

Centre for Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies
School of Social Sciences
Central University of Gujarat

The Centre for Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies is offering three optional papers for its MA Political Science students in the Monsoon semester of 2020. Master degree students of other centres of the University can opt for these papers. Each of these papers will be taught for 4 hours per week for 15 weeks. These papers will be of 4 credits each. Evaluation Method: Class participation: 10%, Assignment: 15%, Mid-Semester Examination: 25%, End-Semester: 50%.

A brief description of the courses is given below.

Course Title: Public Policy, Course Code: PLS-521

Objectives of the Course: The objective of the paper is to introduce public policy to students. Besides introduction, the paper substantially elaborates three approaches to public policy, agents of change in policy making and debates on public policy in India. The paper would acquaint students to public policy and its numerous dimensions for critical evaluation.

Course Title: Democracy: Theories and Practices, Course Code: PLS-522

Objectives of the Course: This course is an attempt to introduce students to contemporary debates on the theories and practices of democracy. The course provides an outline of the basic types of modern democracy and examines key constitutional institutions of democracy. The various aspects of the conditions of democracy, the processes of democratization, and the breakdown of democratic regimes will be dealt in the second unit. The various challenges to democracy like majoritarianism, underdevelopment and inequality will be studied in the concluding unit.

Course Title: Conflicts in South Asia, Course Code: PLS 523

Objectives of the Course: This course introduces students to issues of conflicts in South Asia. The region has witnessed population migration and refugee crises since the colonial period. Wars between and within states have led to ethnic conflicts, secessionist movements and state sponsored violence in South Asia. Religion remains a marker of identity in the region, and has led to violence against religious minorities. Population growth coupled with increased urbanization has contributed to a growing demand for water. Hence, international disputes over water have arisen between India and her neighbours. The paper will provide a background to all the conflicts in South Asia not from a statist perspective but a conflict studies perspective.