

Political Science MA final examination

I. Comprehensive knowledge

1. Definitions of Democracy
2. The preconditions, waves and regional differences of democratisation.
3. The concept of the rule of law and its development in Europe.
4. The changing concept of freedom: from the "freedom of the ancients" to the "moderns".
5. Political arguments in favour of capitalism in the European tradition.
6. Sources and main features of Christian political thought.
7. Principles of Islamic political thought, conflicts in the Islamic world today.
8. Hinduism, secularism, Hindutva: religious conflicts in contemporary India.
9. The phenomenon of religious fundamentalism.
10. Religious violence and religious peacemaking.
11. The question of the definition of national minorities.
12. Analyse the reasons for the emergence and strengthening of radical right-wing parties in Western and Central and Eastern Europe.
13. The "state of nature" and the "social contract" (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau).

II A. Specialization Comparative Politics

1. Basic issues of comparative governance in relation to constitutions and executive, legislative and judicial powers.
2. Basic issues of comparative government in terms of political culture, political participation and interest groups.
3. Basic issues of comparative government in relation to political parties, elections and voters.

4. Characterise the right-wing movements in Europe between the two world wars.
5. Compare the nation-building efforts in Central Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries.
6. Summarize Immanuel Wallerstein's world system theory.
7. Causes of democratisation.
8. The most important stages in the history of the concept of democracy.
9. Tocqueville's conception of democracy.
10. Marx's interpretation of history and society.
11. Comparison of Aronson's, Riesman's and Ortega y Gasset's conceptions of mass.
12. Max Weber's definition of power and domination.
13. Describe the differences between modern (Gellner, Anderson, Hechter) and ethnosymbolist (Smith, Hutchinson) theories of nationalism.

II B. Specialization

1. The place of India in contemporary international politics.
2. China's foreign policy and foreign relations since 1978.
3. Russia's foreign policy from the 1990s to the present.
4. US foreign policy from the Carter presidency to the second Iraq war.
5. The process of European integration and current problems.
6. Trade theories and their relevance in the world economy
7. Competition in the world economy (in theory and practice)
8. International capital flows and transnational companies
9. The changing role of the IMF in the international monetary system
10. The institutional framework of international trade policy since WWII

11. Treaties (definition, conclusion, reservations)

12. The United Nations

13. The EU's changing position and competitiveness in the global economy