Ph.D. Research Course Work Syllabus (2025-26)
Department of Political Science
Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit &Ancient Studies University
P.O-Hati Namati, Dist-Nalbari, Assam, India

Course Code		Name of the Course	Hours of teaching	Credit	Internal Marks	External Marks	Faculty
PSCRCWC101	Core	Research Methodology	60	6	30	70	PKS
PSCRCWC102	Core	Research and Publication Ethic	60	6	30	70	NK&HR
PSCRCWC103	Core	Computer Application	30	6	Practical-50	Theory-50	PD
PSCRCWC104	Core	Political Ideas and Concepts	60	6	30	70	MCB

PSCRCWC101 Research Methodology
Faculty: Dr. Pankaj Kumar Sarmah

Course Objective

The primary objective of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the political systems, historical foundations, and governance structures of major East Asian countries. It aims to introduce learners to the evolution of political institutions, cultural influences on state formation, and the ideological frameworks that shape political behavior across the region. By examining China, Japan, and South Korea through comparative and analytical perspectives, the course equips students with the conceptual tools necessary to interpret regional dynamics, state–society relations, and patterns of political change. The course also seeks to develop critical thinking by encouraging students to engage with contemporary debates, institutional developments, and policy challenges that define East Asian politics in the twenty-first century.

Course Outcome

By the end of this course, students will be able to analyze and compare the political systems of East Asian countries, understanding their historical roots, ideological orientations, and distinctive governance models. Learners will develop a nuanced appreciation of how parties, bureaucracies, civil society, and media function within different national contexts, and how these institutions contribute to political stability, reform, and policy-making. Students will also gain the ability to explain key issues shaping regional and global relations, including democratic transitions, authoritarian resilience, economic modernization, and cultural influences on politics. Overall, the course will enhance their analytical, evaluative, and comparative skills, preparing them for advanced studies or careers related to Asian politics, international relations, and global policy analysis.

Unit-I Basics of Research   L-10, T-1, LW-10   1 Credit

Research Problem, Statement, Review of Literature,
Research Objectives, Research Question, Hypothesis,
Significance of Research

Unit-II Methods of Acquiring Knowledge   L-10, T-2, LW-10   1 Credit

Traditional, Positivism, Hermeneutics, Empirical
Marxist, Post-Colonial and Feminist Approach

Unit-III Methods of Social Science Research   L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits

Qualitative: Ethnography, Focus Group, Narrative,
Observation and Descriptive Method
Quantitative: Survey Method, Case Study Method,
Correlational Method, Experimental Method and Mixed Method

Unit-IV Data and Tools of Conducting Research   L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits

Types of Data: Primary and Secondary
Data Collection: Methods, Tools and Techniques
Types and Techniques of Sampling: Simple, Random and Stratified
Data processing, interpretation and analysis

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PSCRCWC102   Research and Publication Ethics
Faculty: Dr. Nandita Khakhlary & Dr. Hirokjeet Roy

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Course Objective

The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the foundational concepts of philosophy and ethics that guide responsible academic inquiry and research behaviour. Beginning with the nature and scope of philosophical thinking, the course aims to develop an understanding of ethical reasoning, moral judgments, and the significance of ethics in both theoretical and applied contexts. A key focus is placed on publication ethics, enabling students to recognize misconduct, authorship issues, and deceptive academic practices that compromise the integrity of research. The course further seeks to cultivate awareness of scientific conduct by emphasising intellectual honesty, research integrity, and critical understanding of major forms of scientific misconduct such as falsification, fabrication and plagiarism. Additionally, students are introduced to modern research tools, citation databases, and scholarly metrics to strengthen their ability to conduct credible research. Overall, the course aims to build a strong ethical foundation essential for responsible scholarship and high-quality academic output.

Course Outcome

Upon completion of this course, students will develop the ability to apply philosophical reasoning and ethical principles to academic and research-related situations. They will be able to identify and critically evaluate unethical practices in publication and scientific research, demonstrating an understanding of authorship norms, research misconduct, redundant publications, and the consequences of violating ethical standards. Students will gain practical skills in detecting and preventing plagiarism by using software tools such as Turnitin, Urkund, and other open-source plagiarism detectors. They will also learn to effectively navigate major citation databases such as Web of Science and Scopus and interpret key research metrics including impact factor, SNIP, SJR, CiteScore, h-index, g-index, and altmetrics. By the end of the course, learners will be equipped with the knowledge and ethical awareness required to conduct responsible research, ensure academic integrity, and evaluate the quality of scholarly publications with confidence and professional maturity.

