

**Department of Political Science
Rabindranath Tagore University, Hojai**



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

RABINDRANATH TAGORE UNIVERSITY

HOJAI, ASSAM

SYLLABUS

Ph.D. COURSE WORK

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Compulsory Papers

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Credit: 4

Course Objectives

- This paper is a core paper that intends to give students a deeper understanding of methodological issues which enables them to adopt a particular methodology for their specific research work.
- It explains the significance of understanding the ideas of theory, philosophy, methods and methodology. It deals with the emergence of positivism and scientific method.
- It undertakes the debate on relevance and validity and explores the distinctions between quantitative and qualitative methods.

Course Outcomes

- The paper remains useful for students pursuing research in any area of social science. It not only helps to formulate the research problem, but also to conduct research in the right direction.
- The paper has utility for students preparing for UGC NET-JRF exams and SLET exams.

Unit-I: Foundations of Research in Political Science

- Theory, Research and Positivism
- Epistemological and Ontological considerations
- Kuhn versus Popper: Philosophy of science

Unit –II: Research Methods and Techniques

- Research Process and Designs
- Quantitative , Qualitative Research methods
- Mixed methodology in Research

Unit-III: Research Report

- Writing a Research Proposal

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- Data Collection, Processing and Analysis (Use of statistical packages)
- Ethics in Research

Select Readings:

Alan Bryman, 2009 *Social Research Methods*, Oxford University Press,

Bell, J. (1993). *Doing your research project: a guide for first-time researchers in education and social science* (2nd ed.). Buckingham; Philadelphia: Open University Press.

Berg, B.L. (1995). *Qualitative research methods for the social sciences* (2nd ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Berry, W.D., & Lewis-Beck, M.S. (Eds.). (1986). *New tools for social scientists: advances and applications in research methods*. Beverly Hills: Sage.

Coffey, (1999) *The Ethnographic Self; Fieldwork and the Representation of Identity*. London: Sage.

Coffey, A., & Atkinson, P. (1996). *Making sense of qualitative data*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

PV Young, 1984. *Scientific Social Survey and Research*, Prentice Hall of India Ltd, New Delhi,

Ram Ahuja, 2001, *Research Methods* , Rawat Publications. New Delhi.

Robson, C. (1993). *Real world research: a resource for social scientists and practitioner-researchers*. Oxford; Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.

Spoull, N.L. (1995). *Handbook of research methods: a guide for practitioners and students in the social sciences*. (2nd ed.). Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press.

Stern, P.C., & Kalof, L. (1996). *Evaluating social science research*. New York: Oxford University Press.

T.S. Kuhn, , (1970), *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, 2nd edn, enlarged. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press

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Research in Social Science: Emerging Issues

Credit: 4

Course Objectives

- This paper is a core paper that intends to engage students with deeper understanding of concepts and debates in Political Theory.
- It seeks to develop insights among the students on the changing dynamics of political theory, in order to make them understand the contemporary world with relevant theoretical grounding.

Course Outcomes

- The paper remains useful for students in developing ideas on various concepts and debates, which is helpful in providing theoretical insights and perspectives to pursue research in an organised manner.
- The paper has utility for students preparing for UGC NET-JRF exams, SLET exams.

Unit1: Debates in Political Theory

- Liberty and Equality: The contestations and convergence
- Notion of Justice
- Critique of Citizenship

Unit 2: Environment and politics

- Politics and Environmental Studies
- Environmental governance and the state
- Environmental degradation and social movements

Unit 3: Quantitative research

- Introduction to Quantitative Research
- Computer application in Research
- SPSS

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Reading List

- Berlin, I. (1958) "Two Concepts of Liberty." In Isaiah Berlin (1969) *Four Essays on Liberty*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bhargava, Rajeev and Ashok Acharya, *Political theory: An Introduction*, Pearson, Delhi, 2008
- Dworkin, Ronald, *Taking Rights Seriously*, London: Duckworth, 1977
- Farrelly, Colin, *Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory*, Sage, 2004
- Heywood, Andrew, *Political Theory: An Introduction*, Palgrave, New York, 2005
- Kymlicka, Will, (2002) *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction*, Oxford
- Lukes, Steven. 'Equality and Liberty: Must they Conflict?'" in David Held (ed.), *Political Theory Today*, Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 1991.
- Mckinnon, Catriona(ed), *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2008
- Skinner, Quentin (2002) *A Third Concept of Liberty*, Proceedings of the British Academy, 117, pp 237-68
- Spector, Horacio (2010), 'Four Conceptions of Freedom' in *Political Theory*, Vol. 38, No. 6 (December 2010), pp. 780-808

