Syllabus of M.Phil (Development Studies)

SEMESTER - I

Four Papers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper Code</th>
<th>Title of Paper/Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 01</td>
<td>Theories of Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 02</td>
<td>Perspectives on Contemporary Nation States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 03</td>
<td>Theories of Imperialism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 04</td>
<td>Issues and Methods in Interdisciplinary Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEMESTER – II

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 05</td>
<td>Contemporary Indian Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNDS – 06</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Paper Code: JNDS – 01

Course Title: Theories of Development

Course Instructor: Prof. Velayutham Saravanan

Course Description:

The course will deal with the evolution and debates surrounding the concept of development. It will focus on the way in which these debates have evolved in the contemporary world in the political, social, economic, environmental and cultural realms.

Unit 1: The Concept of Development and its Evolution

• Industrial revolution and development of capitalism
• Different theories of development in a new world order
• Development and neo-liberal globalization
Readings:

Unit 2: Economy and Development
- Concepts of development and underdevelopment.
- Models for measuring development and progress
- Development and market economy.
- Theories of the developmental state

Readings:

Unit 3: Society, social processes and the concept of development
• Concepts of human development.
• Questions of equality and democracy in development
• Ethnicity, class, gender and development.
• Concepts of social welfare, entitlements and rights.

Readings:

Paper Code:  JNDS – 02

Course title: Perspectives on Contemporary Nation States

Course Instructor: Dr. Etee Bahadur

Course Description:

Social, economic and political changes in a globalised world have had important and fundamental changes in the role and nature of nation-states. While it is well known that nation-states led the campaigns for expanding empires in the late 19th and 20th centuries, they also played an important role in nation building after the decolonization process in the twentieth century. This nation building not only concentrated on developmental strategies but also employed hegemonic tools leading to social engineering and wide spread changes. The strategies of state and nation building in the early twentieth century thus structured the social movements and events of the future,. The first part of this course deals with perspectives on the study of nation-states and the tools of governance used by them in developing countries. Following this the second part of the course is about the resistance to dominant conceptions of nationhood. Such challenges have arisen from the several quarters, whether it is cultural politics or scholarship. The second part of this course will deal with the challenges emanating from the consolidation of the nation states in the later part of the twentieth century and leading into the phase of neo-liberal globalization. The changing character and the future of the nation states is theme of the last part of this course. It focuses on the changing geopolitics of the post cold war era and the changing social basis of states in developing countries. It also dwells on the question of alternatives to nation states.

Unit 1 : Nation States in Early Twentieth Century
• Theories of States, Hegemony and Nationhood
• States and Societies in Developing Countries
• Developmental States and their Transformation
Selected Tentative Readings:
(Readings may be added or deleted in final class hand out)

Theories of States, Hegemony and Nationhood

States and Societies in Developing Countries

Developmental States and their Transformation

Unit 2: Challenging Nationhood
• Resisting Hegemonies
• Question of Self Determination
• Ethno-Nationalism
• Rise of Social Movements

Selected Tentative Readings:
(Readings may be added or deleted in final class hand out)

Resisting Hegemonies

Question of Self Determination

**Ethno-Nationalism**

**Rise of Social Movements**

**Unit 3 : Globalisation and the Nation State**
- Failed States: Argument and Critique and the New Global Order
- Geopolitics and the Nation State
- Political Alternatives and Future of Nation States

**Selected Tentative Readings:**
*(Readings may be added or deleted in final class hand out)*

**Failed States: Argument and Critique**

**Geopolitics and the Nation State**

**Political Alternatives and Future of Nation States**

**Paper Code: JNDS – 03**

**Course title: Theories of Imperialism**

**Course Instructor: Prof. Shakti Kak**

**Course Description:**
The course deals with the rise of imperial powers and theories of imperialism. It also deals with new forms of imperial control and with the concepts of neocolonialism and the rise of military industrial complex including areas of culture, information and methods of control. The course requires rigorous reading which will be given as the teaching progresses.

**Unit 1: Approaches to the study of imperialism**
- Theories of imperialism, Dependency theory
- Imperialism and Trade
- Imperialism and the development of modern industry

**Readings:**
3. Tom Kemp, *Theories of Imperialism*
4. V.I. Lenin, *Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism*
5. Michel Beaud: *A History of Capitalism*

**Unit 2: Patterns of imperial control in the colonized nations**
- Cultural policies, hegemony and imperialism
- Imperialism and Militarism
- Imperialism and Globalisation, Role of MNCs

**Readings:**
2. Roger Owen and Bob Sutcliffe (eds.), *Studies in the Theory of Imperialism*
3. W. Mommsen and J. Osterhamel, *Imperialism and After, Continuities and Discontinuities*
4. Frantz Fanon, *Wretched of the Earth*
5. Edward Said ‘Orientalism’

