

**CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION
(CDOE)**

THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN





PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT


FOR

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

2025-2026


02.04.25
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR &
CORE FACULTY
DEPT. OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
B.U.
Directorate of Distance Education
The University of Burdwan


HOD & COURSE COORDINATOR
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Burdwan University


3/4/2025
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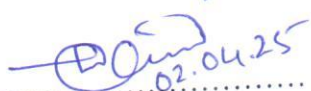
Programme Project Report (PPR) for M.A. in Political Science

The University of Burdwan, a public university located in Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, was established by the West Bengal Government as a teaching and affiliating university on 15th June, 1960. Since then, this university has flourished as a premiere institute of advanced learning and research. It was the first of its kind in West Bengal to cater education through distance/correspondence mode and eventually, it evolved as an independent centre for learning. Situated in Golapbag, Burdwan, at present, this centre has a beautiful building of its own that houses all the administrative and academic departments. It also holds counseling sessions for the different courses it runs.


In a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Vice-Chancellors of all state aided universities of West Bengal held on 27.10.1993, it was decided that the University of Burdwan would introduce Correspondence Courses (Vide letter no. 96(2)-Edn (U)/1U(C)-14/92, dated: 22.02.1994). In the 21st meeting of the Executive Council (1993-1994) of The University of Burdwan (held on 30th may 1994 vide Item no. 8), it was resolved that the University of Burdwan in accordance with its Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations and with the approval of the State Govt. P.G Courses through Distance mode leading to M.A/M.Com Degrees with six programmes, viz., Bengali, English, History, Political Science, Philosophy and Commerce would be offered.

1. Programme's Mission and Objectives:

- **To provide an effective alternative path to wider opportunities in education and especially in higher education:** There are different categories of potential learners. There are some who never been able to enter into any institution of higher learning. There are some who just need additional knowledge in a particular discipline. There are still others who are in need of refresher courses to cope with the latest development in their perfection. For all of those there is need for distance learning or correspondence education.
- **To provide an efficient and less expensive education:** Provision of universal schooling is beyond the means of our country. Increasing population and limited resources is the predicament of our educational planners. It is difficult to divert huge sums of money in a developing economy to match the required level of expansion for traditional schooling. Distance education is the only practical alternative.


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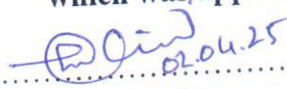

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- **To provide education facilities to all qualified and willing persons:** The objective of correspondence courses is to provide education facilities to all qualified and willing persons who are unable to join regular university and other courses due to various reasons. For them, there is an incessant search for an alternative system and that system is distance education.
- **To provide opportunities of academic pursuits to educated citizens willing to improve their standard of knowledge:** There are many learners, both young and adults, who cannot afford to join the face-to-face system of education due to personal and professional responsibilities. For such type of persons, some provisions have to be made through distance education. Hence, the objective is to provide opportunities to improve the standard of knowledge and learning through continuing education while in employment.
- **To provide education facilities to those individuals who look upon education as a life-long activity:** Distance education facilities are needed for those individuals who look upon education as a life-long activity or to acquire knowledge in a new area. Because life-long education is emphasized for all stages of life. In this context, the report of the National Policy on Education, 1986 is worth-mentioning here. The NPE-1986 says, "Life-long education is a cherished goal of the educational process. This presupposes universal literacy. Opportunities will be provided to the youth, housewives, agricultural and industrial workers and professionals to continue the education of their choice, at the pace suited to them. The future thrust will be in the direction of open and distance learning." The distance learning system must be well-supported with instructional materials, and suitable radio and television programmes in different areas of study. This correspondence education or distance learning is becoming popular and being accepted as an alternative and economical approach to our formal education system.
- To provide a system of student-centric learning atmosphere which will neither be entirely separated from nor wholly independent of the formal, full-time campus system of education as traditionally followed in university department of studies.
- The Post Graduate Programme in Political Science at the Centre for Distance and Online Education (previously known as Directorate of Distance Education), The University of Burdwan is in keeping with spirit of Political Science curricula with regular mode of University. The objectives are in keeping with this mission that is to instill interest of the learners and take them through the ages of literary history via their landmark authors and their texts. **The Programme was introduced from the academic session 1994-1996 which was approved by the E.C. in its meeting dated: 30th May 1994 vide Item no. 8**