- Carter, Neil, *The Politics of the Environment: Ideas, Activism, Policy*, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2007

- Jayal, Niraja Gopal and Pratap Bhanu Mehta, *The Oxford Companion to Politics In India*, OUP, New Delhi, 2010
- Baker, Susan, *Sustainable Development*, Routledge, New York, 2006
- Vandana Shiva, *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology & Survival in India*, New Delhi: Kali for Women, 1988.
- Jean Dreze, Meera Samson & Satyajit Singh (eds), *The Dam and the Nation: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Lele, Sharachchandra, et al. "Misreading the Issues and the Landscape." *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 46, no. 22, 2011, pp. 107-108. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/23018598.
- Dobson, Andrew and Robyn Eckersley, *Political Theory and the Ecological Challenge*, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2006
- Ramnath, Madhu. "Surviving the Forest Rights Act: Between Scylla and Charybdis." *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 43, no. 9, 2008, pp. 37-42. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/40277205.

- Boot, Martijn (2012). 'The Aim of Theory of Justice' in *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, Vol. 15, No. 1, (February 2012), pp. 7-21

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- Farrelly, Colin, *Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory*, Sage, 2004
- Gaertner W, P. K. Pattanaik and Amartya Sen(1988) *An Interview with Amartya Sen* , Social Choice and Welfare, Vol. 5, No. 1 (1988), pp. 69-79
- Heywood, Andrew, *Political Theory: An Introduction*, Palgrave, New York, 2005
- Hurter, Estelle (2011), 'Access to justice: to dream the impossible dream?' in The Comparative and International Law Journal of Southern Africa, Vol. 44, No. 3(November 2011), pp. 408-427
- Kaufman, Alexander (2004) 'The Myth of the Patterned Principle: Rawls, Nozick and Entitlements' in Polity, Vol. 36, No. 4 (Jul., 2004), pp. 559-578
- Kumar, Anand, Understanding Lohai'a Political Sociology : Intersectionality caste, Class, gender and Language, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol.45, Issue No.40,02 October 2010
- Kymlicka, Will, (2002) *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction*, Oxford
- Lederkramer, David M. (1979) 'Quest on the Entitlement Theory' in *Analysis*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (Oct., 1979), pp. 219-222
- Ludwig, Martin Rechenauer, *On Sen's Idea of a Theory of Justice* * -Maximilians-Universität München available at https://epub.ub.uni-muenchen.de/12572/1/DGphil_Konferenzbeitrag_Rechenauer.pdf
- Nock, Christopher John (1992) 'Equal Freedom and Unequal Property: A Critique of Nozick's Libertarian Case' in Canadian Journal of Political Science Vol.25, No. 4 (Dec., 1992), pp. 677-695
- Nozick, Robert, *Anarchy, State and Utopia*, London: Basil Blackwell, 1981
- Nussbaum, Martha; Sen, Amartya (1993). *The quality of life*. Oxford England New York: Clarendon Press Oxford University Press
- Nussbaum, Martha (2000). *Women and human development: the capabilities approach*. Cambridge New York: Cambridge University Press
- Nussbaum, Martha (2011). *Creating capabilities: the human development approach*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press
- Okin, Susan Moller, *Justice, Gender and the Family*, New York: Basic Books, 1989
- Parekh, Bikhu (1982) *Contemporary Political Thinkers*, Oxford
- Rawls, John, *A Theory of Justice*, London: OUP, 1972
- Richard and Andrew Mason (ed), *Political Concepts*, Manchester University Press, Manchester and New York, 2003
- Sen, Amartya (2010) *The Idea of Justice*, Penguin, London
- Taherzadeh, Shirin M. (2012), *Amartya Sen's Contribution to a Theory of Social Justice*, The University of Cape Town, Faculty of Law (Student Research Paper) Bellamy, *
- Walzer, Michael, *Spheres of Justice: A defence of Pluralism and Equality*, New York: Basic Books, 19

- Bhargava, Rajeev and Ashok Acharya, *Political theory: An Introduction*, New Delhi:Pearson, 2008
- Dryzek, John S., Bonnie Honig and Anne Philips, *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory* , Oxford University Press, 2006

