**OBAP 112 FOUNDATION OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**1. In what ways does political science differ from other areas of study such as political philosophy and political ideology?**

Political science, political philosophy, and political ideology are interconnected fields within the realm of political studies but differ significantly in their focus, methodologies, and objectives. While they often overlap, their distinctions lie in how they approach the study of power, governance, and societal organization.

**Political Science**

Political science is an empirical and systematic study of politics, government, and the behavior of political entities. It is rooted in observation, data collection, and analysis, aiming to understand how political systems function and evolve. Key areas within political science

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**2. What are the core principles and approaches of behaviouralism within the field of political science?**

Behavioralism is a significant movement in political science that emerged in the mid-20th century as a response to the traditional, normative approaches to the discipline. It emphasizes empirical research and the scientific study of political behavior rather than abstract theorization about political ideals or institutions. This shift represented a move toward greater objectivity, focusing on observable and measurable phenomena.

**Core Principles of Behavioralism**

1. **Empiricism:** Behavioralism prioritizes empirical evidence over speculative reasoning. It relies on data collected through observation, surveys, experiments, and statistical analysis to understand political behavior. Researchers aim to derive patterns and test

**3. Discuss Laski’s theory of rights.**

Harold J. Laski, a prominent political theorist, developed a comprehensive theory of rights that remains influential in political science. His views on rights are grounded in the principles of social welfare, equality, and individual freedom, emphasizing the interdependence of rights and duties. Laski’s theory argues that rights are not natural or absolute but are derived from society and designed to ensure collective well-being.

**Rights as Social Constructs**

Laski rejected the notion of natural rights, which asserts that rights are inherent and inalienable.

**4. Analyze the relationship between liberty and equality.**

The relationship between liberty and equality has been a central debate in political philosophy, as these two principles often appear to be in tension. Liberty emphasizes individual freedom and autonomy, while equality seeks to ensure fairness and eliminate disparities. Understanding their interplay is crucial for achieving a just and balanced society.

**Defining Liberty and Equality**

Liberty refers to the freedom of individuals to act, think, and express themselves without undue interference from others or the state. It can be categorized into two forms: negative liberty, which is freedom from external constraints, and positive liberty, which is the ability to realize one’s potential and achieve personal goals.

Equality, on the other hand, entails ensuring that individuals are treated fairly and have access

**5. In what ways do Marshall's and Giddens' views on citizenship differ in their theoretical frameworks?**

T.H. Marshall and Anthony Giddens offer distinct yet complementary perspectives on the concept of citizenship. Their theories reflect differing historical and sociological concerns, with Marshall focusing on the developmental trajectory of rights in the national context and Giddens exploring citizenship in the fluid, globalized world of modernity.

**Marshall’s Theory of Citizenship**

T.H. Marshall's classic framework, outlined in *Citizenship and Social Class* (1950), emphasizes the progressive expansion of citizenship rights through three distinct stages:

1. **Civil Rights:** The foundation of citizenship, encompassing basic freedoms such as

**6. In what ways has globalization affected the sovereignty of the state?**

Globalization has fundamentally transformed the concept of state sovereignty, challenging traditional notions of absolute authority while creating opportunities for collaboration in addressing global issues. Sovereignty, traditionally defined as the supreme power of a state to govern its affairs without external interference, has been reshaped by economic integration, technological advancements, and transnational challenges.

**Economic Globalization and Sovereignty**

One of the most significant impacts of globalization is the increasing interdependence of national economies. International trade agreements, financial markets, and multinational corporations reduce states’ control over their economic policies. For instance: