



Department of Political Science with Rural Administration

**Vidyasagar University**

Midnapore, West Bengal – 721 102.

Telephone: (03222) 275297 / 276554 / 276555 / 276557/ 276558 Fax: (03222) 275329

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# **M. Phil Programme in Political Science**

## **SYLLABUS**



Department of Political Science with Rural Administration  
**Vidyasagar University**  
 Midnapore, West Bengal- 721102.

**Integrated M. Phil. / Ph. D. Programme**

**Syllabus**

Year	Semester	Course No	Course Title	Full Marks
1 <sup>st</sup> Year	I (For M. Phil. And Ph. D.)	PLS- 111	Social Science Research: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS- 112	Logic of Scientific Inquiry	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS- 113	Research Methods and Techniques	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS- 114	<b>For M. Phil.</b> Statistical Methods and Techniques	<b>For Ph. D.</b> Project Work Under the Supervisor
	II (For M. Phil. Only)	PLS- 121	Advance Areas in Political Theory	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS- 122	Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Challenges	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS-123	Emerging Areas in International Relations	50 (Exam.- 40+ IA 10)
		PLS- 124	Social and Political Movements	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	(For M. Phil. Only)	PLS- 201	Dissertation	100 (Written-70. Viva- Voce-30)

## **M.Phil. First Semester**

### **Course No: PLS-111**

#### **Social Science Research: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives**

##### **Group-A**

1. Inductive and Deductive Methods
2. Ethical Controversies in Social Sciences
3. Qualitative versus Quantitative Methods
4. Methodological Individualism

##### **Group-B**

5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations: Normative versus Empirical.
6. Positivist Methodology in International Relations.
7. Post-Positivist Methodologies: Post-Modernism, Constructivism and Critical Theory.
8. Explaining IR versus Understanding IR: Ontology and Epistemology.

**M.Phil. First Semester**  
**Course No: PLS-112**  
**Logic of Scientific Inquiry**

**Group- A**

1. Basic Orientations Towards the Scientific Method - Characteristics of Scientific Knowledge
2. Science, Theory and Fact - Role of Theory in Social Science Research.
3. Concepts, Variables and Hypotheses as building blocks of Theory.
4. Role of 'Value' in Social Science Research.

**Group - B**

5. Reading Politics : Causal, reason- action, hermeneutic, postmodern
6. Ideology and Interpellation :Althusseis intervention
7. Positivism :Auguste Comte's contributions
8. Karl Popper : 'Falsifiability' of scientific theory

## **M. Phil. 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

### **Course No. PLS-113**

## **Research Methods and Techniques**

### **Group - A**

1. Stages of Conducting Research: (a) Formulating Research Questions; (b) Literature Review; (c) Formulating the Hypothesis; (d) Defining the Concepts; (e) Operationalizing the Concepts etc.
2. Action Research Design and Case Study Design
3. Causal Design and Descriptive Design
4. Mixed Design.

### **Group - B**

5. Survey Research: Meaning, Different Phases and Components
6. Different Techniques and Methods of Survey Research: Sampling, Interview and Questionnaire.
7. Analysis of Survey Data: Formatting a Data file; constructing a Code; Approaches to Data Entry; Data Cleaning.
8. Ethical Issues in Survey Research.

## **M. Phil. 1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

### **Course No. PLS-114**

# **Statistical Methods and Techniques**

### **Group- A**

1. Introduction
2. Statistics in Social Science Research
3. Collection of Data
4. Organisation of Data

### **Group- B**

5. Presentation of Data
6. Frequency Curves and Diagrams
7. Measures of Central Tendency
8. Measures of Dispersion

## **M.Phil. Second Semester**

**Course No: PLS-121**

### **Advance Areas in Political Theory**

#### **Group A**

1. Agamben's concept of Sovereign Power and 'bare life'.
2. Identify, Difference, Toleration
3. Multiculturalism and its cities.
4. Political Theory and the Environment.

#### **Group B**

5. Issues of 'identity' and 'distribution' in post liberal times: the debate between Nancy Fraser and Axel Honneth
6. David Harvey : primitive accumulation after globalisation
7. Mikhail Bakhtin : Dialogue and Heteroglossia
8. Reading novels as dialogues

## **M. Phil Second Semester**

### **Course No. PLS-122**

## **Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Challenges**

### **Group A**

1. Secularism
2. Censorship in Post-Colonial India
3. Gender Inequality in India
4. Military and Democracy in India

### **Group B**

5. Socio Historical Foundations of Indian Democracy
6. Democracy and Development
7. Media and Politics in India
8. Anti-Corruption Politics in India

## **M.Phil. Second Semester**

**Course No: PLS-123**

### **Emerging Areas in International Relations**

#### **Group-A**

1. The future of international relations (Fred Halliday)
2. The classical international theory. [Is there a classical international theory?]  
[Robert Jackson]
3. The achievements of Post-Structuralism. [Richard Ashley]
4. The contributions of feminist theory to international relations. [Christine Sylvester]

#### **Group-B**

5. Post-colonial theory of world politics. [Christine Sylvester] [Baylis and Smith]
6. Regionalism in international affairs. [Edward Best] [Baylis and Smith]
7. Globalisation and the post-cold war order. [Ian Clark] [Baylis and Smith]
8. Human security. [Amitabh Acharya]

## **M. Phil. 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

### **Course No. 124**

## **Social and Political Movements**

### **Group - A**

1. Social and Political Movements: Conceptual and Theoretical Framework
2. Civil Rights Movements
3. Women Movements in India
4. Minority Groups and Students Movements in India

### **Group -B**

5. Tribal Movements in India
6. Dalit Movements in India
7. Farmers Movement in India
8. Environmental Movements in India