**Unit 3: Forms of imperialism in the new global order**
- New forms of imperialism and the global economy.
- Current forms of financial imperialism
- Imperialism, sustainable development and resistance

**Readings:**
2. D. Fieldhouse: *The west and the third world*
3. H. Veltmeyer, *New Social Merchants is Latin America, Journal of Peasant Studies, P-139-169, 1997*

**Paper Code:** JNDS – 04

**Course title:** Issues and Methods in Interdisciplinary Research

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Etee Bahadur
Course Description:

There are two distinct parts of this course. The first part seeks to sensitize students to major debates over the construction of knowledge. Through reading of selected texts, students would be made aware as to how the understanding of valid knowledge has changed over time. It is hoped that by the end of this section, students would be able raise issues about the validity of ‘scientific’ knowledge and would be able to put given knowledge to critical scrutiny. The second part is more applied in nature. This will have a qualitative and quantitative component. Students would learn employ these techniques in a field of their choice.

Unit 1: Methodological Questions in Social Sciences
- Enlightenment and the Social Sciences
- Positivism: The question of Objectivity and Value Neutrality
- The Frankfurt School and After

Readings

Unit 2: Tools and Techniques in Qualitative Research
- Sampling and Its Types
- Interview, Schedule and Case Study
- Ethnography and Testimonio

Readings

Unit 3: Tools and Techniques in Quantitative Research
- Analysis of variance, Association and Co-relation
- Simple Regression and Time Series
- Data Sources

Readings
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COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Paper Code: JNDS – 05

Course Title: Contemporary Indian Politics

Course Instructor: Dr. Etee Bahadur

Course Description:

This course will deal with the changing nature of the Indian politics and polity in contemporary India. The main objective of the course will be to familiarise students with contemporary theoretical paradigms in the study of the structural changes with the polity. To this end the course will not look at formal structures of governance or government policies but at ideologies, the structural shifts and political processes of contemporary relevance.

Unit 1: Forging a Nation

- Negotiating the idea of India
- Perspectives on the study of the Indian state
- Managing Diversity: Language Politics and the national Question

Readings:

**Negotiating the Idea of India**

**Perspectives on the Indian State**

**Managing Diversities: Language Politics and the National Question**
Unit 2: Political Alternatives and the Indian Polity
- The Communist Challenges: Maoists and the Left Front
- The Socialist Challenges: J.P. Movement and Total Revolution
- The Feminist Challenges: Discourses and Ideologies of Women’s Movement
- Environmental Movements in India

Readings:
The Communist Challenge
2. Introduction of Michael Nossiter, Marxist State Governments.

The Socialist Challenge
2. Bipan Chandra: J.P.: The thinker and the leader in Bipan Chandra In the name of democracy.

The Feminist Challenge
1. Indu Agnihotri and Vina Mazumdar: Changing Terms of Political Discourse in Mala Khulllar eds., Writing the Womens Movement in India.
2. Mala Khullar, “Writing the Women’s Movement’ introduction also in Maya Khullar eds.

The Environmental Movement

Unit 3: Modern Development, Identity Politics and its Discontents
- Emergence and Transformation of the ‘Dalit’ in Indian Politics
- Mandal and the Hindutva Challenge.
- The Politics of Secularism and communalism

Readings:
Emergence and Transformation of the ‘Dalit’ in Indian Politics
1. Kancha Illiah, Towards Dalitisation of the Nation in Partha Chatterjee eds., Wages of Freedom.

Mandal and the Hinduatava
1. Christophe Jafferlot, India’s Silent Revolution Chapters on Caste politics and OBC reservations.

The Politics of Secularism
1. Ashis Nandy,‘A Critique of Modern Secularism’ in Sudipta Kaviraj eds., Politics in India.

Neoliberal Capitalism and Communalism in India
1. Radhika Desai: *Culturalism, Hindutva and Contemporary Bourgeoisie in Slouching towards Ayodhya*.

**Course Title:** Contemporary Indian Economy

**Course Instructor:** Prof. Shakti Kak

**Course Description:**
This course will familiarize students with the colonial legacy of the country, debates regarding the strategies of development at the time of Independence and subsequent changes in policies.

**Unit 1: Indian Economy in Colonial Era**
- The nature of the colonial Legacy
- Debates in the formative years, the Bombay Plan
- Structure of the Indian economy at independence

**Readings:**

**Unit 2: Changing Contours of the Economy after the Nehruvian Era**
- Economic policies and the role of the state after Independence
- Agrarian Policy, land Reforms and Green Revolution
- Industrial and Social Sector Policies

**Readings:**

**Unit 3: Indian Economy in a Global Era**
- Rise of financial and service sectors
- Global multilateral agencies and domestic economic policies
- Shrinking of social welfare policies of the state. Agrarian distress and its impact

**Readings:**
5. Reports,
   • Alternate Economic Surveys
   • Human development Reports

Paper Code: JNDS – 07

Course Title: Contemporary Indian Society and Culture

Course Instructor: Prof. Velayutham Saravanan

Course Description:

This course will familiarize students with the Indian society and culture, debates regarding caste, class and community at the time of Independence and subsequent changes during the post-independence period.

