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UGC NET Paper 2

Politics including International Relations (090)
Complete revision notes — all 10 units

10 units | Tables & formulas | Key revision points

01 Political Theory
02 Western Political Thought
03 Indian Political Thought
04 Comparative Politics
05 Indian Government and Politics
06 Public Administration
07 Theories of International Relations
08 International Organisations
09 India's Foreign Policy
10 Contemporary Global Issues

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Edition: November 2026

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How to use these notes

- Read one unit at a time, then test yourself with its key revision points.
- Make your own short notes on topics you find difficult.
- Units follow the main areas of the official syllabus — the exact unit list can change between sessions.
- Always check the latest syllabus and notices on the official UGC NET portal: **ugcnet.nta.ac.in**.

UNIT 01

Political Theory

Core concepts of political theory.

- Liberty — Isaiah Berlin: negative vs positive liberty.
- Justice — John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice* (1971): veil of ignorance; Robert Nozick, *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* (1974).
- Equality, rights, democracy; Amartya Sen's capability approach.

★ Key revision points

- Negative liberty = Berlin.
- Veil of ignorance = Rawls.
- Entitlement theory = Nozick.
- Capability approach = Sen.

UNIT 02

Western Political Thought

Major Western thinkers.

Thinker	Key idea / work
Plato	*Republic*; philosopher-king
Aristotle	*Politics*; man is a political animal
Machiavelli	*The Prince* (1513)
Hobbes	*Leviathan* (1651)
Locke	*Two Treatises of Government*; natural rights
Rousseau	*Social Contract*; general will
Marx	Historical materialism; class struggle

★ Key revision points

- *Leviathan* = Hobbes.
- General will = Rousseau.
- *The Prince* = Machiavelli.
- Natural rights = Locke.

UNIT 03

Indian Political Thought

Ancient and modern Indian thinkers.

- Kautilya — *Arthashastra*: saptanga theory of state; mandala theory.
- Gandhi — *Hind Swaraj* (1909); Ambedkar — *Annihilation of Caste* (1936).
- Nehru, Tagore, Aurobindo, M. N. Roy (radical humanism), Lohia, Savarkar.

★ Key revision points

- Saptanga = Kautilya.
- *Hind Swaraj*: 1909.
- *Annihilation of Caste*: 1936.
- Radical humanism = M. N. Roy.

UNIT 04

Comparative Politics

Approaches and concepts in comparative politics.

- Approaches: systems (David Easton), structural-functional (Gabriel Almond), political culture (Almond and Verba, *The Civic Culture*).
- Party systems — Maurice Duverger (Duverger's law: plurality voting → two-party system).
- Samuel Huntington — 'third wave' of democratisation.

★ Key revision points

- Systems approach = Easton.
- Duverger's law: plurality → two parties.
- *The Civic Culture* = Almond and Verba.
- Third wave = Huntington.

UNIT 05

Indian Government and Politics

Constitution, institutions and federalism.

- Constituent Assembly; Preamble; fundamental rights; DPSP.
- Basic structure doctrine — Kesavananda Bharati (1973).
- Federalism: Sarkaria (1983) and Punchhi (2007) Commissions; 73rd and 74th Amendments (1992).

★ Key revision points

- Basic structure: 1973.
- Sarkaria Commission: 1983.
- 73rd/74th Amendments: 1992.
- DPSP are non-justiciable.

UNIT 06

Public Administration

Theories and Indian administration.

- Woodrow Wilson — 'The Study of Administration' (1887).
- Max Weber — bureaucracy; F. W. Taylor — scientific management; Herbert Simon — bounded rationality.
- New Public Management; good governance; RTI Act (2005).

★ Key revision points

- Wilson: 1887.
- Bureaucracy = Weber.
- Bounded rationality = Simon.
- RTI Act: 2005.

UNIT 07

Theories of International Relations

Realism, liberalism and other theories.

Theory	Thinker
Classical realism	Hans Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations* (1948)
Neorealism	Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (1979)
Neoliberal institutionalism	Robert Keohane, Joseph Nye
Constructivism	Alexander Wendt — 'Anarchy is what states make of it'
World-systems	Immanuel Wallerstein

★ Key revision points

- *Politics Among Nations* = Morgenthau.
- Neorealism = Waltz.
- Constructivism = Wendt.
- Soft power = Joseph Nye.

UNIT 08

International Organisations

UN and regional bodies.

- UN Charter (1945); Security Council — 5 permanent members with veto.
- Regional: SAARC (1985), ASEAN (1967), EU, BRICS, SCO.
- Bretton Woods institutions: IMF, World Bank; WTO (1995).

★ Key revision points

- UN founded 1945.
- P5 hold veto.
- SAARC: 1985.
- WTO: 1995.

UNIT 09

India's Foreign Policy

Principles and key developments.

- Non-alignment; Panchsheel (1954, India–China).
- Look East (1991) → Act East (2014); Neighbourhood First.
- Nuclear policy: Pokhran (1974, 1998); no first use; India–US civil nuclear deal (2008).

★ Key revision points

- Panchsheel: 1954.
- Act East: 2014.
- Pokhran II: 1998.
- Nuclear deal with US: 2008.

UNIT 10

Contemporary Global Issues

Security, globalisation and environment.

- Cold War and post-Cold War order; Huntington's 'clash of civilisations'; Fukuyama's 'end of history'.
- Terrorism, human security, climate change (Paris Agreement, 2015).
- Globalisation and global governance.

★ Key revision points

- Clash of civilisations = Huntington.
- End of history = Fukuyama.
- Paris Agreement: 2015.
- Human security: UNDP 1994.

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