

II. MAJOR COURSE- MJ 7: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

Marks: 25 (5 Attd. + 20 SIE: 1Hr) + 75 (ESE: 3Hrs) = 100

Pass Marks: Th (SIE + ESE) = 40

(Credits: Theory-04) **Theory: 60 Lectures**

Course Objectives:

1. The purpose of this module is to introduce to the students some classical political thinkers from the West who shaped the ideas and key concepts of Political Science.
2. Developing a 'just society' and a 'just state' has been a perennial question for all civilizations. But the answers are not alike. This course examines the ideas of some of the prominent classical political thinkers including Plato, Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Augustine who influenced political thinking.
3. The seeds of the conceptual themes which seem to be so enriched today also found expressions in older times. The course seeks to trace those ideas and traditions and critically examine them.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The course shall ensure a firm grounding of the students in political thought which is bound to lead to conceptual clarity.
2. The course shall enable the students to have a fair degree of knowledge about historicity which shall enrich their learning and analytical skills.
3. The increased degree of familiarity with this particular set of scholars is bound to be extremely beneficial when a comparative study is undertaken in relation to modern thinkers as well as Indian political thinkers.

Course Content

UNIT - I

1. Plato – Ideal State, Philosopher King, Theory of Justice and Education, Communism.
2. Aristotle – State, Revolution, Citizenship, Slavery

UNIT - II

1. St. Thomas Aquinas
2. St. Augustine

UNIT - III

1. Machiavelli
2. Hobbes, Locke & Rousseau

UNIT - IV

1. J.S. Mill
2. Karl Marx

Reference Books:

1. J.P. Suda- History of Political Thought
 2. Sukhbir Singh- History of Political Thought
 3. E. Barker -The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle
 4. B. Nelson- Western Political Thought
 5. S. Mukherjee and Ramaswami - A History of Political Thought
 6. Shefali Jha- Western Political Thought
 7. J.C. Johari- Political Thought Ancient and Medieval
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