

COURSE NO.: SS 461N: POLITY AND SOCIETY IN INDIA

M.Phil. 1st Semester, Optional Course; Monsoon Semester: July-December;
Credits: 4

Course Teacher: Dr. Tanweer Fazal; Course Tutors: Rabi Prakash & Arunoday
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The course introduces key concepts and ideas within political sociology. The initial section familiarizes students with critical tools and theoretical debates necessary to analyse the dynamics of social structure and relations of power, their legitimation in different social/institutional contexts and the contestations. It presents various approaches and advances in social science that enrich our comprehension of the relationship between social identities and citizenship. In the subsequent sections, the course engages with the interface between state and society in contemporary India and the diverse forms of politics that this interaction has produced. The course will therefore examine in detail both the evolving structures and processes of the 'political' in India. It will also examine the electoral process as much as the non-electoral arena of collective action and mobilisation.

Evaluation: This is a 4 credit course. The students are required to write a Mid-semester test (1 credit), submit an original term paper of around 3000 to 3500 words (1 credit) and appear for the end-semester exam (2 credits). All three are necessary requirements. As per the JNU rules, the students who fail to do the first two, namely mid-semester and the written assignment, will not be eligible to write the end semester exam.

Note: Assignments have to be student's original work. Plagiarism in any form will not be accepted.

Course Outline

I. POLITY AND SOCIETY: THEORIES AND CONCEPTS

(A) Sociology of Power: Marx, Weber, Parsons and Foucault

Foucault, M., 'The Subject and Power', in K. Nash ed. *Readings in Contemporary political Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2000, pp. 8-26

Weber, Max, *The Theory of social and Economic Organization*, New York : The Free press, 1947 (pp. 324-33, 341-45 and 358-63).

Sartori, Giovanni, *From the Sociology of Politics to Political Sociology*, in S.M. Lipset ed., *Politics and the Social Science*, New York: OUP, 1969

Nordlinger, Eric. A, 'Political sociology: Marx and Weber' in Nordlinger ed. *Politics and Society*, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1970

Martin, Roderick, *The Sociology of Power: Problems of Definition and Measurement*, Delhi: Ambika, 1978 (esp. chapter 3 : The Sociology of Power: Problems of Definition and Measurement)

(B) Power and Powerlessness; Legitimacy and Authority; Resistance and Revolution:

Gaventa, John, *Power and Powerlessness: Quintessence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley*, Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1980 (Chpt 1: Power and Participation)

Skocpol, Theda: *State and Revolution: Old Regimes and Revolutionary Crises in France, Russia, and China*, *Theory and Society*, Vol. 7, No. ½

Miliband, Ralph, State Power and Class Interest, *New Left Review*, 138, March/April, 1983, pp. 57-68

Scott, James C., *Weapon's of the Weak: Everyday forms of Resistance*, Yale Univ. Press, 1990

(C) Nationalism, Multi-culturalism and Citizenship: The Politics of Recognition/Representation

T.H Marshall, Citizenship and social Class in J. Manza and M. Sauder ed. *Inequality and Society*, New York: W.W Norton, 2009

Charles Taylor, Politics of recognition, in Amy Gutmanned, *Multiculturalism and the Politics of Recognition*, Princeton Univ Press, 1992.

Nancy Fraser, From Recognition to Redistribution? Dilemmas of Justice in a 'Post-socialist' Age, *New Left Review* 212: 68–93

Anderson, Benedict, *Imagined Communities* (intro)

Gellner, E. *Nations and Nationalism* (Intro)

Oommen, T.K, *Nationality, Ethnicity and Citizenship, London: Polity, 1997* (introduction)

II. STATE AND SOCIETY IN INDIA

(A) Political Economy of the Indian State: Colonial History; Developmental State; Neo-liberal turn:

Pantham, 'The Indian nation-state: From Pre-colonial Beginnings to Post-colonial reconstructions' in Veena Das ed. *The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Antropology*vol II, Delhi: OUP, 2003, pp. 1413-47

Bardhan, P., *The Political Economy of Development in India*, Oxford: Blackwell, 1984

L. Rudolph & S. Rudolph, *In Pursuit of Lakshmi: The Political Economy of the Indian State* Chicago University Press, 1987.