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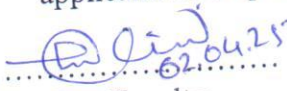
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2. Relevance of the Programme with HEI's Mission & Goals:

With the arrival of the Internet, and introduction of digital technologies into people's homes, physical boundaries, which were the main reason for inefficient communication among people, have started to disappear. Since technology has made such a big leap forward, people have almost entirely lost their subjective ability to distinguish between the real and the virtual world. That said, it becomes clearer how much the business world has changed and how many more changes await in the future. Thus, distance education represents a transitional period for many young and older people, but also an adequate preparation for new challenges that await them in the business world. For that reason, we will list the main benefits of distance learning below, so that you can consider them before applying for some form of formal online education. The original purpose of education was to prepare young people to become respectable citizens, and to prepare them for the demands of the business world. However, as the time passed, children were less and less prepared for the world outside their educational institutions, which caused a crisis of education. The only adequate solution able to respond to these sudden changes was the introduction of distance education, which proved to be a much more effective approach in a very short time.

- Enabling students to organize their responsibilities from home and on their own, giving them access to learning materials, and allowing them to interact with their teachers and peers through digital technologies has given rise to many soft skills that will be useful long after completing formal education. Distance education has primarily enabled students to develop technical skills, approach problem solving more pragmatically, and to learn to distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information.
- Speaking of relevance, distance education has far surpassed traditional degrees. Namely, new data and research in all scientific disciplines are published every day around the world. Thanks to the availability of latest research, teachers can provide students with an insight into new scientific discoveries, which makes their education more up-to-date and relevant.
- Financial constraints are one of the main reasons why most young people cannot afford quality education. Student loans, rent, and other related expenses have proven to be a heavy burden for many individuals and their families in the long run. However, in the last few years, there has been a significant drop in tuition fees, primarily in secondary schools and colleges, due to the introduction of the distance education option. Namely, not only did the tuition fees drop because the school/educational institution's facilities and inventory were no longer used, but the expenses related to food, accommodation and all the other needs students have on a daily basis dropped as well. So, if you don't have enough money for a quality education, you should consider distance education.
- One of the best things about distance learning is the fact that students from all over the world can get any degree they want, which had previously been impossible due to geographical constraints. Things have changed, however, thanks to the Internet and technologies that significantly simplified the application and enrollment process, helping applicants to skip the state administrative protocol.


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- One of the hardest things for students is to coordinate between their job and their school responsibilities that are usually time-bound. However, with the flexibility of deadlines for tests and assignments, and the freedom to organize their obligations as they see fit, students can reconcile working and studying for the first time. So, the final product of this benefit for students is the ability to achieve several academic goals at once, and to gain professional experience while still at school.


In accordance with the advice of the UGC Distance Education Bureau that at least 50% of the disciplines taught in the Distance Learning must be with the same syllabus and same examination system of the regular course of the University. Political Science (M.A.) has been selected one such course among all M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. Courses run under the aegis of the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), The University of Burdwan and the upgraded syllabus (CBCS) of regular mode in accordance with the latest UGC Guidelines has currently been in force in Political Science in Distance Mode. Also the same examination system (same question papers, same date of end-term Semester examinations, same Post Graduate Board of Studies (PGBS)) is in force in the distance mode of Political Science discipline since 2019-2021.

3. **Nature of Prospective Target Group of Learners:** The prospective target group of learners for the aforementioned programme includes diverse group of learners from varied socio-economic backgrounds. Those learners who could not access conventional mode of education due to various reasons such as limitation of seats, professional engagements, familial responsibilities, difficulty in commuting etc. come under the purview of the target group of learners for this programme.


- Working Professionals
- Entrepreneurs
- Service Personnel
- Academic Faculty
- Government Officials
- Researchers
- Home Makers

4. APPROPRIATENESS OF PROGRAMME TO BE CONDUCTED IN OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING MODE TO ACQUIRE SPECIFIC SKILLS AND COMPETENCE:

This programme intends to build a greater connectivity and network of knowledge among institutions of higher education with a view of making higher education accessible to a larger mass of learners of the country. Besides bridging up the education gap it also intends to increase employability of its target group.