Unit-1 Philosophy and Ethics   **L-10, T-1, LW-10   1 Credit**
1. Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
2. Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions   NK

Unit-2 Publication Ethics   **L-10, T-1, LW-10   1 Credit**

1. Publication Ethics: definition, introduction and importance.
a. Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice-versa, types.   NK
2. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship

Unit-3 Scientific Conduct   **L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits**
a. Ethics with respect to science and research
b. Intellectual honesty and research integrity
c. Scientific Misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP)   HR
d. Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publication, salami slicing

Unit-4 Databases and Research Metrics   **L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits**
2. Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools
3. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.   HR
4. Impact factor of journal as per journal citation report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score
5. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics

Reference Books:
Ahuja, Ram. *Research Methods*. New Delhi: Rawat Publications
Bora, Dilip.*Gabesana Paddhati Siddhanta aru Bitorko*.Guahati: Chandra Prakashan
Bora, Mahendra. *Gabesana Pranali Tatwa*. Guahati: Basnalata Prakashan
Israel, M. *Research ethics and integrity for social scientists: Beyond regulatory compliance*. Sage Publications
Israel, M. & I. Hay. *Research ethics for social scientists: Between ethical conduct and regulatory*

compliance. Sage Publications

Jain, Gopal. *Methods Tools and Techniques*. Jaipur: Mangal Deep Publications

Kimmel, A. J. *Ethics and values in applied social research*. Sage Publications

MacIntyre, A. *A short history of ethics*. Routledge Publications

Mertens, D. M., & P. E. Ginsberg. *The handbook of social research ethics*. Sage Publications

Resnik, D.B. *What is Ethics in Research and why it is important?*. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Saikia, Nagen. *Gabesna Padhati Parichay*. Dibrugarh: Kaustabh Prakashan

Yadav, Santosh Kumkar. *Research and Publications Ethics*. Ishwar Books

PSCRCWC103 Computer Application
Faculty: Dr. Pranab Das (IT Deptt.)

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the foundational concepts of computer systems, information and communication technologies (ICT), and networking, enabling them to effectively understand and use modern digital tools. Beginning with the basics of computer components, software–hardware relationships, memory mechanisms, compilers, viruses, and core characteristics of computing devices, the course aims to develop technical literacy essential for academic and professional settings. The module on ICT and e-governance familiarizes learners with key national digital initiatives such as Digital India, SWAYAM, NDL, NAD, and the NSQF framework, thereby enhancing their understanding of the role of technology in service delivery and governance transformation. The networking unit further introduces students to different types of networks, internet architecture, communication protocols, and transmission media, building a conceptual foundation for understanding digital communication systems. Overall, the course seeks to create digitally aware, technically capable learners who can navigate, utilize, and critically evaluate technological systems in both academic and administrative contexts.

Course Outcome

Upon completing this course, students will be able to confidently explain the fundamental structure and functioning of computers, identify various hardware and software components, and distinguish between key concepts such as compilers, interpreters, and computer viruses. They will develop a functional understanding of major ICT tools and national digital platforms, enabling them to utilize resources such as SWAYAM, NDL, and NAD for academic enrichment and to recognize the significance of e-governance in improving transparency and public service delivery. Students will also gain foundational knowledge of computer networks, including different network types, internet functionality, communication protocols such as TCP/IP, and various data transmission media. Collectively, these skills will allow learners to use digital

technologies more effectively, enhance their research capabilities, and engage confidently with emerging digital ecosystems in governance, education, and everyday communication.

Unit-1 Basic Computer Concept   **L-10, P-10**   **2 Credits**

1. What is Computer?
2. Components of Computer – input, processing, output, storage (memory) in detail.
3. Software & Hardware
4. Compiler interpreter
5. Virus
6. Characteristics of Computer

Unit-2 ICT and E-Governance   **L-10, P-10**   **2 Credits**

1. Digital India Initiatives
2. 9 pillars of digital India
3. E-governance
4. Types of interaction in e-governance
5. NSQF
6. SWAYAM
7. NDL
8. NAD

Unit-3 Networking   **L-10, P-10**   **2 Credits**

1. What is Network?
2. Types of Network
3. Internet (www etc.)
4. Internet Protocol(TCP/IP)
5. Communication Medium (Twisted Pair, Coaxial Cable, Fiber Optic)
6. Client server

Course Objective

The course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of political ideas, institutions, and theoretical frameworks from ancient to contemporary times, with a special emphasis on India's political evolution. Beginning with foundational concepts from ancient Indian political thought—such as kinship, early states, republican traditions, and the theories of Kautilya, the Shanti Parva, and the Gita—the course aims to trace the intellectual roots of political organization in the subcontinent. It further introduces learners to key debates in political theory, including the relationship between the state and civil society, and core normative concepts such as democracy, liberty, equality, justice, citizenship, and rights. The course also exposes students to major contemporary political ideas like behaviouralism, post-behaviouralism, Marxism and neo-Marxism, as well as multicultural, post-structural, and post-modern perspectives. Finally, by engaging with the complexities of politics in India—development of the polity, electoral trends, secularism, national integration, and issues of regionalism, ethnicity, identity, and autonomy—the course seeks to equip students with analytical tools to understand and critically evaluate political processes both historically and in the present context.