Kohli, Atul, 'Politics of Economic Growth in India, 1980-2005, Part II: The 1990s and Beyond', *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLI(14), pp. 1361-70, 2006

(B) Everyday State, Governance and Politics:

Corbridge, Stuart et. al., *Seeing the State: Governance and Governmentality in India* (esp. Section 1: The State and the Poor), Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2005

Hansen, T.B., 'Governance and Myths of State in Mumbai', in Fuller, C.J & V. Benei, *Everyday state and Society in Modern India*, Delhi: Social Science Press, 2000, pp. 31-67

Fuller, C.J & John Harriss, 'For An Anthropology of the Modern Indian State' in Fuller and Benei eds., *Everyday state and Society in Modern India*, Delhi: Social Science Press, 2000

(C) Tradition, Modernity and Democratic Politics: Structural Constrains and Social Churnings Caste, Religion, Ethnicity

Kaviraj, Sudipta, 'Modernity and Politics in India', *Daedalus*, Vol. 129, No. 1, Multiple Modernities (Winter, 2000), pp. 137-162

Kothari, Rajni, 'Introduction', *Caste in Indian Politics*, Hyderabad: Orient Longman, 1970 (rep. 2004)

Nandy, Ashis, Politics of Secularism and the Recovery of Religious Tolerance, *Alternatives*, XIII (1988), pp.177-94

Bhargava, Rajeev, *Secularism and Its Critics: Themes in Politics*, Delhi: OUP, 1999.

Fazal, Tanweer, *Nation-state and Minority Rights in India*, London: Routledge, 2015 (esp. Chapter 2)

Baruah, Sanjib, *Durable Disorder: Understanding the Politics of North-east*, Delhi : OUP, 2016

III. POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION, PROTESTS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

(A) Party system and electoral process:

Chandra, Kancha, The Transformation of Ethnic Politics in India: The Decline of Congress and the Rise of the BahujanSamaj Party in Hoshiarpur, *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 59, No. 1 (Feb., 2000), pp. 26-61

Jafferlot, C. , Introduction, in Jafferlot and S. Kumar eds., *Rise of the Plebeians: The Changing Face of Indian Legislative Assemblies*, Delhi: Routledge, 2009

(B) Agrarian mobilizations, working class politics, Dalit and Backward Class movements

Gough, Kathleen, 'Indian Peasant Uprisings', *EPW*, August 10, 1974, pp. 32-4.

Dhanagare, D.N 'The new Farmer's Movement in Maharashtra', in T. K Oommen ed. *Social Movements: Concerns of Equity and Security*, Delhi: OUP, 2010

Oommen, T.K, 'Indian Labour Movement: Colonial Era to the Global Age', *EPW*, December 26, 2009, pp. 81-9.

Omvedt, Gail, *Dalits and the Democratic Revolution: Dr.Ambedkar and the Dalit Movement in Colonial India*, New Delhi: Sage, 1994.

Jafferlot, C. 'The Rise of the Other Backward Classes in the Hindi Belt', *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 59(1), pp. 86-108, 2000.

(C) New Social Movements : women and environmental movements

Kumar, Radha, *History of Doing*, Delhi: Kali for women, 1993

Omvedt, Gail, 'Rural Women Revolts', *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 5 (3), 1978, pp. 270-303

Baviskar, Amita, *In the belly of the River*, Delhi: OUP, 2004 (rep)

Gadgil, Madhav and R. Guha, *This Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India*, University of California Press, 1993.

Guha, R., *The Unquiet Woods: Ecological Change and Peasant Resistance in the Himalaya*, Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2013 (republished).