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5. Instructional Design of Political Science:

Detailed Syllabi: Syllabus for M.A. in Political Science (Under Choice Based Credit System)


PROFILE

Semester I


Name of Courses	Level MA Semester	Course Type	Course Code	Title of the Course	Credit L+T
POL 101	I	Core Paper	MAPOL101	Indian Political Thought	4+1
POL 102	I	Core Paper	MAPOL102	Liberal and Post Liberal Political Theory	4+1
POL 103	I	Core Paper	MAPOL103	Comparative Politics: Principles and Approaches	4+1
POL 104	I	Core Paper	MAPOL104	Politics in South Asia	4+1
POL 105	I	Core Paper	MAPOL105	Indian Politics: Institutions and Processes	4+1


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Semester II


POL 201	II	Core Paper	MAPOL201	Modern Western Political Thought	4+1
POL 202	II	Core Paper	MAPOL202	Marxist Political Theory	4+1
POL 203	II	Core Paper	MAPOL203	Theories of Public Administration	4+1
POL 204	II	Core Paper	MAPOL204	Research Methodology	4+1
POL 205	II	Core Paper	MAPOL205	Post Cold War International Relations	4+1


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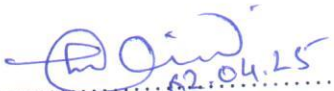
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Semester III

POL 301	III	Core Paper	MAPOL301	Public Policy	
POL 302	III	Core Paper	MAPOL302	Political Sociology: Conceptual issues	4+1
POL 303 A	III	Major Elective	MAPOL303A	Comparative and Development Administration	
POL 303 B	III	Major Elective	MAPOL303B	Ethnic Politics and Nationhood in India	
POL 303 C	III	Major Elective	MAPOL303C	India and Her Neighbours	
POL 304 A	III	Major Elective	MAPOL304A	Issues of Citizen-centric Administration in India	4+1
POL 304 B	III	Major Elective	MAPOL304B	Understanding Indian Politics	4+1
POL 304 C	III	Major Elective	MAPOL304C	India and the World	4+1
POL 305 A	III	Interdisciplinary Elective	MAPOL305A	Issues in Contemporary Political Theory	4 (L)
POL 305 B	III	Interdisciplinary Elective	MAPOL305B	Public Policy in India	4 (L)
POL 305 C	III	Interdisciplinary Elective	MAPOL305C	Politics of Human Rights	4 (L)


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Semester IV

POL 400	IV	Core Paper	MAPOL400	Community Engagement	
POL 401	IV	Core Paper	MAPOL401	State Formation and Political Regime	4+1
POL 402	IV	Core Paper	MAPOL402	Theories of International Relations	4+1
POL 403A	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL403A	Social Welfare Administration	4+1
POL 403 B	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL403B	India's Political Economy	4+1
POL 403 C	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL403C	Peace and Conflict Studies	4+1
POL 404 A	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL404A	Local Governance in India with Special Reference to West Bengal	4+1
POL 404 B	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL404B	Social and Political Movements in India	4+1
POL 404 C	IV	Major Elective	MAPOL404C	International Law	4+1
POL 405	IV	Core Paper	MAPOL405	Project	4+1


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Duration of the Programme: 2-yrs duration divided in four semesters (minimum 2-yrs and maximum 4-yrs), need to complete within 4 Calendar years.

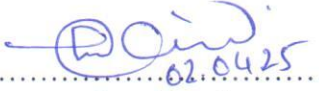
Faculty and Support Staff Requirement: The Centre for Distance and Online Education(CDOE), has recruited one Core Faculty and two Assistant Professors in Political Science and non-teaching staff for academic and administrative support for the learners in an effective and cohesive manner. The University also take support from the regular faculty of the University and as well as from the wider academic community from the other universities and colleges.

