**SESSION SPRING 2024**

**PROGRAM BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**SEMESTER II**

**COURSE CODE & NAME OBAP212 POLITICAL THEORY**

**CREDITS 4**

**Assignment Set – 1**

**Questions**

**1. Discuss the traditional approach to political theory with special reference to philosophical approach.**

**Ans:** The traditional approach to political theory is a method of studying political phenomena that emphasizes normative, philosophical, and historical perspectives. This approach contrasts with more empirical or scientific methods that have gained prominence in contemporary political science. The traditional approach, particularly the philosophical approach, delves deeply into questions about justice, rights, liberty, and the role of the state through a primarily normative lens.

**Key Features of the Traditional Approach to Political Theory:**

**Normative Focus:** Traditional political theory often focuses on normative questions, such as

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**2. Critically analyze the behavioural approach to the study of political theory.**

**Ans:**The behavioral approach to the study of political theory emerged in the mid-20th century as a reaction to the normative and philosophical traditions that had previously dominated the field. This approach emphasizes empirical research, the scientific method, and the observation of actual political behavior. It seeks to make political science more rigorous and objective by focusing on measurable and observable phenomena rather than abstract

**3. Discuss in detail the different types of authority.**

**Ans:** Authority is a fundamental concept in sociology and political science, referring to the legitimate power or right to make decisions, issue orders, and enforce obedience. Max Weber, a prominent sociologist, identified three distinct types of authority, which are traditional authority, charismatic authority, and rational-legal authority. Each type of authority derives its legitimacy from different sources and has unique characteristics.

**Types of Authority:**

**Traditional Authority:**

**Definition:** Traditional authority is based on long-established customs, traditions, and

**Assignment Set – 2**

**Questions**

**4. Critically analyze John Rawls’s theory of Justice.**

**Ans:** John Rawls's theory of justice, particularly as articulated in his seminal work "A Theory of Justice" (1971), is a cornerstone of contemporary political philosophy. Rawls presents a detailed argument for a conception of justice he calls "justice as fairness," which he believes can reconcile the competing demands of liberty and equality in a democratic society.

**Here’s a critical analysis of Rawls's theory of justice:**

**Core Principles of Rawls's Theory:**

**Original Position and Veil of Ignorance:**  Rawls introduces the concept of the original

**5. Discuss the critique that communitarianism and multiculturalism make of colonial discourse.**

**Ans:Communitarianism and multiculturalism** offer significant critiques of colonial discourse, emphasizing the importance of community, culture, and identity in understanding justice and politics. Both perspectives challenge the universalizing tendencies and cultural imperialism inherent in colonial discourse, advocating instead for the recognition and validation of diverse cultural traditions and community values.

**Communitarian Critique of Colonial Discourse:**

Communitarianism argues that individuals are fundamentally shaped by their communities

**6. Examine the origins and history of feminism.**

**Ans:** The origins and history of feminism are complex and multifaceted, encompassing a wide range of movements, ideologies, and actions aimed at addressing gender inequalities and promoting women's rights. Feminism has evolved over time, responding to changing social, political, and economic contexts.

**Here is a detailed examination of its origins and history:**

**Early Origins: Ancient and Medieval Periods:** Early traces of feminist thought can be