

Course 653**Theorizing Politics Beyond the Rational****Course Instructor : Dr. Mohinder Singh****Credits : 3****Contact Hours : 4 per week****Evaluation: 1 Term Paper and end-semester examination****Course Content**

Political analysis has historically been dominated by rational and cognitive models of understanding politics emphasizing the role of speech and reason, manifesting themselves in phenomena such as, rational and social choice, play of interests, public deliberation and communicative action. In the process, other important elements affecting the political processes equally effectively have been marginalized in the dominant modes of political analysis. Without denying the obvious importance of the rational and cognitive models, this course is an attempt to introduce students to those categories of political analysis, which take political analysis beyond the rational. The course is centrally concerned with introducing students to the role of affects and emotion in politics.

1. The affective turn in humanities and social sciences
2. Affects and emotions: contentious perspectives
3. Emotions and passions in politics
4. Habits and the Body Politic: role of reforms and political education, civilization process, constructions of social and citizenship virtues.
5. The question of life: bio-political and bio-medical perspectives in Politics
6. Politics of the Virtual: The new media and the political

Readings:

Jean Paul Sartre, *The Emotions: Outline of a Theory*, (Tr. by Bernard Frechtman)

Carol Publishing Group, New York, 1993.

Brian Massumi, "The Autonomy of Affect," *Parables of the Virtual: Movement, Affect, Sensation*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2002.

Patricia Clough, "The Affective Turn: Political Economy, Biomedicine, and Bodies," *Theory, Culture, and Society*, Vol. 25.1, 2008

Ruth Leys, "The Turn to Affect: A Critique" *Critical Inquiry*, Vol. 37, Spring 2011.

Melissa Gregg and Gregory J. Seigworth (Ed.) *The Affect Theory Reader*, Duke University Press, Durham and London, 2010.

Fonna Forman-Barzilai, *Adam Smith and the Circle of Sympathy: Cosmopolitanism and Moral Theory*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2009.

Martha Nussbaum *Political Emotions: Why Love Matters for Justice*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 2013

Leela Gandhi *Affective Communities: Anticolonial Thought, Fin-de-Siècle Radicalism, and the Politics of Friendship*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2006

Judith Butler, *Precarious Life: The Powers of Mourning and Violence*, Verso, London and New York: 2004.

Sara Ahmed, *The Cultural Politics of Emotions*, Routledge, New York, 2004)

James E. Fleming, *Passions and Emotions*, New York University Press, New York 2012.

Margaret Wetherell, *Affects and Emotions: A New Social Science Understanding*. Sage Publications, London, 2002.

Rebecca Kingston, *Public Passion: Rethinking the Ground of Political Justice* Queens University Press, McGill, 2011

Brady Thomas Heiner, "Reinhabiting the Body Politic: Habits and the roots of the Human" in *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*, Volume 20, Numbers 2 and 3, 2009.

Jan Plamper, *History of Emotions: An Introduction* (Tr. by Keith Tribe), Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2015.

Chantal Mouffe "Politics and Passions: Stakes in Democracy" in *Ethical Perspectives*, Vol. 7, nos. 2-3, 2000.

Albert Hirschman, *The Passions and The Interests: Political Arguments for Capitalism Before its Triumph*, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, 1997.

Dixon, T. "Introduction" to *From Passions to Emotions. The Creation of a Secular Psychological Category*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.

Harré, R. "An Outline of the Social Constructionist Viewpoint" In R. Harré (Ed.), *The Social Construction of Emotion*, Basil Blackwell, New York, 1986.

Reddy, W. M. (1997). "Against Constructionism: The Historical Ethnography of Emotions." *Current Anthropology*, Vol. 38(3) 1997.

Hochschild, A. R. "Emotion Work, Feeling Rules, and Social Structure" *The American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 85(3), 1979.

N. Elias, "Introduction" in Elias, *The Civilizing Process* Vol. I, Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 2000.

Sara Ahmed, "Affective Economies," *Social Text* 22.2, 2004.

Lauren Berlant, "Cruel Optimism," *differences* 17.3, 2006.

Judith Butler, "Psychic Inceptions: Melancholy, Ambivalence, Rage," *The Psychic Life of Power: Theories in Subjection*, Stanford University Press, Stanford, 1997.

Ann Cvetkovich, "Introduction," *Depression: A Public Feeling*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2012.

Gilles Deleuze, "Control and Becoming: Gilles Deleuze in conversation with Antonio Negri," *Futur Anterieur*, Vol.1(1990).

Available at <<http://www.generation-online.org/p/fpdeleuze3.htm>.>

Gilles Deleuze, "Society of Control," *L'autre journal*, 1 (1990).

Available at <<http://www.nadir.org/nadir/archiv/netzkritik/societyofcontrol.html>>

Sigmund Freud, "Mourning and Melancholia" (1917), *The Standard Edition of the Complete Works of Sigmund Freud, Volume XIV*, translated and edited by James Strachey et al., Hogarth Press, London. 1957.

J. K. Gibson-Graham, "Affects and Emotions for a Postcapitalist Politics, *Postcapitalist Politics*, University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 2006.

Jasbir K. Puar, "Queer Times, Queer Assemblages," *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2007.

Raymond Williams, "Structures of Feeling," *Marxism and Literature*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1977.

Gil Anidjar, "Meaning of Life" *Critical Inquiry*, Vol. 37, No. 4, Summer 2011.

Nikolas Rose, *The Politics of Life itself: Biomedicine, Power, and Subjectivity in the Twenty First Century*, Princeton University Press, Princeton and Oxford, 2007.

Iva Illouz: *Cold Intimacies: The Making of Emotional Capitalism*, Polity Press, 2007.

Christian von Scheve and Mikko Salmela (Ed.) *Collective Emotions*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2014.

Veronike Benei, *Schooling Passions: Nation, History, and Language in Contemporary Western India*, Stanford University Press, 2008.

Sheldon Pollock, "The Social Aesthetic and the Sanskrit Literary Theory" *Journal of Indian Philosophy* Vol. 29, 2001.