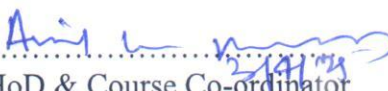
SL. NO.	Faculty	Work at (HQ/RC)	Number
1	Core Faculty	HQ	1

SL. NO.	Office Staff (Designation)	Work at (HQ/RC)	Number
1	Sr. Office Assistant	HQ	1
2	Office Assistant	HQ	1
3	Grade – IV	HQ	1

• **Instructional Delivery Mechanism for P.G. Political Science:**

Mode of Delivery	Delivery mechanism	Provided (Yes/No)	Detailed Information
Face to Face	Personal Contact Programme (PCP) / Counselling	Yes	Total no. of counseling centres for the Programme: 07 Total Number of 237 hours Counselling Session Theory (inclusive all 4 semesters).
Online	Google Meet / Zoom	Yes	As per requirement
Offline	Tutorials/Special Classes	Yes	Sometimes Core Faculty organizes Spl. Classes/Tutorials.
Self-Learning	SLMs	Yes	24hrs per SLM. Total 120 hrs of self-study prescribed.


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- **DUE TO COVID19 SITUATION** (Since the end of March, 2020) – All the PCPs of M.A. in Political Science have been completed through **online mode (Google Meet)**. All the examinations of M.A. in Political Science have been completed through **online (Email submission)** and all the internal assessments of M.A. in Political Science via **GoogleForm and Email**.
- **Student Support Service System:** Students are facilitated to contact the faculty members and the office by phone or email or in person. The CDOE maintains a well- equipped library and a computer centre where the students can access various resources. Subject-wise helpdesk, Enquiry Centre, Counseling rooms, well-equipped classrooms, conference hall, whatsapp groups etc. are there to help the students. Other facilities like purified drinking water, restroom, canteen, auditorium, free wifi etc. are also available.

6. Procedure for admissions, curriculum transaction and evaluation:

Admission Procedure: Through Admission Notification published in leading newspapers and through CDOE's Website as well University Website. Whole Admission Procedure is going on through online.

Eligibility: Any Political Science Honours, General Graduates (10+2+3) with Political Science as combination, any Graduates (10+2+2) who subsequently passed One-year Bridge Course in Political Science.

Total Course fee: Rs. 10000/- (inclusive all 4 semesters).

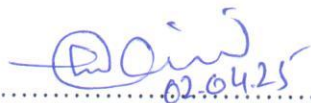
Financial Assistant: Financial assistant is provided to some financially backward students for this programme.

Curriculum transaction: SLMs (Bengali version) in print/soft copies are provided as approved by the CDOE. PCP/Counseling schedules for the programme are prepared by the core faculty and assistant professor with the help of course coordinator. PCP/Counseling schedules circulated among the study centres as well as notified in the official website of the CDOE. PCP/Counseling is conducted in English and Bengali.

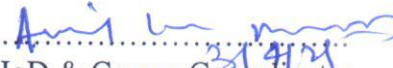
Medium of Examination: English and Bengali.

Evaluation: Semester System Examinations (written):

- 20% of the total marks of each 50 marks paper are Internal Assessment (Short type questions).
- 80% of the total marks of each 50 marks paper would be reserved for written examination to be held per semester.


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A few notable features of the rules governing the examination of Semester System P.G Course under distance mode:

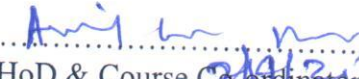
- The examination of M.A. is divided into four semester examinations which hold as per schedule notified by Controller of Examinations from time to time after completion of its relevant PCP.
- A candidate shall get three consecutive chances including the original one to appear in a semester, within a total period of four years calculated from the year of admission to the course during which he/she has to complete the course. The chance not availed of by a candidate shall be deemed to have lapsed. The result of the 4th semester (Final) examination shall be kept withheld (RW) unless the candidate has cleared all the previous semesters.