Unit 1: Approach to the Study of Indian Society and Culture
   • Defining the boundaries of the social and cultural realms
   • Status of different social groups
   • Folk, oral traditions and local knowledge systems
   • Caste, Class and Community
   • Social Reform Movements

Readings:

Unit 2: Theories of Indian Society and culture
   • Principles of Welfare State and Society
   • Concept of Secularism and Composite Culture
   • Debates on Integration, Assimilation and Isolation
   • Cultural Pluralism and Cultural Nationalism
   • Debate on the nature of Tribal and Dalit identity

Readings:

**Unit 3: Indian Society and Cultural Transformation**
- Modernisation: Socio-Cultural Transformation
- Debate over Affirmative Action
- Family Planning and Population Debate
- Nature of the Press, Media and Cinema
- Globalisation – Impact of Culture and Society
- Declining Sex Ratio and Female Foeticide

**Readings:**
Any One of the Following

Optional Papers

Paper Code: JNDS – 08

Course Title: Sectoral Reforms and the State in India.

Course Instructor: Prof. Shakti Kak

Course Description:

The paper aims at acquainting students of the nature and impact of ‘reforms’ in various sectors of the Indian economy initiated from 1990s onwards. It attempts to engage with students in an interdisciplinary format so as to develop an understanding of changes in the global context and its impact on local political, social and economic processes in the country. The course requires rigorous reading which will be combined with written assignments.

Method of Evaluation:

Unit 1: Framework for studying ‘Reforms’ in India

- Global context of reforms in India
- Global institutions and their role in shaping the reform policies
- Globalisation, public policies and social impact

Readings:


Unit 2: Sectoral reforms in India

- Social Sector and reforms
- Reforms in Agriculture and Industry
- Services sector and reforms

Readings:

5. 

Unit 3: Reform Process and the State

- Resource allocation and Public provisioning
- Public private partnership and development of capacity
- Political and social impact of reforms
Readings:

**Paper Code: JNDS – 08  (Optional Paper)**

**Course Title:** Environmental Issues in India

**Course Instructor:** Prof. Velayutham Saravanan

**Course Description:**

Until independence, in fact, till the last quarter of the twentieth century, scholarly works were found wanting on issues concerned with the natural resources - forest, land, water, air pollution, climate change, etc. With the emergence of environmental movements in India and other parts of the World by the nineteen seventies, scholarly debates got initiated during the last quarter of the twentieth century, particularly in the eighties. Given this background, the students are encouraged to work on the environmental problems/policies, pertaining to India particularly during the post-independence period.

**Unit 1 : Historical understanding of Environment**
- Sustainable Development
- Market Failure and Externalities
- Environmental History
- Environmental Movements

**Readings:**


Unit 2: Issues and Problems of Environment
- Population and Environment
- Natural Resources and Environment
- Industrialization and Environment
- Urbanization and Environment

Reading
3. World Development Report

Unit 3: Policy Intervention and its Impact
- Development and Environment
- Environmental Policies
- Health and Environment
- Issues and Challenges

Readings:

Paper Code: JNDS – 08 (Optional Paper)

Course Title: Sociology of Development in India

Course Instructor: Dr. Etee Bahadur

Course Description:
This course will focus on training in a sociological analysis of the developmental process. In the main it will encourage students to choose thematic topics to write a full-length research paper associated with any aspects of the broad themes. These themes should be connected not only to state and policy aspects, but also should explore the critiques of the current model of modern development from different points of view.

**Thematic focus of Research Papers**

The research papers of students should, cover a historical time frame from the Nehruvian period onwards. The theoretical focus of the papers should be either on cultural pluralism and the idea of welfare or patterns of inclusion and exclusion and crisis of social welfare. The approaches to development should fall under the following broad classification:

**Unit1: Context of political development: Some theoretical considerations**
- Cultural critiques of the Indian state: with approach to modernisation
- Cultural problems, social reform and the idea of welfare

**Readings:**
3. Rudolph and Rudolph: *Modernity of tradition: political Modernisation in India*, University of Chicago, 1984

**Unit 2: Patterns of inclusion and exclusion**
- Affirmative action policies in India: its nature and impact
- Patterns of uneven development and social impact
- Crisis of state and social welfare

**Readings:**

**Unit 3: Crisis in the Indian society**
- Neoliberalism and social reform
- Changing social institutions and the conception of social capital
- Revisiting the Indian model of social development

**Readings:**
1. Aijaz Ahmad, *On communalism and Globalisation, Offensives of the far right*, Three Essays Collective, 2004
2. Frankel Francine, *Transforming Indian social and political dynamics of democracy*, Oxford University Press, 2005

(The reading list is tentative)