

FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

COURSE: B.A.LL.B. 1st Semester

SUBJECT: Political science-I

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Lecture-6



Different types of traditional approaches:

1. Philosophical Approach: This approach is considered as the oldest approach in the arena of Political Science. The development of this approach can be traced back to the times of the Greek philosophers like Plato and Aristotle. Leo Strauss was one of the main supporter of the philosophical approach. He considered that “the philosophy is the quest for wisdom and political philosophy is the attempt truly to know about the nature of political things and the right or good political order.” Vernon Van Dyke observed that a philosophical analysis is an effort to clarify thought about the nature of the subject and about ends and means in studying it.

Historical Approach: Theorists who developed this political approach focused on the historical factors like the age, place and the situation in which it is evolved are taken into consideration. This approach is related to history and it emphasizes on the study of history of every political reality to analyse any situation. Political thinkers such as Machiavelli, Sabine and Dunning considered that politics and history are closely related and the study of politics always should have a historical standpoint. **Institutional Approach:** This is traditional and significant approach in studying Political Science. This approach primarily deals with the formal features of government and politics accentuates the study of the political institutions and structures. Therefore, the institutional approach is concerned with the study of the formal structures like legislature, executive, judiciary, political parties, and interest groups.

Legal Approach: This approach concerns that the state is the fundamental organization for the formation and enforcement of laws. Therefore, this approach is concerned with the legal process, legal bodies or institutions, justice and independence of judiciary.

Modern approaches:

After studying politics with the help of traditional approaches, the political thinkers of the later stage felt the necessity to study politics from a new perspective. Thus, to minimize the deficiencies of the traditional approaches, various new approaches have been advocated by the new political thinkers. These new approaches are regarded as the “modern approaches” to the study of Political Science. Modern approaches are fact based approaches.

Characteristics of Modern Approaches:

1. These approaches try to draw conclusion from empirical data.
2. These approaches go beyond the study of political structures and its historical analysis.
3. Modern Approaches believe in inter-disciplinary study.

4. They emphasize scientific methods of study and attempt to draw scientific conclusions in Political Science.

MCQ

1 'Two Treatises of Government' Was Written By

- A. John Locke.
- B. J.J Rousseau
- C. Thomas Hobbes.
- D. Spencer.

2 Which one of the following is not relevant to Traditional Approach.

- A. Philosophical
- B. Historical.
- C. Institutional
- D. Behavioural.

3. Integration of Political Science with other Social Sciences Is a basic principle of

- E. Traditionalism.
- F. Behaviouralism.
- G. Liberalism.
- H. Post – Behaviouralism.

4. The success of democracy depends upon

- I. Periodic Elections.
- J. Voting.
- K. Campaigning in The Elections.
- L. All of the above

5. Which of the following is a permanent feature of a representative form of government?

- M. Voting.
- N. Decision Making.
- O. Military Force.
- P. None of The Above.