Preparation of SLMs: In 1999 first 3 Day workshop was organized by our Directorate with the financial Assistance of DEC. In this workshop regular faculty members of our University as well as other Universities participated. Prof. V. S. Prasad, former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU and Dr. Santosh Panda, Director, STRIDE acted as Resource persons in the said workshop. Then several subject-wise seminars and workshops were organized by the Directorate of Distance Education (DDE), The University of Burdwan(B.U.). Accordingly as per direction of university authority, a number of writers of SLMs of all the subjects/programmes were appointed and also Editorial Boards, Format Editors and General Editors of all the subjects/programmes were formed by the direction of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor. The entire process was approved by the Advisory Committee of DDE, B.U. and Vice-Chancellor. After Publication of the SLMs, two sets of all study materials were sent to DEC for approval as per their direction. In February, 2013, an Expert Team from DEC visited our Directorate and the members thoroughly checked all study materials and they appreciated the whole process. In view of their recommendation, few months later, **the letter of recognition of the programme as well as approval of SLMs was sent by DEB (Vide letter no. UGC/DEB/Recog/2013/1203-1207, dated: 21st August, 2015).**

Updated notification for its learners: CDOE notifies its various policies for the programme delivery along with the details of methods and web-based tools adopted in the official website. All academic notifications are being carried out by the CDOE during the academic session through the official website (www.dde.buruniv.ac.in) and to the learners through SMS. Further, the CDOE notifies result and related information of examination evaluation through its official website and registered mobile number of the learners.


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7. **Requirement of the Laboratory Support and Library Resources:** The students may avail library facility at the HQ. Apart from study materials, various reference books and journals are also available in the library of CDOE. Also for numerical examination we have a dedicated computer lab at CDOE, B.U.

8. **Cost Estimate of the Programme:** The cost estimate of the PG course in Political Science under ODL mode of CDOE should be restricted under the following head of expenditure:

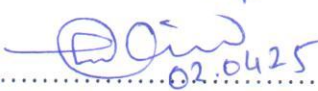
- Personal Contact Programme
- Self Learning Materials
- Assistance for Human Resources
- Development of Course Material and Quality Assurance
- Students Support Service
- Technology Support
- Library
- Research and Development
- E-learning/ E-content

9. **Quality Assurance Mechanism and Expected Programme Outcomes:** The IQAC cell of The University of Burdwan acts as the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA), responsible for overall development and up gradation of CDOE.


- University of Burdwan has an IQAC with the following objectives: To build and ensure a quality culture, appropriate structure and processes with enough flexibility to meet the diverse needs of the stakeholders at the University.
- Meant for planning, guiding and monitoring Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Enhancement (QE) activities of the University.
- To channelize and systematize the efforts and measures of the University towards academic excellence.

Programme Outcomes (PO's): Programme outcomes describe what students are expected to know or be able to do by the time of Post-Graduation.

CDOE, B.U. has established a Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA) in accordance with the ODL Regulations 2017 with the following expected outcomes:


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PO1: Knowledge of Political Science

Various branches of Political Science are so selected and designed for M.A. Political Science course aiming at reasoning, sophistication in thing and acquaintance with enough number of subjects including application oriented ones to suit the present needs of various allied branches in Social Science as well as provision of opportunities to pursue research in Political Science.

PO2: Problem Solving Skills

This programme also offers training in problem solving skills.

PO3: Analytical & Logical thinking

The student will be able to develop logical reasoning techniques and Techniques for analyzing the situation.

PO4: Learning theoretical concepts

Student will learn some important concepts in Political Theory and the theoretical aspects of other allied sub-disciplines like International Relations, Public Administration, Political Sociology that are useful in contemporary inter-disciplinary area of research.

PO5: Understanding Ability

Student will develop ability for understanding different socio-economic and administrative model to a given real life situation as well as learning new areas of knowledge in future either for teaching or for research.

PO6: Getting Abilities

Demonstrate the ability to conduct research independently and pursue higher studies towards Ph.D. degree in Political Science.

PO7: Evaluating Capability

The student shall acquire capability to evaluate hypothesis, methods and evidence within their proper contexts in any situation.

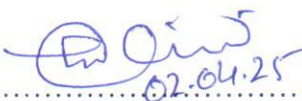
PO8: Application of Knowledge

The student shall able to apply the knowledge acquired in Political Science in Social Science as well as research and its extensions.


Programme Specific Outcomes


- Understanding of the fundamental tools, conceptual frameworks in Political Science and capability of developing ideas based on them.
- Inculcate socio-political reasoning.
- To develop one's own learning capacity.
- Prepare and motivate students for research studies in Political Science and related fields.
- Develop abstract theoretical thinking in the field of Social Science.

Assimilate complex theoretical ideas and arguments in the field of Social Science.


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