

Democracy, Election, and Governance (HS24311)

(Mandatory Audit Course)

Course Type: Audit (Non-Credit)

Course Objectives:

1. Analyze the structure and role of democratic institutions
2. Understand the electoral process and the role of the Election Commission of India,
3. Study the framework of governance in India, covering the executive, legislative, and judicial branches at both the central and state levels.

Course Outcomes (COs):

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the evolution and significance of democracy in India, its core principles, and its role in nation-building.
2. Describe the composition, powers, and functions of the Election Commission of India, and understand the electoral process.
3. Interpret the governance structures at the Union and State levels, covering executive, legislative, and judicial functions.

Course Syllabus:

Unit 1: Democracy in India:

(4 Hours)

Evolution of Democracy, Dimensions of Democracy: Social, Economic and Political, Decentralization: Grassroots Level Democracy, Challenges before Democracy: women and marginalized sections of the society

Unit 2: Election:

(4 Hours)

Election Commission of India: composition, powers and functions, and electoral process. Types of emergency grounds, procedure, duration, and effects. Amendment of the Constitution- meaning, procedure, and limitations.

Unit 3: Governance:

(5 Hours)

Union Executive- President, Vice-president, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers. Union Legislature- Parliament and Parliamentary proceedings. Union Judiciary- Supreme Court of India – composition and powers and functions.

State Executive- Governor, Chief Minister, Council of Ministers. State Legislature-State Legislative Assembly and State Legislative Council. State Judiciary-High court. Local Government-Panchayat raj system Challenges of caste, gender, class, democracy and ethnicity



References:

1. Banerjee-Dube, I. (2014). A history of modern India. Cambridge University Press.
2. Bhargava, R. (2008). Political theory: An introduction. Pearson Education India.
3. Deshpande, S. (2003). Contemporary India: A sociological view. Viking.
4. Guha, R. (2007). India after Gandhi: The history of the world's largest democracy. Harper Collins.
5. Jayal, N. G. (2001). Democracy in India. Oxford University Press.
6. Kohli, A. (1990). Democracy and discontent: India's growing crisis of governability. Cambridge University Press.
7. Kothari, R. (1970). Politics in India. Orient Blackswan.
8. Kothari, R. (1995). Caste in Indian politics. Orient Blackswan.

Evaluation Mechanism:

Since this is an **audit course**, evaluation will be based on any one of the following assessment methodology.

1. **Assignments & Reports** – Writing assignments on topics like electoral reforms, democratic challenges, or constitutional amendments.
2. **Quizzes/MCQs** – Multiple-choice or short-answer questions covering key topics like the Election Commission, parliamentary proceedings, and governance.
3. **Group Discussions/Presentations**– Debates on issues like democracy and social justice, governance challenges, and the effectiveness of grassroots-level democracy.



Mrs. G.G. Bhoite

BoS Chairperson (HSSM)



Dr. S. M. Bhosale

Dean Academics



Dr. S. B. Lande

Principal

Vidya Pratishthan's
**Kamalnayan Bajaj Institute of
Engineering & Technology, Baramati**
Vidyanagari, Baramati-413133

