

Generic Elective (GE) - Political Science

WESTERN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Western Political Philosophy GE-6	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

This course familiarizes the students with the manner in which the political questions are posed and answered normatively by select thinkers. The aim is to introduce to the students the questions, ideas and values of political philosophy addressed by political thinkers and juxtapose the same to contemporary political thinking.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course students would be able to:

- Understand how to read and decode the classics and use them to engage contemporary socio-political issues.
- Connect with historically written texts and their interpretations.
- Clearly present their own arguments and thoughts about contemporary issues and develop ideas to engage with the latter.

SYLLABUS OF GE-6

UNIT – I (15 Hours)

Classical Political Philosophy

- a) Plato
- b) Aristotle

UNIT – II (30 Hours)

Renaissance and Modern Political Philosophy

- a) Machiavelli
- b) Hobbes
- c) Rousseau
- d) Mill
- e) Marx

Essential/recommended readings

Unit 1

R. Kraut (1996) 'Introduction to the study of Plato', in R. Kraut (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Plato*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-50.

D. Boucher and P. Kelly (eds) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 62-80

A. Skoble and T. Machan (2007) *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education pp. 53-64.