

CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

Semester I

Course Credits – 2

Number of Teaching Hours per Week – 03

Total contact hours – 42

Summative Assessment Marks – 40+10 (IA) =50

Programme objective: The programme seeks to provide a nuanced understanding of the constitutional framework and inculcate among students the values enshrined in the Indian constitution. It seeks to enable students to realise the importance of the application of the constitutional principles in addressing the issues and challenges of twenty-first century and to become critical, informed and responsible students aware of their rights and duties and requirements of good governance, just and progressive society.

Course objectives:

1. To enable students to grasp the constitutional framework of India.
2. To imbibe among students the foundational principles and values of the constitution.
3. To enable critical thinking on the importance and influence of constitutional values on law, governance, and society, and apply the Constitutional values in handling the complex and emerging issues.
4. To empower students with broader and critical knowledge base, understand their role and responsibilities and to become informed and responsible citizens prepared to address present and future challenges.

Course outcome:

At the end of the course students will –

1. Understand the importance and constitutional structure of India.
2. Grasp the underlying principles and inculcate the values of the constitution.
3. Realise and critically reflect on the influence of the constitution on law, governance and society, and apply of the constitutional values in addressing the complex societal issues.
4. Be empowered with knowledge base, understand their responsibilities and become responsible citizens.

Pedagogy: Lectures, Assignments, Seminars and group discussions, Tutorials, Interactive sessions with elected representatives and experts, and surveys as applicable

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Unit 1: The Framework:

(16 hours)

- 1.1 Constitution: Meaning and importance; Constituent Assembly and making of the Indian Constitution
- 1.2 Salient features of the Indian Constitution; The Preamble
- 1.3 Fundamental Rights and Duties– Provisions and as value; Balancing rights and reasonable restrictions
- 1.4 Directive Principles – Provisions and as value; Relation between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles
- 1.5 Union Legislature, Executive and Judiciary – Composition and Functions, Role in upholding Constitutional values

Unit 2: Core Constitutional values (Conceptual overview, constitutional provisions and importance in nation building)

(13 hours)

- 2.1 Sovereignty, Socialism
- 2.2 Secularism, Democracy
- 2.3 Republicanism, Citizenship
- 2.4 Unity and Integrity of the nation; Unity in diversity
- 2.5 Justice, Liberty, Equality and fraternity; Relation between Liberty and Equality

Unit 3: Constitution and society

(13 hours)

- 3.1 Protection against discrimination and Positive discrimination; Social Justice and Reservation; Equality and Gender Justice
- 3.2 Dignity of the individual and Human Rights; Democracy and minority Rights; Right to Privacy
- 3.3 Role and conduct of Elected Representatives; Constitutional values and media
- 3.4 Transparency in administration and Right to Information
- 3.5 Right to Health; Environment and Sustainable development.

Note:

1. The course has to be taught along with the relevant amendments and judicial pronouncements.
2. The core values/concepts need to be taught with theoretical insights and relevant constitutional provisions.
3. Emerging issues and case studies for discussion/debates in the background of constitutional provisions and values could be taken-up.

Suggested Readings:

1. Abbas, H., Kumar, R. & Alam, M. A. (2011) *Indian Government and Politics*. New Delhi: Pearson.
2. Austin, G. (1999) *Indian Constitution: Corner Stone of a Nation*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
3. Austin, G. (2004) *Working of a Democratic Constitution of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
4. Bhargava, Rajeev. ed. (1998) *Secularism and Its Critics*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
5. Basu, D.D., (2014) *An Introduction to the Constitution of India*, New Delhi: Prentice Hall,.
6. Bakshi, P.M., (1999) *Constitution of India*, New Delhi: Universal Law Publishing House
7. Chatterjee, Partha, (2009) *State and Politics in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press
8. Chandhoke, N. & Priyadarshi, P. (eds.) (2009) *Contemporary India: Economy, Society, Politic*, New Delhi: Pearson.
9. Chakravarty, B. & Pandey, K. P. (2006) *Indian Government and Politics*. New Delhi: Sage.
10. Chandra, B., Mukherjee, A. & Mukherjee, M. (2010) *India After Independence*. New Delhi: Penguin.
11. Constitution of India (Full Text), India.gov.in. National Portal of India, https://www.India.gov.in/sites/upload_files/npi/files/coi_part_full.pdf
12. Fadia, B.L., (2012) *Indian Government and Politics*, Agra: Sahitya Bhawan
13. Jennings, I., (1953) *Some Characteristics of the Indian Constitution*, London: Oxford University Press
14. K B Merunandan, (2015). *Bharatada Samvidhana Ondu Parichaya*, Bangalore, Meragu Publications
15. Kothari Rajani, (1970) *Politics in India*, New Delhi: Orient Longman
16. Laxmikanth. M, (2015) *Indian Polity*, New Delhi: Tata Mcgraw Hill
17. M.V.Pylee, (2017) *India's Constitution*, New Delhi; S.Chand Pub
18. Nagamohana Das, H N and Muralidharan, Y G (2023) *SamvidhanaOdu, Vidhyarthi Yuvajanarigagi Kaipidi* Jana Prakashana
19. Nagamohana Das, H N, (2019) *Reading the Constitution*
20. Vanaik, A. & Bhargava, R. (eds.) (2010) *Understanding Contemporary India: Critical Perspectives*. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan
21. Vinod M J and Deshpande, Meena, (2013) *Contemporary Political theory*, Delhi: PHI Learning

Question paper pattern

CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

---- Semester Examination, 20--

Course Code and Title

Total Marks: 40

Time: 02 Hours

Section – A

(4 x5= 20)

Instructions:

- Answer any **four** of the following, each not exceeding 200 words.
- All questions carry equal marks

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Section – B

(2 x10= 20)

Instructions:

- Answer any **two** of the following, each not exceeding 500 words.
- All questions carry equal marks

- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.