L. D. Arts College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad

Political Science and International Relations (SF)

Detailed Syllabus

Curriculum Designed for:	**Self-Finance Programme: UG**
Semester: 1	**Course Code: 111 |** **Course Title: Foundations of Political Science**
Credits: 4	**Course Category: Major Course-1 and Minor**

Course Objectives:

Number	Objective
Objective 1:	To introduce students to the fundamental concepts and scope of Political Science.
Objective 2:	To familiarise students with the evolution and nature of the State.
Objective 3:	To critically examine classical theories of State and Sovereignty.
Objective 4:	To contextualise traditional political concepts in the contemporary global and digital environment.
Objective 5:	To develop analytical and conceptual understanding necessary for advanced study in Political Science and International Relations.

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

CO#	Cognitive Abilities	Course Outcomes
CO1	REMEMBERING	Understand the meaning, nature, and scope of Political Science and its interdisciplinary relevance.
CO2	UNDERSTANDING	Analyse the concept of the State, its elements and evolving functions.
CO3	APPLYING	Critically evaluate major theories regarding the origin of the State.
CO4	ANALYSING	Examine classical and pluralist theories of sovereignty.
CO5	EVALUATING	Interpret the transformation of sovereignty and state authority in the context of globalisation and digital governance.

Course Contents:

Unit No.	Unit Contents	Sessions Allotted
1	**Unit 1: Introduction** • Meaning, Nature and Scope of Political Science • Importance of the Study of Political Science • Relationship of Political Science with History, Economics, Sociology and Geography • Political Science in the Contemporary Era: Interdisciplinary linkages with Law, Media, Public Policy and Data Studies • Emerging areas: Political Communication, Governance Studies and Public Policy	15
2	**Unit 2: State** • Definition and Essential Elements of the State • State and Nation; State and Government • Classical Functions of the State • Changing Role of the State: Welfare State and Developmental State • Regulatory State in the era of Globalisation • State and Market relationship	15
3	**Unit 3: State – Origin and Development** • The Force Theory • The Social Contract Theory (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau) • The Evolutionary Theory • Modern Perspectives on State Formation: Post-colonial State (with reference to India)	15
4	**Unit 4: Sovereignty** • Meaning, Types and Characteristics of Sovereignty • Austin's Theory of Sovereignty • Pluralist Theory of Sovereignty • Sovereignty in the Contemporary World: Globalisation and Shared Sovereignty • Digital Sovereignty and Data Governance • Impact of International Institutions on State Authority	15

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.

3. Appadorai, A. The Substance of Politics. Oxford University Press.
4. Gettell, R. G. Introduction to Political Science. McGraw-Hill.
5. Sharma, U., & Sharma, S. K. Principles and Theory of Political Science. Atlantic Publishers.
6. Johari, J. C. Principles of Modern Political Science. Sterling Publishers.
7. Heywood, Andrew. Political Theory: An Introduction. Palgrave Macmillan.
8. Heywood, Andrew. Politics. Palgrave Macmillan.
9. Ramaswamy, S. Political Theory: Ideas and Concepts. Macmillan India.
10. Barker, Ernest. Principles of Social and Political Theory. Oxford University Press.
11. Held, David. Political Theory and the Modern State. Polity Press.
12. Carnoy, Martin. The State and Political Theory. Princeton University Press.
13. Easton, David. The Political System. Alfred A. Knopf.
14. Laski, Harold J. Grammar of Politics. George Allen & Unwin.