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- Erel, Umut (2010) '*Feminist Citizenship: Activating Politics and Theory*' in *Women's Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 38, No. 1/2, CITIZENSHIP (SPRING/SUMMER 2010), pp. 289-294
- Heywood, Andrew, *Political Theory*, Palgrave, New York, 2005
- Heater, Derek, *Citizenship: The Civil Ideal in World History, politics and Education*, London: Orient Longman, 1990.
- Heater, Derek, *What is Citizenship?* Cambridge: Polity Press, 1990
- Kymlicka, Will, (2002) *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction*, Oxford
- Kymlicka, Will, *Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights*, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1996
- Mann, Michael (1987) '*Ruling Class Strategies and Citizenship*' in *Sociology*, Vol. 21, No. 3 (August 1987), pp. 339-354
- Marshall, T. H., *Citizenship and Social Class*, Cambridge, Uk: Cambridge University Press, 1950
- Mckinnon, Catriona(ed), *Issues in Political Theory*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2008
- Richardson, Diane (1998) '*Sexuality and Citizenship*' in *Sociology*, Vol. 32, No. 1 (FEBRUARY 1998), pp. 83-100
- Roy, Anupama, *Gendered Citizenship: Historical and Conceptual Explorations*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, 2005
- Roy, Anupama, (2010) *Mapping Citizenship in India*, Oxford, New Delhi
- Sandel, Michael, *Liberalism and the Limits of Justice*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989.
- Young, Iris Marion, *Justice and the Politics of Difference*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1990.
- Yuval-Davis, Nira, '*Women, Citizenship and Difference*', *Feminist Review*, No 57, Autumn, 1997, p 4-27

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OPTIONAL PAPERS

Elective: 01: **POLITICS IN NORTH EAST INDIA**

Credit: 4

Course Objectives

- This paper is an optional paper that intends to engage the students in understanding the issues and debates that underlie the study of society and politics in North-East India.
- It seeks to develop new insights among students on the relevance of political ideas and concepts in understanding the uniqueness of the region as well as the challenges it face in the quest for national integration.
- It tries to situate various issues in its contextual understanding for students to comprehend the realities of their particular contexts.

Course Outcomes

- The paper remains useful for students in developing ideas on politics and society of North East and to pursue research in the area.
- The paper has utility for students preparing for UGC NET-JRF exams, SLET exams and other competitive exams like civil services.

Unit I: Profile of North East India

- Geo-strategic location.
- Socio-cultural diversity.
- Reorganization of North East India and emergence of new states.

Unit II: Immigration and Sixth Schedule

- Immigration and Question of Identity
- Historical Background of the Sixth Schedule.
- Autonomy under the Sixth Schedule in Assam: Hill Districts and BTAD.

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Unit III: Movements in North East India

- Naga Movement: Role of Phizo and the NNC.
- Manipur: Roots of Separatism and Insurgency, Movement against AFSPA
- Bodo Movement: Brahma Movement, PTCA and Udayachal Movement, Bodoland Movement and the rise of Insurgency.

Suggested readings:

- Gait, Edward, 2008. *A History of Assam*, Lawyers' Book Stall, Guwahati.
- Barpujari, H.K., 1980. *Assam in the days of Company, 1826-1858*, Spectrum Publications, Guwahati, Assam.
- Guha, Amalendu, 1977. *Planter Raj to Swaraj- Freedom Struggle and Electoral Politics of Assam, 1826-1947*, People's Publishing House Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
- Naorem, Sanajaoba, 2005. *Manipur Past and Present*, Mittal Publication, New Delhi.
- Ray, B. Dutta & Agarwal, S.P., 1996. *Reorganization of North East India since 1947*, Concept Publishing Company.
- Misra, Udayon, 1991. *Nation Building and Development in North East India*, Purbanchal Prakash, Guwahati.
- Saikia, Jaideep, 2007. *Frontiers in Flames: North East India in Turmoil*, Viking, New Delhi.
- Hussain, Monirul, 1993. *The Assam Movement: Class Ideology and Identity*, Manak Publishing House in association with Har Anand Publication, Delhi.
- Sarmah, Alaka, 1999. *Impact of Immigration on Assam Politics*, Ajanta Publishing House, New Delhi.
- Mahanta, Nani Gopal. *Confronting the State: ULFA's Quest for Sovereignty*, SAGE Publications, New Delhi.
- Sarmah, Alaka, 2013 (ed). *Democracy and Diversity in North East India*, DVS Publications, Guwahati.
- Sarmah, Alaka & Konwar, Subhrajeet, 2015 (ed.). "Frontier states: Essays on Democracy, Society and Security in NE India", DVS Publications, Guwahati.
- Misra, Udayon, 1998. "Periphery Strikes Back", IAS Shimla.

