

VAC201	Indian Constitution	2L:0T:0P	2Credits
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Course Description:

This course offers a unique perspective on the Constitution of India, focusing on its economic dimensions and impact on business. It delves into the historical and ideological underpinnings of the Constitution as an economic document, tracing its evolution from post-colonial economic governance to contemporary debates. Students explore constitutional battles over land reforms, economic liberalization, and fiscal federalism, gaining insights into competing economic ideologies and interests. Through case studies and legal analysis, they examine fundamental rights related to business, fiscal federalism, and constitutional issues shaping India's economic landscape.

By the end of the course, students will develop a nuanced understanding of the Constitution's role in shaping economic policies and its implications for business practices, equipping them with valuable insights for careers in business management and policy advocacy.

Course Objective(s):

1. Develop an understanding of the Indian Constitution beyond legal and political lenses, emphasizing its significance for business students.
2. Recognize the importance of comprehending constitutional basics and their impact on trade, economy, and business practices.
3. Analyze the inclusion of economic justice in the preamble and its implications for post-colonial economic policies.
4. Explore the legal history of competing claims between economic development and principles of equity and justice in India.
5. Examine the transition from state-led industrialization to liberalization, highlighting the constitutional underpinnings of these economic shifts.
6. Investigate the constitutional provisions relevant to business, such as the fundamental right to practice any profession, occupation, trade, or business as enshrined in Article 19.

Course Content:

Unit 1: An Economic History of the Constitution of India

Historical understanding of the constitution as an economic document. Understanding the Preamble, Starting from the land reform cases in the 1950s to the validity of the bitcoin ban imposed by the RBI, this module signpost all of the important economic moments in the constitutional history of post-colonial India; Constitutional design, Legal Regulation and economic justice

Unit 2: Fundamental Rights and Business in India

Article 19(1)(g), grant every citizen the right, to practise any profession, or to carry on any profession, occupation, trade, or business. Like other fundamental rights, this right is subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the state. This particular provision of the Constitution has been one of the most severely litigated freedoms. **Fundamental Duties.**

Unit 3: Fiscal Federalism

Articles 301 to 307 of the Constitution pertain to Trade, Commerce and Intercourse within the Territory of India; Challenges associated with fiscal federalism in India including the vertical fiscal imbalance; Article 280 of the Constitution.

Unit 4: Constitutional battles that shaped the economy

This module will be taught through key case studies that demonstrate the complex and fascinating overlap between the constitution and business and shall use Saurabh Kirpal's book *Fifteen Judgments: Cases that Shaped India's Financial Landscape* as our guide through this landscape. The case studies include the banning of diesel engine cars, Telecom regulation and ownership of broadcast media, Demonetisation, Aadhaar, the lifting of restrictions on dealing in cryptocurrencies

Readings:

References:

- The Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution, Oxford University Press.

Cases

- Rustom Cawasjee Cooperv. Union of India, (1970) 1 SCC 248
- State of Rajasthan v. Mohan Lal Vyas, AIR 1971 SC 2068 (confirmation of a private monopoly, not a violation of fundamental right)
- Mithlesh Garg v. Union of India, (1992) 1 SCC 168 : AIR 1992 SC 221 (Right to carry on business, not breached when it is liberalised)
- Chintamanrao v. The State of Madhya Pradesh, AIR 1951 SC 118 (scope of reasonable restrictions in relation to trade and occupation)
- Cooverjee B. Bharucha v. Excise Commissioner, Ajmer, AIR 1954 SC 220 (the reasonableness of the restriction imposed may depend upon the nature of the business and prevailing conditions including public health and morality)
- T.B. Ibrahim v. Regional Transport Authority, Tanjore, AIR 1953 SC 79
- Harman Singh v. RTA, Calcutta, AIR 1954 SC 190
- Dwarka Prasad Laxmi Narain v. State of U.P., AIR 1954 SC 224
- State of Bombay v. R.M.D. Chamarbaugwala, AIR 1957 SC 699
- Parbhani Transport Coop. Society Ltd. v. Regional Transport Authority, Aurangabad, AIR 1960 SC 801

