



**Course Title: State and Politics**

**Course Code: JMC104**

**Credit Units: 3**

**Course Level: UG**

L	T	P/ S	SW/F W	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS
3	0	0	0	3

**Course Objectives:**

Working knowledge of the Indian Political system is mandatory for any aspiring journalist. The course content has been designed to fulfill this requirement without burdening the students. Knowledge about the government, legislatures, judiciary and political parties is vital for those wishing to step into journalism and mass communication. Students are introduced to the Indian Constitution and electoral system all of which form the foundation of a working democracy like India.

**Prerequisites:** Preferably BJMC Students

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of this course, the student will be able

- To describe the functioning and structure of the state, legislature, executive and the judiciary.
- To identify forms of government, coalitions and alliances.
- To analyze political issues in the overall context of the Indian political system.

**Course Contents/Syllabus:**

		Weightage (%)
1	<b>Module I Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic understanding of the Indian political system.</li><li>• Political parties and groups in power at the centre and states</li><li>• Coalition politics, Major alliances –UPA, NDA, Left, Third Front</li><li>• Multiparty and two-party systems</li><li>• Political defections-anti-defection laws</li><li>• Parliamentary versus presidential form of government, federal and unitary government</li><li>• Political problems and issues facing India – corruption, criminalization, bad conduct of members during legislative sessions, political extremism like Maoism and Naxalism</li></ul>	20
2	<b>Module II Constitution</b>	15

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making of Indian Constitution, philosophy, unity in diversity</li> <li>• Main features of Constitution, secularism, socialist, democratic, republican, preamble, directive principles, fundamental rights, citizenship</li> <li>• Key Constitutional terminologies like Bill, Act, Ordinance etc</li> <li>• Key amendments of the Constitution (flexible or rigid?)</li> </ul>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Module III Legislatures</b>	<b>20</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha- election of members, powers, legislative functions and differences</li> <li>• State legislative assemblies and legislative councils</li> <li>• Election Commission, powers and structure, model code of conduct, election process</li> <li>• General elections, midterm election, constituencies</li> <li>• Electoral reforms</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Module IV Executive</b>	<b>25</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President, election, powers, advice of council of ministers binding (figurehead), circumstances in which President actually uses his powers</li> <li>• Prime minister and council of ministers, their appointment after elections, powers of the prime minister, collective responsibility of the council of ministers</li> <li>• Governor-powers, functions, responsibilities, relations with Central govt.</li> <li>• State Governments, chief minister and state council of minister</li> <li>• Centre-state relations</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Module V Judiciary</b>	<b>20</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supreme Court, appointment of Chief Justice of India</li> <li>• Judicial review, Public Interest Litigation</li> <li>• Writ petitions, High Courts</li> <li>• Judicial Activism and Role of Judiciary in Media exposure</li> </ul>	

#### **Pedagogy for Course Delivery:**

The course will be taught using the theory and case method. In addition to assigning the case studies, the course instructor will spend considerable time in understanding the contemporary political issues in relation to political system that arise from time to time.

The Course Instructor would also train the students on taking active part in political debates and discussions.

**Lab/ Practicals details, if applicable: Not Applicable**

**Assessment/ Examination Scheme:**

<b>Theory L/T (%)</b>	<b>Lab/Practical/Studio (%)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>100</b>

**Theory Assessment (L&T):**

<b>Continuous Assessment/Internal Assessment</b>					<b>End Term Examination</b>
<b>Components (Drop down)</b>	<b>CT</b>	<b>HA</b>	<b>Viva</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	
<b>Weightage (%)</b>	10	10	5	5	70

**Lab/ Practical/ Studio Assessment: NA****Text:**

1. Noorani A.G., *Constitutional Questions in india The President, Parliament and the States*. 2002. Delhi. Oxford University Press
2. Basu Durga Das. 2009. *Introduction to the Constitution of India*. 2011. LexisNexis
3. Dhar, P.N. 2001. *Indira Gandhi, The Emergency And Indian Democracy*. USA. Oxford University Press
4. Laxmikanth M. 2009. *Indian Polity*. Tata Mcgraw Hill Education Private Limited
5. Mehra Ajay and D.D. Khanna. 2003. *Political Parties and Party Systems*. Sage India