

**SEMESTER - IV**  
**POL - 251**  
**POLITICAL SYSTEMS OF SELECT COUNTRIES**  
**Credit - 3**

**Course Objectives:**

To understand the dynamics of political systems in the four selected countries- the UK, the USA, Russia and China. It also focuses on the sources, ideological basis, constitutional and legal provisions, and institutional structures of select countries.

**Learning Outcomes:**

It will help the students to understand and compare the functioning of various components of the political systems of select countries.

- Unit I:** Historical and Ideological Basis and Major Characteristics of the Political Systems.
- Unit II:** Party Systems: Major Political Parties
- Unit III:** Legislature and Executive: Powers and Functions
- Unit IV:** Judiciary: Composition, Powers and Functions

**Suggested Readings:**

- Almond, G., *Comparative Politics Today: A World View*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition., New York, 2000.
- Bibby, John F. *Politics, Parties and Elections in America*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., Thomson / Wadsworth, 2008.
- Birch, A.H., *British System of Government*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, London, George Allan, 1980.
- Burgess, M and A. Gagnon (eds.), *Comparative Federalism and Federation: Competing Traditions and Future directions*, Hemel Hempstead, Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993.
- Cohen, S. F., *Failed Crusade: America and the Tragedy of Post-Communist Russia*, New York, W.W. Norton, 2000.
- Derbyshire, I., *Politics in China*, London, Chambers, 1991.
- Gill, G. and R. D. Markwick, *Russia's Stillborn Democracy: From Gorbachev to Yeltsin*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2000.
- Gittings, J., *China Changes Face: The Road from Revolution 1949-89*, London, Oxford University Press, 1989.
- Harding, H., *China's Second Revolution: Reform after Mao*, Washington DC, Brookings Institution, 1987.
- Holmes, L., *Postcommunism: An Introduction*, Cambridge, Polity, 1997
- Lieberthal, K., *Governing China: From Revolution through Reform*, New York, Norton, 1995.
- Lijphart, A., *Democracies: Patterns of Majoritarian and Consensual Government in Twenty One Countries*, London, Yale University Press, 1992.

Mohanty, M., *Chinese Revolution: Comparative Perspectives on Transformation of Non-Western Societies*, New Delhi, Ajantha, 1992.

Petro, N., *The Rebirth of Russian Democracy*, London, Harvard University Press, 1995.

Perry, E.J. and M. Selden (eds.), *Chinese Society: Change, Conflict and Resistance*, London, Routledge, 2000.

Sakwa, R., *Russian Politics and Society*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition., London and New York, Routledge, 1996.

Solinger, D. J., *China's Transition from Socialism: Statist Legacies and Marketing Reform*, Aman, 1993.

Wright, V., *Government and Politics of France*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition., London, Unwin Hyman, 1989.

Zhang, W., *Transforming China: Economic Reforms and its Political Implications*, New York, St. Martin's Press, 2000.