



Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's

HINDI VIDYA PRACHAR SAMITI'S COLLEGE OF LAW

(Affiliated to University of Mumbai & Recognised by Bar Council of India)

R. J. Collage Premises, Opp. Ghatkopar Railway Station, Ghatkopar (W), Mumbai- 400 086, Maharashtra, INDIA

Tel: + 91 22 25151763 | Fax: 91 22 25 150957 | Website : www.hvpslawcollege.org.in | Email: hvpslawcollege@gmail.com

Ref No.

Date 15/9/2020

Value Added Course on Foundations of Democracy: Exploring Constitutional Values and Fundamental Rights

Course Overview:

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the principles underlying democratic societies, focusing on constitutional values and fundamental rights. Through a combination of lectures, discussions, case studies, and practical exercises, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the historical context, philosophical foundations, and contemporary debates surrounding constitutionalism and human rights.

Course Objectives:

- Understand the historical and philosophical foundations of democracy and constitutionalism.
- Identify and classify fundamental rights recognized in constitutional law.
- Analyze the legal mechanisms for protecting fundamental rights, including judicial review.
- Critically evaluate case studies related to freedom of expression, equality, privacy, and minority rights.

Course Duration: 10 Days (35 Hours)

Course Dates: 21st September to 30th September 2020

Mode: Online Mode

Course Outline

Module 1: Introduction to Democracy and Constitutionalism

- Defining democracy and constitutionalism
- Historical origins of constitutional government
- Key concepts: rule of law, separation of powers, checks and balances



Dr. (Mrs.) Madhura Kalamkar
I/C Principal
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Module 2: Fundamental Rights in Constitutional Law

- Classification of rights: civil, political, social, and economic
- Guarantees of fundamental rights in constitutions
- Role of judicial review in protecting rights

Module 3: Freedom of Expression and Press Freedom

- The importance of freedom of expression in democracy
- Limits and restrictions on freedom of speech
- Case studies: landmark freedom of expression cases

Module 4: Equality and Non-Discrimination

- Concept of equality under the law
- Forms of discrimination: race, gender, religion, etc.
- Affirmative action and its implications

Module 5: Rights of Minorities and Marginalized Groups

- Protection of minority rights in democratic societies
- Indigenous rights and cultural autonomy
- Intersectionality and multiple forms of discrimination

Module 6: Global Perspectives on Human Rights

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights treaties
- Role of international organizations in promoting human rights
- Cultural relativism vs. universalism in human rights discourse

Assessment:

- Participation in class discussions and activities
- Written assignments analyzing case studies or current events
- Final project: research paper or presentation on a topic related to constitutional values and fundamental rights



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Course Outcome

- 1. Understand and Articulate Core Democratic Principles:** Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the foundational principles of Indian democracy as enshrined in the Constitution of India, including sovereignty, rule of law, secularism, socialism, and democratic republic.
- 2. Analyze Constitutional Values:** Critically analyze the key values enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution of India, such as justice (social, economic, and political), liberty, equality, and fraternity, and their application in various political and legal contexts in India.
- 3. Evaluate Fundamental Rights:** Identify and evaluate the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution, including the Right to Equality, Right to Freedom, Right against Exploitation, Right to Freedom of Religion, Cultural and Educational Rights, and Right to Constitutional Remedies, and understand their significance in protecting individual freedoms and promoting social justice.
- 4. Interpret Judicial Decisions:** Interpret and assess landmark Supreme Court decisions, such as Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala, Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India, and Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India, and their impact on the interpretation and enforcement of constitutional values and fundamental rights.
- 5. Engage in Informed Debate:** Engage in informed and respectful debates on contemporary issues related to Indian democracy and fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression, secularism, reservation policies, and privacy rights, using evidence-based arguments and considering diverse perspectives.



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