CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES, SSS, JNU

MA OPTIONAL COURSE

EARLY MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

PO541

Credits 4
Assignments: 2
End Term examination:1

Many of our important political ideas, like the idea of consent as the basis of the modern state, the idea of individual rights, or the conception of political authority as sovereign over all other sources of authority in a society, emerged in the writings of European political thinkers of the 15th to 18th centuries. Designed to discuss the original formulations of these ideas in early modern political thought, this course looks at the legacy of these thinkers, in terms of, for instance, how the concept of participation is often contrasted with the ideas of authorization and representation as the legitimizing principle of political society.

1) **Renaissance Political Thought**

Machiavelli

2) **The Social Contract Tradition**

Thomas Hobbes

John Locke

Jean Jacques Rousseau

3) **Contemporary Appropriations and Critiques**

Liberal, Republican, Communitarian and Feminist responses to the Social Contract

Primary Texts:

Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan

John Locke, Two Treatises on Government

Machiavelli, Prince; The Discourses

J.J. Rousseou, Discourse on the Origin of Inequality

J.J. Rousseou, The Social Contract

Required Readings:

Ashcraft R., Locke's Two Treatises of Government, Allen & Unwin, London, Boston, 1987.

Berlin I., The Originality of Machiavelli", in The Proper Study of Mankind, Pimlico, London, 1998.

Boucher D. & P. Kelly (eds.), The Social Contract from Hobbes to Rawls, Routledge, London, 1994.

Hampton J., Hobbes and the Social Contract Tradition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1986.

Macpherson C.B., The Political Theory of Possessive Individualism, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1962.

Pateman C., The Sexual Contract, Polity Press, Cambridge and Stanford University Press, 1988.

Shaver R., Hobbes, Ashgate, Aldershot, 1999.

Shklar Judith N., Men and Citizens: A Study of Rousseau's Social Theory, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1969.

Skinner Q., Foundations of Modern Political Thought, Vol. I, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge 1978, 1998.

Strong Tracy B., J.J.Rousseau: The Politics of the Ordinary, Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham, MD, 1994.

Tully J., An Approach to Political Philosophy: Locke in contexts, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1993.

Bell Daniel, Communitarianism and its Critics, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1993.

Bock G., Machiavelli and Republicanism, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1990.

Burckhardt J., The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy, George Allen & Unwin, 1951, 1990.

Colletti L., From Rousseau to Lenin, Monthly Review Press, New York, 1974.

Dunn J. & I. Harris eds., Machiavelli, Vol. II, Routledge, London, 1998.

Dunn J., The Political Thought of John Locke, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1969.

Kavka G., Hobbesian Moral and Political Theory, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, 1986.

Lange Lynda, "Rousseau and Feminism", Social Theory and Practice, (12) 1981.

Marshall J., John Locke – Resistance, Religion and Responsibility, Cambridge University Press, New York, 1994.

Miller James, Rousseau: Dreamer of Democracy, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1984.

Pateman C. & C. Mills, Contract and Domination, Polity Press, Malden, MA, 2007.

Pettit P., Republicanism, Oxford University Press, 1996.

Coole D.H., Women in Political Theory, Wheatsheaf Books, Sussex, 1988.

Sabine G.H., A History of Political Theory, 4th ed., Oxford and IBH Publishing Co., New Delhi, 1973.

Riley Patrick, Will and Political Legitimacy, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1982.

Pocock J.G.A., The Machiavellian Moment, Princeton, 1975.

Springborg P., ed., The Cambridge Companion to Hobbes' Leviathan, Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Skinner Q., Visions of Politics III, Hobbes and Civil Science, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002.

Tully J., A Discourse on Property: John Locke and his Adversaries, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1980.