

B.A.(Prog.) Political Science
Discipline Specific Core Course-(DSC-6) (Major)

DSC-6 : THEORY AND PRACTICE OF DEMOCRACY

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Theory and Practice of Democracy MDSC-3B	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

This course offers an introduction to the evolution, theories, and practices of democracy. The course will introduce debates in democratic theory and practices in the past, and their contested legacies in contemporary times. Students will learn to evaluate past practices, critically examine current practices, learn about recent innovations and discuss the future of democracy. This course will provide an overview of different theories of democracy, covering approaches such as civic republicanism, liberal constitutionalism, participatory and deliberative democracy. The course will engage in challenges and debates on diversity, citizenship, representation and globalization.

Learning outcomes

After completing this course students will be able to:

- Develop a broad historical, normative and empirical understanding of the idea and practice of democracy.
- Distinguish different models of democracy and their normative assumptions
- Understand different theories of democracy and how different theories led to waves of democratization over history.
- Understand/assess some of the major political challenges that democracy faces in the wake of globalization.
- Examine current problems and understand how different democratic crises have emerged in practice
- Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices
- Engage in dialogue about the meaning and value of democracy
- Explain and defend how democratic theory might be used to respond to problems being faced by nation-states

SYLLABUS OF MDSC-3B

UNIT – I

Origins of the idea

Ancient Greece and India
Modern developments
Procedural and substantive accounts
Contemporary innovations

UNIT – II

Theory

- Liberal Representative democracy
- Participatory democracy
- Deliberative democracy

UNIT – III

Institutions

- Constitutionalism
- Legislatures and legislation
- Political Parties
- Media & the Civil Society

UNIT – IV

Contemporary Debates

- Diversity
- Representation
- Globalization & Global Issues

Essential/recommended readings

Unit wise reading list

Unit 1:Origins of the idea

Isakhan, Benjamin and Stephen Stockwell, *The Edinburgh Companion to the History of Democracy*, Edinburgh University Press, 2012. Ch. 3, 6, 7, 16, 17.

Dahl, Robert. *On Democracy*. Yale University Press, 1998.

Dunn, John (ed.), *Democracy: The Unfinished Journey: 508 BC to AD 1993*, Oxford University Press, 1992. Ch. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8.

Schmitter, Philippe C. and Terry Lynn Karl, 'What Democracy is....and is not,' *Journal of Democracy*, Summer 1991: 3-16.

Arblaster, Anthony. *Democracy*. 3rd Edition. Open University Press, 2002.

Unit 2:Theory

Pateman, C, 'Rousseau, J. S. Mill, and G. D. H. Cole: A Participatory Theory of Democracy', in "Participation and Democratic Theory, Cambridge University Press, 1970.

Pateman, C, 'Participatory Democracy Revisited', *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2012, Vol. 10:17.

Saward, M. 'Representation and Democracy: Revisions and Possibilities', *Sociology Compass* 2/3 (2008): 1000–1013

Mansbridge, J. Clarifying the Concept of Representation, *American Political Science Review* Vol. 105, No. 3 August 2011

Gutman A, and Dennis Thompson, 'What Deliberative Democracy Means' in *Why Deliberative Democracy?* Princeton University Press, 2004.

Unit 3: Institutions