

UNIVERSITY OF KERALA
Core Course in POLITICAL SCIENCE
for the students of BA Degree Programme in Political Science under CBCSS
SYLLABUS

Semester: 6 Type of course: **Core**
Course Code: **PS1641** Course Name: **MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT**
Instruction Hours/Week: **5** Number of credits: **4**

Aim of the Course

The course is intended to provide a detailed understanding about modern political thought.

Objectives of the course

1. To equip the student to develop their own ideas about various political and social issues.
2. To attempt a comparative study of eastern and western political thought.

MODULE I - THE CONTRACTUALISTS

Thomas Hobbes – Human Nature-State and sovereignty –Individualism
John Locke – Social Contract – Theory on Natural Right – Contribution to Liberal Democracy
Rousseau – Social Contract – General will

MODULE II - UTILITARIANISM AND IDEALISM

Contributions of Jermy Bentham and J.S.Mill
Hegel – On Freedom. Civil Society and State

MODULE III - SOCIALIST THOUGHT

Contributions of Karl Marx
Gramsci – Civil Society – Theory of Hegemony

MODULE IV - THEORIES AND FUNCTIONS OF STATE

Edmund Burke – Conservative ideas
Laski – Political Pluralism

MODULE V - MODERN INDIAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Mahatma Gandhi – Non-violence-critique of modern civilization – Satyagraha as method of conflict resolution – Ethics and Politics – ideal society
M.N.Roy – Radical Humanism, Ambedkar – Social Justice

BOOKS

1. Bhandari, History of European Political Philosophy, Oxford University Press, New Delhi
2. Ebenstein – Great Political Thinkers(Plato to present),Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 2007.
3. Sabine – History of Political Theory, Prentice Hall, New Delhi, 2004.
4. M.G. Gupta – History of political Thought, Macmillian India Ltd, 1998
5. Dunning- History of Political Theory, S.Chand and Company, New Delhi, 2000.
6. Landamas and Dyson, Fifty Great Political Thinkers, Sterling Publishers, New Delhii, 2007.
7. Carew Hunt, The Theory and practice of Communism, The World press pvt. Ltd., Calcutta, 1988.

PS: This is only a copy of the syllabus of the course, published by the University and is primarily intended to provide an easy reference to the students of the course. As the University is the final authority, as far as the syllabus of a course is concerned, the students are advised to verify that the University has not made subsequent changes in the syllabus of the course.