



Indraprastha College for Women University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	BA (Hons.) Political Science
Paper Title:	Ancient and Medieval Indian Political Thought
Unique Paper Code:	2322102301
Semester:	III
Faculty:	Amisha Pareek
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
I	Foundations of Indian Political Thought	1-4	An Overview on Sources of Indian Political Thought
I	Foundations of Indian Political Thought	1-4	Cultural and Territorial conception of India
I	Foundations of Indian Political Thought	1-4	Distinctive Features of Indian Political Thought
II	Authenticity of Manu Smriti	5-8	Manu: Authenticity of Manu smriti (Talking Point)
II	Conception of Justice and Social laws prescribed by Manu	5-8	Manu: Social Laws and Conception of Justice
III	Brihaspati's notion of Statecraft	9-12	Brihaspati: Statecraft
III	Brihaspati's notion of Justice	9-12	Brihaspati: Justice
III	Brihaspati's notion of Inter-state Relations	9-12	Brihaspati: Inter-state Relations
IV	Authenticity of Shukra-Niti	13-16	Shukra-Niti: Talking Point: Debate on the authenticity of Shukra-Niti
IV	The Concept of Kingship and Statecraft in Shukra-Niti	13-16	Shukra-Niti: The Concept of Kingship and Statecraft in Shukra-Niti
V	The theory of state as by Kautilya	17-20	Kautilya: Theory of State
VI	The theory of kingship as per Aggannasutta	21-24	Aggannasutta (DighaNikaya): Theory of kingship
VII	What was the political and economic ideas of Tiruvallur and what was his take on ethics?	25-28	Tiruvalluvar: Ethical Life and Politics

VIII	Political Thought and relevance of Basavanna	29-32	Basavanna
IX	The philosophy of Advaita	33-36	Adi Shankracharya: Advaita
X	Relevance of syncretic traditions	37-40	Kabir and Guru Nanak: Syncretism
XI	Abu'lFazl's ideas on Monarchy	41-44	Abu'lFazl: Monarchy

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	Foundations of Indian Political Thought- • An Overview on Sources of Indian Political Thought • Cultural and Territorial conception of India Distinctive Features of Indian Political Thought
II	Manu: • Authenticity of Manu smriti (Talking Point) Social Laws and Conception of Justice
III	Brihaspati: Statecraft, Justice, Inter-state Relations
IV	Shukra/Usana: • Talking Point: Debate on the authenticity of Shukra-Niti The Concept of Kingship and Statecraft in Shukra-Niti
V	Kautilya: Theory of State
VI	Aggannasutta (DighaNikaya): Theory of kingship
VII	Tiruvalluvar: Ethical Life and Politics
VIII	Basavanna
IX	Adi Shankracharya: Advaita
X	Kabir and Guru Nanak: Syncretism
XI	Abu'lFazl: Monarchy
S. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1.	V. R. Mehta (1992) Introduction, in Foundation of Indian Political Thought, Delhi, Manohar, pp. 1-11.
2.	Brown, D. M. (1953). The Premises of Indian Political Thought. The Western Political Quarterly, 6(2), 243–249.
3.	Manu (2006) 'Rules for Times of Adversity', in P. Olivelle (ed. & trans.) Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Manava- Dharamsastra, New Delhi: OUP, pp.208-213.

4.	P. Olivelle (2006) 'Introduction', in Manu's Code of Law: A Critical Edition and Translation of the Manava –Dharmasastra, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 3- 50.
5.	Vajpeyi, Raghavendra (1966) Barhaspatya Rajya-Vyavastha: Political and Legal System of Brhaspati. ChaukhambaVidyabhawan, Varanasi.
6.	Puntambekar, S. V. (1948). Some Aspects of Sukra's Political Thought. The Indian Journal of Political Science, 9(2/3), 1–12.
7.	R. Kangle (1997) Arthashastra of Kautilya-Part-III: A Study, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 116- 142.
8.	S. Collins (ed) (2001) Agganna Sutta: An Annotated Translation, New Delhi: Sahitya Academy, pp. 44-49.
9.	K. V. Nagarajan Thiruvalluvar's Vision: Polity and Economy in Thirukkural, History of Political Economy 37:1, 2005 by Duke University Press.
10.	H. Thipperudraswamy, Basaveshwara, Sahitya Akademi, 1975
11.	Manilal Dvivedi, The Advaita Philosophy of Shankara, pp. 95-113. (Published by Department of Oriental Studies, University of Vienna).
12.	Kabir. (2002) The Bijak of Kabir (translated by L. Hess and S. Singh), Delhi: Oxford University Press, No. 30, 97, pp. 50- 51 & 69- 70.
13.	V. Mehta (1992) Foundation of Indian Political Thought, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 157- 183.
14.	A. Fazl (1873) The Ain-i Akbari (translated by H. Blochmann), Calcutta: G. H. Rouse, pp. 47- 57.

Paper Components			
Credits	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
4	3	1	0
Assessment Scheme			
S.No.	Component	Marking Scheme	Total Marks
1	Internal Assessment		30
	Assignment	12	

	• Class Test • Attendance	12	
		6	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) • Activity 1 • Activity 2 • Attendance		40
		20	
		15	
		5	
3.	Practical • Continuous Assessment • End Term Written/Practical Exam • Viva	N/A	
4.	End Semester Examination		90