

2. Politics and Governance of South Asia

Course Code: MAPS - 562

Credit Hours: 3

Teaching Hours: 48

This course is designed to make the student familiar with politics of third world countries, South Asia in particular. Indeed, the students will be able to understand multiplicity of politics and government of this region both in perspective of country specific unique nature and characteristics and also a comparative picture on commonality and differences of trajectory of democracy in the region.

Objectives:

1. To make student familiar with politics of Third World countries in general and South Asia in particular;
2. To inform the student about political history, democracy, and interface between state and society of South Asian countries; and
3. To assist the student in making a comparative perspective to understand and analyse the critical issues pertaining to political arena of the South Asian countries.

Units:

Class Hours

I. Colonial History and Post-Colonial Politics

12

1. Third World Countries
2. Colonial History
3. Post-Colonial State Formation
 - A. Independence of Afghanistan, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
 - B. Partition and Emergence of Bangladesh
 - C. Non-colonial states: Bhutan and Nepal

II. Trajectory of Democracy in South Asia

12

1. Democracy without Interruption: India and Sri Lanka
2. Chequered History of Democracy: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan

III. Contemporary Politics in South Asian Countries

12

1. Revival of Majoritarianism: India and Sri Lanka
2. Military in Politics: Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan
3. A New Republic: Nepal
4. Monarchy with Cautious Democratization: Bhutan

IV. Ethnic Diversity and Nation Building

12

1. Accommodation of Diversity: India and Nepal
2. Islamic Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan
3. Buddhist Bhutan and Sri Lanka

Core Reading:

- Chadda, Maya. 2000. *Building Democracy in South Asia*. New Delhi: Vistar.
- de Silva, K. M. 1993. *Sri Lanka: Problems of Governance*. New Delhi: Konark.
- de Souza, Peter Ronald (ed.). 2000. *Contemporary India Transitions*. New Delhi: Sage.
- Jahan, Rounaq (ed.). 2000. *Bangladesh: Promise and Performance*. Dhaka: The University Press Ltd.
- Jalal, Ayesha. 1995. *Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Phadis, Urmila and RajatGanguly. 2001. *Ethnicity and Nation-Building in South Asia*. New Delhi: Sage.
- Waseem, Mohammad. 1994. *Politics and the State in Pakistan*. Islamabad: National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research
- Whelpton, John. 2005. *A History of Nepal*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Reference Readings:

- Baral, Lok Raj (ed.). 2011. *Constitutional Government and Democracy in South Asia*. Kathmandu: NCCS
- Baral, Lok Raj and Krishna Hachhethu (eds.). 2014. *South Asia: Nation Building and Federalism*. New Delhi: Vij Books.
- CNAS. 1988. *CNAS Year Review 1988*. Kathmandu: CNAS.
- PaiPanindiker, V.A. (ed.). 2000. *Problems of Governance in South Asia*. New Delhi: Konark
- Suri, K. C. et al 2007. *Political Parties in South Asia*. Stockholm: International IDEA.