

B.A.(Hons.) Political Science
Semester-VII
Discipline Specific Elective (DSE)

DSE-10-Understanding Human Rights

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		
Understanding Human Rights DSE-10	4	3	1	-	NA	NA

Learning Objectives

This course aims at enabling the students to understand the issues concerning the rights of citizens in general and the marginalized groups in particular, and assess the institutional and policy measures which have been taken in response to the demands of various movements. Conceptual dimensions, international trends and the Indian experience form the contents of the course.

Learning outcomes

- The study of the course will equip the students with theoretical and conceptual understanding of caste, gender, ethnicity and class as distinct categories and their interconnections.
- The course will further analyse socio-economic and political problems of marginalised groups in society such as women, Dalits, minorities and adivasis and repercussions of globalisation on them.
- The paper will enhance understanding on the meaning of human rights, universalization of human rights and human rights institutions in India.
- The course will equip students with a conceptual understanding of gender and patriarchy, and issues of women's political participation and rights in India.
- The paper will enhance knowledge on the concept of sustainable development, and national and international programmes and policies on environment.

SYLLABUS OF DSE-10

UNIT – I

Human Rights: Meaning and Evolution

- a) Human Rights: Meaning and Evolution
- b) Ancient Indian concept of Human rights
- c) Understanding human rights: four generation of rights
- d) Human Rights and Citizenship Rights

Unit- II

International declaration and covenants

- a) Magna Carta
- b) UN Declarations
- c) Covenants
- d) International court of Justice

Unit- III -Human Rights in India

- a) Human Rights and the Indian Constitution
- b) Human Rights, Laws and Institutions in India; the role of the National Human Rights Commission.
- c) Human Rights Movement in India
- d) Consumer Rights: The Consumer Protection Act and grievance redressal mechanisms.

Unit IV

Challenges to human rights

- a) Human Rights of Marginalized Groups: Dalits, Adivasis, Women
- b) Tribal, Peasant and Unorganized Workers.
- c) Refugee
- d) Terrorism

Essential/recommended readings

Unit I

1. Tripathy, Radhanath (ed.) (2019) Human Rights, Gender and the Environment, New Delhi: Scholartech Press.
2. Priyam, Manisha; Banerjee, Madhulika and Menon, Krishna (2009) Human Rights, Gender and the Environment, New Delhi: Pearson.
3. Motilal, Shashi and Nanda, Bijayalaxmi (2006) Human Rights, Gender and the Environment, New Delhi: Allied Publishers.
4. G. Omvedt, (2002) 'Ambedkar and After: The Dalit Movement in India', in G. Shah (ed.) Social Movements and the State, New Delhi: Sage Publications, pp. 293-309.
5. G. Omvedt, (2012) 'The Anti-caste Movement and the Discourse of Power', in N. Jayal (ed.) Democracy in India, New Delhi: Oxford India Paperbacks, sixth impression, pp.481-508.
 - A. Roy, (2010) 'The Women's Movement', in N.G. Jayal and P.B. Mehta (eds.) The Oxford Companion to Politics in India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp.409-422.
6. Baxi, Upendra (2002), The Future of Human Rights, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
7. Beteille, Andre (2003), Antinomies of Society: Essays on Ideology and Institutions, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
8. Haragopal, G. (1997) The Political Economy of Human Rights, Himachal Publishing House, Mumbai.
9. J. Hoffman and P. Graham, (2006) 'Human Rights', Introduction to Political Theory, Delhi, Pearson, pp. 436-458.
10. D. O'Byrne, (2007) 'Theorizing Human Rights', in Human Rights: An Introduction, Delhi, Pearson, pp.26-70.

Unit II

1. J. Morsink, (1999) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Origins, Drafting and Intent, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. ix-xiv
2. M. Mohanty, (2002) 'The Changing Definition of Rights in India', in S. Patel, J. Bagchi, and K. Raj (eds.) Thinking Social Sciences in India: Essays in Honour of Alice Thorner Patel, New Delhi: Sage.
3. SAHRDC (2006) 'Introduction to Human Rights'; 'Classification of Human Rights: An Overview of the First, Second, and Third Generational Rights', in Introducing Human Rights, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.