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- Barua, Sanjib. *“India Against Itself”* OUP, New Delhi.
- Anand, Arpita, 2012 (ed.). *“Non-state Armed Groups in South Asia”* IDSA.
- Mahanta, Nani Gopal & Gogoi Dilip, 2012 (ed.) *“Shifting Terrains: Conflict Dynamics in North East India”* DVS Publications, New Delhi.
- Baruah, Apurba Kumar, 1991. *“Social Tensions in Assam: Middle Class politics”* Purbanchal Prakash.
- Bhuyan, B.C., 1989, (ed.). *“Political Development in the North East”* Omsons, New Delhi
- Dutta, Anuradha & Bhuyan, Ratna, 2007, (ed.) *“Genesis of Conflict and Peace: Understanding North East India, Views and Reviews, Peace Studies”* OKDSICD and Akanksha Publishing House, New Delhi
- Misra, Udayon, 1988. *“North East India: Quest for Identity”* Omsons, New Delhi.
- Nag, Sajal, 1990. *“Roots of Ethnic Conflict: Nationality Question in North East India”*, Manohar, New Delhi
- Weiner, Myron, 1978. *“Sons of the Soil: Migration and Ethnic Conflict in India”* OUP

Articles:

- Acharya, S.K., *“Ethnic Problems in NE India”*, EPW, May 21, 1988.
- Brahmachoudhury, Samar, *“On Udayachal Movement”*, Mainstream, June 24, 1989
- Seth, D.L., *“State, Nation and Ethnicity: Experience of 3rd World Countries”*, EPW, March 25, 1989
- Mukherjee, D.P & Mukherjee, S.K., *“Contemporary Cultural and Political Movements among the Bodos of Assam”*, in K.S. Singh (ed.) *“Tribal Movements in India”* New Delhi, Manohar, 1982.
- Misra, Udayon, *“Bodo Stir: Complex Issues, Unattainable Demands”* EPW, May 27, 1989
- Hussain, Monirul, *“Tribal Question in Assam”* EPW, May 16-23, 1992
- Raja, Moonis, *“North Eastern India: Problems of Unity in Diversity”* in S.A.H. Haqqi (ed.) *“Democracy, Pluralism and Nation Building”*, Delhi, UBO Publishers, 1984
- Gohain, Hiren *“North East: Roots of Separatism”* Mainstream, Jan 9, 1988
- Navalakha, Gautam, *“Naga Peace Process”*, EPW, Feb 22, 2003.

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Elective: 02: PUBLIC POLICY AND GOVERNANCE STUDIES

Credits: 4

Course Objectives

- This is an optional paper which intends to develop analytical and critical thinkers empowered to develop reasonable and impartial explanations to public policy and governance challenges.
- It tries to make the students learn about the ideas, mechanisms and practices of public policy

Course Outcomes

- This paper remains helpful for the students to pursue research work in this particular area.
- This will also enable students to examine nature, quality and legitimacy of the institutions and practices of governance.

Unit: 1 Public Policy Studies

- Nature, Scope and significance of Public Policy
- Policy Making and Implementation
- Policy Evaluation

Unit: 2 Models for Policy Analysis

- Institutional Model
- Rational Model
- Public Choice Model

Unit: 3 Governance Studies

- Good Governance, E-Governance
- Environmental Governance, Green Governance
- Interactive Governance, Meta Governance

Select Readings:

- Dye, Thomas R. Understanding Public Policy; Pearson Education(Singapore) Pvt Ltd and New Delhi, 2004
- Anderson, James E., Public Policy Making; Boston Houghton Mifflin, 2000
- Osborne D., Gaebler T., Reinventing Government: How the Entrepreneurial Spirit Transforming the Public Sector, Penguin Books, New York, 1993
- Singh Shivani, Governance; Issues and challenges, Sage, New Delhi- California-London, 2016

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- Mathur Kuldeep, *Public Policy and Politics in India: How Institutions Matter*, Oxford University Press, 2013
- Torfing Jacob, Peters B. Guy, Pierre J., Sorensen E., *Interactive Governance: Advancing the Paradigm*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2012
- Weston B.H., Bollier, D., *Green Governance: Ecological Survival , Human Rights and the Law of Commons*, Cambridge University Press, 2013
- *Indian Journal of Public Administration*, IIPA, New Delhi (Relevant issues)

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