



Indraprastha College for Women University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	B.A. (hons.) Political Science
Paper Title:	Ancient and Medieval Indian Political Thought
Unique Paper Code:	2322102301
Semester:	III
Faculty:	Mr. Kalyan Vemala
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
1	1. An Overview of Sources of Indian Political Thought 2. Cultural and Territorial conception of India 3. Distinctive Features of Indian Political Thought	1-5	Indian knowledge systems, Indian Political Thought, Features of Indian Political Thought
3	Brihaspati: Statecraft, Justice, Inter-state Relations	6-8	Brihaspati's idea of Statecraft, Justice, Inter-state Relations
4	Shukra/Usana • Talking Point: Debate on the authenticity of Shukra-Niti • The Concept of Kingship and Statecraft in Shukra-Niti	8-12	Shukra's idea of Kingship and Statecraft
5	Kautilya: Theory of State	12-18	Kautilya's idea of statecraft, kingship, inter-state relations, origin of state.
6	Aggannasutta (DighaNikaya): Theory of kingship	18-22	Buddhist idea of origin of state and kingship.
7	Tiruvalluvar: Ethical Life and Politics	22-26	Tiruvalluvar's idea of Ethics and Politics
8	Basavanna	26-30	Bhakti movement, Shaivism, social equality.
9	Adi Shankracharya: Advaita	30-36	Advaita Vedanta
10	Kabir and Guru Nanak: Syncretism	36-42	Social equality, bhakti movement
11	Abu'lFazl: Monarchy	42-45	Ain-i-Akbari, idea of kingship, statecraft, administration.

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	V. R. Mehta (1992) Introduction, in Foundation of Indian Political Thought, Delhi, Manohar, pp. 1-11. Brown, D. M. (1953). The Premises of Indian Political Thought. The Western Political Quarterly, 6(2), 243–249. Suda, J. P. (1970). Dharma: Its Nature and Role in Ancient India. The Indian Journal of Political Science, 31(4), 356–366. Varma, Vishwanath Prasad (1953). Studies in Hindu Political Thought and its Metaphysical Foundations, Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi. Flood, Gavin (2003). The Blackwell Companion to Hinduism. Blackwell Publishing Ltd, UK.
II	
III	Vajpeyi, Raghavendra (1966) Barhaspatya Rajya-Vyavastha: Political and Legal System of Brhaspati. ChaukhambaVidyabhawan, Varanasi. Chousalkar Ashok S. (2018). Revisiting the Political Thought of Ancient India: Pre-KautilyanArthashastra: SAGE Publications Pvt Ltd, Delhi. Kane, P.V (1940). "Rajyashastras of Brihaspati, Usanas, Bhardwaj and Vishalaksh". Journal of the University of Bombay.
IV	Nagar, Vandana (1985). Kingship in Shukra-Niti, Pushpa Prakashan, Delhi, India. Varma, Vishwanath Prasad (December 1962). "Some Aspects of Public Administration in The Sukraniti". Indian Journal of Political Science. 23 (1/4): 302–308. Puntambekar, S. V. (1948). Some Aspects of Sukra's Political Thought. The Indian Journal of Political Science, 9(2/3), 1–12.

V	Kautilya (1997) 'The Elements of Sovereignty' in R. Kangle (ed. and trns.), Arthasastra of Kautilya, New Delhi: Motilal Publishers, pp. 511- 514. V. Mehta (1992) 'The Pragmatic Vision: Kautilya and His Successor', in Foundations of Indian Political Thought, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 88- 109. R. Kangle (1997) Arthashastra of Kautilya-Part-III: A Study, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, pp. 116- 142.
VI	S. Collins (ed) (2001) Agganna Sutta: An Annotated Translation, New Delhi: Sahitya Academy, pp. 44-49. S. Collins (2001) 'General Introduction', in Agganna Sutta: The Discussion on What is Primary (An Annotated Translation from Pali), Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, pp. 1- 26. B. Gokhale (1966) 'The Early Buddhist View of the State', in The Journal of Asian Studies, Vol. XXVI (1), pp. 15- 22.
VII	Maharajan, S. (2017), Makers of Indian Literature: Tiruvalluvar, Sahitya Akademi Publication, New Delhi. K. V. Nagarajan Thiruvalluvar's Vision: Polity and Economy in Thirukkural, History of Political Economy 37:1, 2005 by Duke University Press. C.S. Srinivasachari, The Political Ideology of the Kural, Indian Journal of Political Science, Oct-Dec 1949, pp 15-23 Norman Cutler, Interpreting Thirukural: The Role of the Commentary in the Creation of a Text, Journal of the American Oriental Society, October- December 1992, Vol 112, No 4, pp 549-556
VIII	H. Thipperudraswamy, Basaveshwara, Sahitya Akademi, 1975. Julia Leslie, Understanding Basava; History, Historiography, and a Modern Kannada Drama, Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, university of London, 1998, Vol 61, No 2, pp 228-261. M. P. Samartha, Basava's Spiritual Struggle, Religious Studies, Cambridge University Press, Sept 1977, Vol 13, No 3, pp 335-347.
IX	Koller, John, M. (2012) 'Shankara', in Chad Meister & Paul Copan (eds.), The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Religion, pp. 99 - 108. ManilalDvivedi, The Advaita Philosophy of Shankara, pp. 95-113. (Published by Department of Oriental Studies, University of Vienna). Chatterjee and Dutta (2007), An Introduction to Indian Philosophy, New Delhi: Rupa Publications, pp 317 - 382. Swami Mukhyananda (2006), Shri Shankaracharya: Life and Philosophy, Kolkata: Advaita

	Ashram, pp. 1 - 64.
X	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. V. Mehta (1992) Foundation of Indian Political Thought, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 157- 183. G. Omvedt (2008) 'Kabir and Ravidas, Envisioning Begumpura', in Seeking Begumpura: The Social Vision of Anti Caste Intellectual, Delhi: Navayana, pp. 91- 107.
XI	A. Fazl (1873) The Ain-i Akbari (translated by H. Blochmann), Calcutta: G. H. Rouse, pp. 47- 57. V. Mehta (1992) 'The Imperial Vision: Barni and Fazal', in Foundations of Indian Political thought, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 134- 156.
S. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1.	Mehta, V.R. (1992) Foundations of Indian Political Thought.
2.	OP Gauba- Indian Political Thought
3.	M. P. Singh and Himanshu Roy (ed.), Indian Political Thought: Themes and Thinkers

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 - Assignment - Class Test - Attendance		30
		12	
		12	
		6	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) Activity 1		40
		20	

	- Activity 2 - Attendance	15	
		5	
3.	Practical	NA	NA
	Continuous Assessment	NA	
	End Term Written/Practical Exam	NA	
	Viva	NA	
4.	End Semester Examination		