Minutes of the Meeting

Course : (viii) Political Economy - II
Date of Meetings : 8th January, 2018
Venue : Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
Chair : Prof. Aditya Bhattacharjea

Attended by:

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<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>College</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shailaja S. Thakur</td>
<td>Sri Venkateswara College</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>C. Saratchand</td>
<td>Satyawati College</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Saumyajit Bhattacharya</td>
<td>Kirori Mal College</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Akshita Goyal</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Nandini Dutta</td>
<td>Miranda House</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ishmeeta Singh</td>
<td>IP College</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Reshmi Ganguly</td>
<td>Lady Shri Ram College</td>
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Course Outline

1. Introduction and Historical Overview
   Perspective on political economy with a historical overview: Capitalist development in the pre Second World War period, the ‘Golden Age’ and later.

2. Changing Dynamics of Capitalist Production, Organisational Form and Labour Process
   Fordist and Post-Fordist production; The changing dynamics of organisation of production, markets and labour process; The changing nature of job security and labour rights.

   Globalisation and the limits of the welfare state, development and state autonomy.

4. The Changing Role of Finance
   The changing role of finance in capital accumulation and corporate structure; Finance and globalisation - financialisation, financial liberalisation and financial crisis.

5. The Social Dimension
   Globalisation and uneven development – Growth, inequality and exclusion

6. New Perspectives
   Gender in work, accumulation and globalisation; Issues in environment and sustainability.
**Examination Pattern:**
The maximum marks for the final examination is 75, with the remaining 25 marks for internal assessment. Students will be asked to answer four questions in all. The paper will be divided into two parts. Part A will have three questions of 15 marks each, of which students will be required to answer any one. Part B will have seven questions of 20 marks each, of which students will be required to answer any three. The question paper should be balanced with each topic getting adequate coverage commensurate with its weight in the reading list.

**Readings:**

1. Beaud, Michel: *A History of Capitalism, 1500-2000*, translated by Tom Dickman and Anny Lefebvre, New York: Monthly Review Press, 2001. Chapters 4, 5. [This reading is to be treated as a general historical overview and no direct questions will be asked from this. The students should particularly read the summary provided at the end of each chapter. *It is mandatory for the students to read pg 179-183 (in Chapter 2) as a background to the topic on Fordism in Section 2 of the course*]


9. Harvey, David: *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*, OUP, 2005. Introduction (particularly pg 2-4 where the term neoliberalism is introduced and explained), Section Chapters 3 (The Neoliberal State) and Chapter 4 (Uneven Geographical Developments). Additionally Ch 1 (Freedom’s Just Another Word) should be treated as a background reading (for section 1 of the course) on which students will not be asked questions.


14. Magdoff, F and J B Foster: *What Every Environmentalist Needs to Know about Capitalism*, Monthly Review Press, 2011. **Chapter 4 (The Environment and Capitalism).** [Further, Chapter 3 of this book may be used as a background reading for contextualizing the issues but no questions will be asked from this chapter.]


**Note 1:** Starred (*) readings are for teachers or for students, who are interested in additional readings. No questions will be asked from these.

**Note 2:** For students who have not taken the Political Economy I course in 5th Semester, the following readings are being suggested for some essential concepts and perspectives. No questions will be asked from these.


The following is the topic-wise list of readings. However, students should be made aware that several of the readings cut across topics and their interconnections are relevant both for comprehension of the subject and facing examinations.

**Topic 1** – Readings 1, 2 and 8 (Introduction and Ch 1). Only Reading 2 and 8 (Introduction) are relevant for examinations.

**Topic 2** – Readings 3 - 8 [Reading 5 is relevant for both topics 2 and 5]

**Topic 3** – Reading 9 (Introduction and Chapter 3)

**Topic 4** – Readings 10

**Topic 5** – Readings 5 and 9 (Chapter 4)

**Topic 6** – Readings 11 – 15 [Reading 13 starred – no questions will be asked in the examinations]