

**B.A Political Science NEP Course Content**  
**Rabindranath Tagore University, Hojai, Assam**  
**Semester: II**

**Course Title: Indian Constitution**  
**Course Code: SEC-PSC-2.1 (New Course from 2025-26 onwards)**  
**Nature of Course: Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)**  
**Total Credits: 3**  
**Distribution of Marks: 45 (End -Sem) + 30 (Internal Assessment)**

**N.B:** *This course structure is based on recommendations of the meeting of the Board of Studies dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 and subject to approval in the next Academic Council Meeting.*

**Course Objective:** This course aims to provide students with a clear understanding of the constitutional structure and functioning of India's political institutions. It covers the making of the Indian Constitution, its key features, and significant provisions related to fundamental rights, duties, directive principles, and the functioning of the executive, legislature, and judiciary at both the Union and State levels. The course also encourages students to analyze how state institutions interact among themselves and with the larger political environment.

**Course Outcome:** Upon successful completion, students will acquire a solid foundation of knowledge about the Indian Constitution, its principles, and the organization of state structures. They will gain an understanding of the functioning of constitutional bodies and their practical implications. The course will enable students to critically engage with the functioning of India's political system, fostering their understanding of democratic governance and constitutionalism in practice.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Tutorial</b>	<b>Total</b>
Unit 1 (15 Marks)	<b>Understanding Indian Constitution</b> <b>a. Sources and Philosophy of Indian Constitution</b> <b>b. Preamble</b> <b>c. Fundamental Rights and Duties</b> <b>d. Directive Principles of State Policy.</b>	12	3	15
Unit 2 (15 Marks)	<b>Major Amendments to the Constitution of India and their significance</b> <b>a. 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment</b> <b>b. 44<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> <b>c. 86<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b>	12	3	15
Unit 3 (15 Marks)	<b>State Executive</b> <b>a. Governor &amp; Chief Minister</b> <b>b. State Legislature</b> <b>c. Judiciary, High Court</b>	12	03	15

Modes of Internal Assessment: 30 Marks

Assessment can be done through any two of the following:

(a) Unit Test (b) Group Discussion (c) Home Assignment (d) Fieldwork/Project and (e) Viva-Voce (f) Seminar Presentation

Learner's Outcome:

**Essential Readings**

B. Dua and J. Manor (1994) *Nehru to the Nineties: The Changing Office of the Prime Minister in India*, Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press,

B. Shankar and V. Rodrigues, (2011) 'The Changing Conception of Representation: Issues, Concerns and Institutions', in *The Indian Parliament: A Democracy at Work*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 105-173.

D. Basu, (2012) *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, New Delhi: Lexis Nexis.

D. Kapur and P. Mehta P. (2005) *Public Institutions in India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

G. Austin, (2010) 'The Constituent Assembly: Microcosm in Action', in *The Indian Constitution: Cornerstone of a Nation*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press,.

H. Khare, (2003) 'Prime Minister and the Parliament: Redefining Accountability in the Age of Coalition Government', in A. Mehra and G. Kueck (eds.) *The Indian Parliament: A Comparative Perspective*, New Delhi: Konark.

P.M Bakshi, *The Constitution of India*, Universal Law Publishing.

Paul R. Brass, *The Politics of India Since Independence*, Cambridge University Press

R. Bhargava, (2008) 'Introduction: Outline of a Political Theory of the Indian Constitution', in R. Bhargava (ed.) *Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-40.

R. Ramachandran, (2006) 'The Supreme Court and the Basic Structure Doctrine' in B. Kirpalet.al (eds.) *Supreme but not Infallible: Essays in Honour of the Supreme Court of India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 107-133.

S. Chaube, (2009) *The Making and Working of the Indian Constitution*, Delhi: National Book Trust.

*The Constitution of India: Bare Act with Short Notes*, (2011) New Delhi: Universal, pp. 4-16.

U. Baxi, (2010) 'The Judiciary as a Resource for Indian Democracy', *Seminar*, Issue 615, pp.61-67.