Course Outcome

Upon completion of the course, students will develop a thorough grounding in the evolution of political institutions and ideas in ancient India, gaining the ability to interpret concepts such as state formation, early republicanism, and classical theories of governance including Kautilya's Saptanga and Mandala theories. They will also acquire clarity on fundamental political theory concepts, enabling them to critically engage with debates on democracy, liberty, equality, justice, rights, and citizenship, as well as understand the dynamic relationship between the state and civil society. Students will further be able to analyse and differentiate major contemporary political frameworks, from Marxist and post-Marxist thought to behavioural, multicultural, and post-modern approaches. In addition, the course will enhance students' understanding of Indian politics by familiarizing them with the historical development of the Indian polity, trends in electoral behaviour, and central challenges related to secularism, national integration, and regional identity. By the end of the course, learners will be equipped with strong analytical, conceptual, and interpretive skills necessary for advanced study and informed citizenship.

Unit-I   Ideas of State in Ancient India   L-10, T-1, LW-10   1 Credit

State, Kinship, Citizen, Republics
Kautilya: Saptanga & Mandala Theory
Shanti Parbva and the Gita

Unit-I I   Political Theory: Ideas and Concepts   L-10, T-1, LW-10   1 Credit

State and Civil Society
Democracy, Liberty, Equality and Justice
Citizenship and Rights

Unit-III   Contemporary Political Ideas   L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits

Behaviouralism and Post-Behaviouralism
Marxism, Neo-Marxism Multiculturalism,
Post-Structuralism and Post-Modernism

Unit-IV   Politics in India   L-20, T-4, LW-20   2 Credits

Development of Indian Polity
Trends in Electoral Process
Secularism and National integration
Regionalism: Issues of Ethnicity, Identity and Autonomy

Programme Objective

The programme is designed to equip research scholars with a strong interdisciplinary foundation in research methodology, academic ethics, digital skills, and core political concepts essential for advanced inquiry in the social sciences. It aims to develop a comprehensive understanding of scientific methods, ethical standards, and scholarly communication while also enabling students to acquire practical competencies in computer applications relevant to data analysis and research writing. Through exposure to foundational political theories and concepts, the programme encourages critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and conceptual clarity. Overall, the programme seeks to nurture intellectually competent, ethically responsible, and technologically proficient researchers capable of contributing meaningfully to academic and policy-oriented discourses.
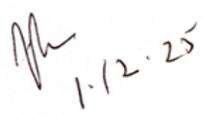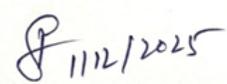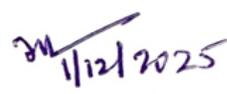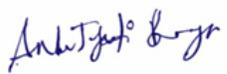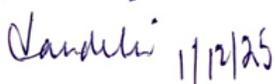
Programme Outcome

Upon successful completion of the programme, students will be able to design and conduct independent research using appropriate methodologies and ethical frameworks. They will gain the ability to evaluate, analyse, and interpret scholarly literature with academic integrity and will develop familiarity with tools necessary for publication, plagiarism detection, and digital research practices. Learners will also demonstrate proficiency in using computer software relevant to academic work, including data

management, statistical tools, and document preparation. Additionally, students will possess a strong grounding in political ideas and concepts that form the basis for theoretical reflection and empirical investigation in social science research. Collectively, these outcomes will enable graduates to pursue high-quality research, produce publishable academic work, and engage with contemporary debates in their discipline.
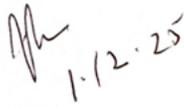
Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs)

The programme specifically prepares students to (1) apply systematic research techniques in designing research proposals, formulating hypotheses, and conducting empirical studies; (2) practice and uphold the highest standards of research and publication ethics in all stages of academic work; (3) use digital tools, software applications, and computational techniques to enhance research accuracy, efficiency, and academic communication; and (4) critically analyse political theories, institutions, and conceptual frameworks that underpin political science as a discipline. Through the integration of methodological, ethical, technical, and conceptual components, the programme enables learners to become competent researchers capable of producing original, ethically sound, and intellectually rigorous scholarship.

SIGNATURE OF SUBJECT EXPERTS & MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES		
Prof. Dhruba Pratim Sharma	Prof. Jyotiraj Pathak	Dr. Pankaj Kumar Sarmah
Dr. Hirokjeet Roy	Mr. Ankur Jyoti Bhuyan	Dr. Nandita Khakhlary
	Prof. Madan Chandra Boro	

(**Prof. Madan Chandra Boro**)
Chairman BoS
Political Science
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(**Prof. Jyotiraj Pathak**)
Academic Registrar i/c
KBVS&AS University

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