

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### Program Specific Outcome

B.A. in Political Science is taught with a view to enable students to understand their society; Indian and global political institutions; role of political thinkers in shaping ideas of freedom, justice, equality; role of international organizations in global order, down to micro-politics of identity like caste, gender and religion. Party systems, public administration, citizenship and the legal system are some of the courses that the program covers, which are beneficial to a student of politics.

The aim is to build strong concepts over the semesters which further become the tools for critical thinking, and developing a scientific outlook, preparing them for further research if they wish to pursue.

Building on theoretical concepts, this program deals with the fundamentals that govern our politics, for instance, why should institutions be democratic? The program combines this with empirical work that adds dimensions to concepts through their on-ground research. For instance the democratic question stands opposed to the existing system of caste and patriarchy. Students are encouraged to engage with the laws and customs that govern global, national, familial communities.

To engage in politics is to be aware of its existence in our everydayness; not only to be searched for in political institutions and the headlines.

### Course Outcome

1. The program has courses rich in philosophy as well as praxis. Political Thought and Political Theory, Theories of Administration set out the goals for society and its organizations. Indian and western philosophers are studied at length for their path breaking contribution to fundamentals that have shaped paradigms. It is hoped that sound concepts will equip students to engage, debate, even create new tools with which to understand our society better.
2. Some courses over varied semesters look closely at the legal, social and political institutions that govern India. India has a rich history of political and legal twists and turns that makes it an engaging study. The colonial legal systems and institutions that have been co-opted with laws borrowed from several constitutions have ensured a top-dressing of democratic ethos. But the reality of social customs and traditional systems stand opposed to the inherited legacy of rights and freedoms, making India an interesting study of identity politics.
3. Globally, politics is studied through multinational organizations, comparative political institutions, world wars and the current global political scenario. International relations makes for an important part of the course in political science. The course covers a myriad of theories in international politics.
4. This program also prepares students for further research by introducing them to a research methods course and elementary aspects of the same. It is to familiarize them with concepts that they will need to engage with at great length if they pursue higher studies.
5. The program is a multidisciplinary one that has multiple courses which engage with philosophy, history, economics and law. Students of the course are encouraged to keep abreast of the news to relate what it *ought* to be to what it *is*.