course Title: Comparative Government and Politics**
Credits: 4	**Course Category: Major Course-2**

Course Objectives:

Number	Objective
Objective 1:	To introduce students to the Unitary and Federal forms of Government with contemporary relevance.
Objective 2:	To examine Democracy and Dictatorship in theory and in the present global context.
Objective 3:	To develop an understanding of Local Self-Government and its role in grassroots democracy.
Objective 4:	To analyse the nature, functions and challenges of Political Parties in India and globally.
Objective 5:	To foster civic awareness and understanding of democratic participation and governance.

Course Outcomes: On successful completion of the course, the learner will be able to

CO#	Cognitive Abilities	Course Outcomes
CO1	REMEMBERING	Compare Unitary and Federal forms of Government and evaluate their functioning in India.
CO2	UNDERSTANDING	Critically analyse Democracy and Dictatorship with reference to contemporary political developments.
CO3	APPLYING	Examine the structure and functions of Local Self Government and the Welfare State.
CO4	ANALYSING	Evaluate the role of Political Parties in democratic governance and electoral politics.

CO5	EVALUATING	Apply comparative political understanding to contemporary issues in Indian and global politics.

Course Contents:

Unit No.	Unit Contents	Sessions Allotted
1	**Unit 1: Unitary and Federal Government** • Meaning, Characteristics, Merits and Demerits of Unitary Government • Meaning, Characteristics, Merits and Demerits of Federal Government • Differences between Unitary and Federal Government • Federalism in Contemporary Governance: Indian Federalism – Cooperative and Competitive Federalism • Centre-State Relations and Recent Trends • Fiscal Federalism and Finance Commission (introductory)	15
2	**Unit 2: Democracy and Dictatorship** • Meaning, Types, Merits and Demerits of Democracy (Direct and Representative Democracy) • Meaning, Causes, Merits and Demerits of Dictatorship • Differences between Democracy and Dictatorship • Democracy in the 21st Century: Electoral Democracy and Its Challenges in India • Digital Democracy: E-Governance and Online Participation • Global Democratic Backsliding: Trends and Concerns	15
3	**Unit 3: Local Self Government and Welfare State** • Meaning, Importance and Functions of Local Self Government • Merits and Demerits of Local Self Government • 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments: Panchayati Raj and Urban Local Bodies • Concept of Welfare State • Contemporary Dimensions: Decentralisation and Grassroots Democracy • Welfare State vs. Developmental State • Social Protection Schemes in India	15
4	**Unit 4: Political Parties** • Political Parties: Meaning, Definition and Types (Single-Party, Two-Party, Multi-Party Systems) • Functions of Political Parties • Merits and Demerits of Political Parties	15

	• Political Parties in Contemporary India: Party System in India – Features and Evolution • Role of Money and Media in Electoral Politics • Electoral Reforms and Political Party Regulation	

Recommended References:

1. NCERT. Political Theory (Class XI). National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi.
2. GCERT. Political Science Textbooks (Higher Secondary Level). Gujarat Council of Educational Research and Training, Gandhinagar.
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6. Basu, D. D. (2019). Introduction to the constitution of India (23rd ed.). LexisNexis.
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8. Dahl, R. A. (1998). On democracy. Yale University Press.
9. Easton, D. (1953). The political system: An inquiry into the state of political science. Alfred A. Knopf.
10. GCERT. (2023). Political science textbooks (Higher secondary level). Gujarat Council of Educational Research and Training.
11. Heywood, A. (2013). Politics (4th ed.). Palgrave Macmillan.
12. Johari, J. C. (2010). Principles of modern political science. Sterling Publishers.
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14. Lijphart, A. (1999). Patterns of democracy: Government forms and performance in thirty-six countries. Yale University Press.
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16. Ramaswamy, S. (2002). Political theory: Ideas and concepts. Macmillan India.
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18. Singh, M. P., & Saxena, R. (Eds.). (2011). Indian politics: Contemporary issues and concerns. PHI Learning.
19. Fadia, B. L. (2018). Bhartiya rajvyavastha. Sahitya Bhawan Publications.
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24. Pandya, H. (2010). Rajya shastra parichay (Bhag I & II). Anada Prakashan.
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26. Sheth, P. N. (2008). Adhunik rajyashastra: Paribhasha ane vishleshan. Gujarat University Granth Nirman Board.
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28. Trivedi, J. (2014). Prajatantra ane rajkaran: Gujarat sandarbh. Gurjar Prakashan.