

**Honours Course: Discipline Specific Core XI**

Semester	Five
Paper Number	HPSCR51111T
Paper Title	<b>Classical Political Philosophy</b>
No. of Credits	6
Theory/Composite	Theory
No. of periods assigned	Th: 5+1 Tutorial class Pr:
Name of Faculty member(s)	
Course description/objective	This course goes back to Greek antiquity and familiarizes students with the manner in which the political questions were first posed. Machiavelli comes as an interlude inaugurating modern politics followed by Hobbes and Locke. This is a basic foundation course for students.
Syllabus	<p><b>Module I (40 Marks)</b></p> <p><b>1. Antiquity</b>  <b>(a) Plato (9 Lectures)</b>  Philosophy and Politics, Theory of Forms, Justice, Philosopher King/Queen, Communism  Presentation theme: Critique of Democracy; Women and Guardianship, Censorship  <b>(b) Aristotle (9 Lectures)</b>  Forms, Virtue, Citizenship, Justice, State and Household  Presentation themes: Classification of governments; man as zoon politikon</p> <p><b>2) Interlude :The rediscovery of Aristotle’s Politics in the Middle Ages ( 7 Lectures)</b>  – Major issues in the political thought of the Middle Ages with special reference to St Augustine, Thomas Aquinas and Marsilius of Padua.</p> <p><b>Module II (40 Marks)</b></p> <p><b>3. Machiavelli (10 Lectures)</b>  Virtue, Religion, Republicanism  Presentation themes: morality and statecraft; vice and virtue</p> <p><b>4. Possessive Individualism</b>  <b>(a) Hobbes (10 Lectures)</b>  Human nature, State of Nature, Social Contract, State  Presentation themes: State of nature; social contract; Leviathan; atomistic individuals.  <b>(b) Locke (10 Lectures)</b>  Laws of Nature, Natural Rights, Property,</p>

	Presentation themes: Natural rights; right to dissent; justification of property.
Texts	
Reading/Reference Lists	<p><b>READING LIST</b></p> <p>Nelson, B.R. (1982) <i>Western Political Thought – From Socrates to the Age of Ideology</i>. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall</p> <p>Russell, Bertrand (1979) <i>A History of Western Philosophy</i>. London: Allen &amp; Unwin.</p> <p>Curtis, Michael (1981) <i>The Great Political Theories- Volumes 1 &amp; 2</i>. New York: Avon Books</p> <p><b>Additional Readings:</b></p> <p><b>I. Text and Interpretation</b></p> <p>T. Ball, (2004) ‘History and Interpretation’ in C. Kukathas and G. Gaus, (eds.) <i>Handbook of Political Theory</i>, London: Sage Publications Ltd. pp. 18-30.</p> <p>B. Constant, (1833) ‘The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with that of the Moderns’, in D. Boaz, (ed), (1997) <i>The Libertarian Reader</i>, New York: The Free Press.</p> <p>Additional Readings:</p> <p>J. Coleman, (2000) ‘Introduction’, in <i>A History of Political Thought: From Ancient Greece to Early Christianity</i>, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, pp. 1-20.</p> <p>Q. Skinner, (2010) ‘Preface’, in <i>The Foundations of Modern Political Thought Volume I</i>, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press pp. ix-xv.</p> <p><b>II. Antiquity:</b></p> <p><b>Plato</b></p> <p>A. Skoble and T. Machan, (2007) <i>Political Philosophy: Essential Selections</i>. New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 9-32.</p> <p>R. Kraut, (1996) ‘Introduction to the study of Plato’, in R. Kraut (ed.) <i>The Cambridge Companion to Plato</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-50.</p> <p>C. Reeve, (2009) ‘Plato’, in D. Boucher and P. Kelly (eds.) <i>Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present</i>, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 62-80</p> <p>Additional Readings:</p> <p>S. Okin, (1992) ‘Philosopher Queens and Private Wives’, in S. Okin <i>Women in Western Political Thought</i>, Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 28-</p>

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R. Kraut, (1996) 'The Defence of Justice in Plato's Republic', in R. Kraut (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Plato*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 311-337

T. Saunders, (1996) 'Plato's Later Political Thought', in R. Kraut (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Plato*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 464-492.

### **Aristotle**

A. Skoble and T. Machan, (2007) *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 53-64.

T. Burns, (2009) 'Aristotle', in D. Boucher, and P. Kelly, (eds) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp.81-99.

C. Taylor, (1995) 'Politics', in J. Barnes (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 232-258

Additional Readings:

J. Coleman, (2000) 'Aristotle', in J. Coleman *A History of Political Thought: From Ancient Greece to Early Christianity*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, pp.120-186

D. Hutchinson, (1995) 'Ethics', in J. Barnes, (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 195-232.

### **Machiavelli**

A. Skoble and T. Machan, (2007) *Political Philosophy: Essential Selections*. New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 124-130

Q. Skinner, (2000) 'The Adviser to Princes', in *Machiavelli: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 23-53

J. Femia, (2009) 'Machiavelli', in D. Boucher, and P. Kelly, (eds) *Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 163-184

Additional Reading:

Q. Skinner, (2000) 'The Theorist of Liberty', in *Machiavelli: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 54-87.

### **Possessive Individualism**

	<p><b>Hobbes</b>  A. Skoble and T. Machan, (2007) <i>Political Philosophy: Essential Selections</i>. New Delhi: Pearson Education pp. 131-157.  D. Baumgold, (2009) ‘Hobbes’, in D. Boucher and P. Kelly (eds) <i>Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 189-206.  C. Macpherson (1962) <i>The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke</i>. Oxford University Press, Ontario, pp. 17-29.  Additional Readings:  I. Hampsher-Monk, (2001) ‘Thomas Hobbes’, in <i>A History of Modern Political Thought: Major Political Thinkers from Hobbes to Marx</i>, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, pp. 1-67.  A. Ryan, (1996) ‘Hobbes's political philosophy’, in T. Sorell, (ed.) <i>Cambridge Companion to Hobbes</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 208-245.</p> <p><b>Locke</b>  A. Skoble and T. Machan, (2007) <i>Political Philosophy: Essential Selections</i>. New Delhi: Pearson Education, pp. 181-209.  J. Waldron, (2009) ‘John Locke’, in D. Boucher and P. Kelly, (eds) <i>Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 207-224  C. Macpherson, (1962) <i>The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke</i>. Oxford University Press, Ontario, pp. 194-214.  Additional Readings:  R. Ashcraft, (1999) ‘Locke's Political Philosophy’, in V. Chappell (ed.) <i>The Cambridge Companion to Locke</i>, Cambridge. Cambridge University Press, pp. 226-251.  I. Hampsher-Monk, (2001) <i>A History of Modern Political Thought: Major Political Thinkers from Hobbes to Marx</i>, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, pp. 69-116.</p>
Evaluation	CIA: 20 End-Sem: 80 <b>Short Notes:</b> 2 out of 3 of 5marks each (2x5=10) <b>Essay Type:</b> 3 out of 4 (3X10= 30) (40 marks per module) 40+40 (Module I + Module II= 80) (80+20 CIA=100)