Unit 1: Written communication: intra organizational/ departmental/ workplace communication

Need and Types, Basics of Writing Office Circulars, Agenda, Notice, Office Memoranda, Office Orders, News Letters; Positive and Negative Messages, Use of Technology for Communication, Effective IT communication tools-Electronic mail: advantages, safety and smartness in writing email, E-mail etiquettes; Use of online social media for communication and Public Relations; Ethical dilemmas in use of social media for communication. Report Writing: Types of Business Reports, responding to request for proposals (RFP), response to RFP, Formal Report- Components and Purpose, Organizing Information- Outlining & Numbering Sections, Section Headings, Sub-Headings, & Presentation; Reporting in Digital Age, Writing Reports on Field Work/Visits to Industries, Business Proposals; Summarizing Annual Reports of Companies- Purpose, Structure and Principles; Drafting Minutes of a Meeting; Corporate Communication- channels of corporate communication, target segments of corporate communication, types of corporate communication; Managing Crisis- Communication; Managing communication during change; Culture as communication

Unit 2: Oral Communication, Professionalism and teamwork

Meaning, Nature, and Scope of Effective Oral Communication; Techniques of Effective Speech, Media for Oral Communication- Face-to-Face Conversation, Teleconferences, Press Conference, Telephonic Conversations, Radio Presentation, Public address and Podcast. Constructing Oral Report; Group Discussion, Teams communication; Communication during online meeting; Online and offline professional etiquettes; Conducting appraisals, conducting interviews.

Unit 3: Negotiation Skills and Cross-Cultural Communication

Negotiation communication with vendors, suppliers, employees and other stakeholders; BATNA & communication during negotiations; Body language and negotiation;

Impact of globalization on organizational communication; Cross-Cultural frameworks (ex. Geert Hofstede); Culture & appropriate communication; Etic and Emic approaches to Culture; Communication to a diverse workforce; Overcoming barriers and biases in Cross-Cultural Communication; Building Inter-Cultural Workplace Skills; Cross-cultural etiquettes across clusters/countries.

Unit 4: Contemporary Communication

Digital communication- individual communicating via social media, organizations communicating via social media, Media Literacy; Strong Digital communication skills – email, instant messaging, video conferencing, e-meetings, digital collaboration, digital citizenship – digital etiquettes & responsibilities; Introduction to personal and organizational websites; communication through podcasts.

Job Searching in Digital Age; Creating Resume (CV, cover letter), Creating Customized Cover Messages for Job Applications, Purposes and Types of Employment Interviews, Performing Optimally in a Job Interview- Do's and Don'ts Before, During and After the Interview.

Readings:

TextBooks(LatestEdition):

1. AICTE's Prescribed Textbook: Communication Skills in English (with Lab Manual), Anjana Tiwari, Khanna Book Publishing Co.
2. Lesikar, R.V. & M.E. Flatley, "Business Communication: Connecting in a DigitalWorld", McGraw-Hill Education.
3. Murphy, H.A., Hildebrandt, H. & Thomas, J.P. Effective Business Communication. McGraw Hill.
4. Mukerjee H.S., Business Communication: Connecting at Work. Oxford Publication
5. Boove, C.L. et al., Business Communication Today, Pearson.

References:

1. Culture as Communication (2001) by Stever Robbins
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/C0108A-HCB-ENG>
2. The Future of Internal Communication | Rita Linjuan Men, Shannon A. Bowen
| Business Expert Press | BEP336-PDF-ENG | <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/BEP336-PDF-ENG>

Suggested Exercise and cases:

1. Negotiation exercise as vendor/seller
2. Analyzing verbal and non-verbal aspects of speeches of great leaders and orators.
3. Delivering Effective Presentations using presentation tools/software and use of infographics.
4. Cases on business communication
5. Summarizing Annual Report of a Company.
6. Preparing elevator pitch
7. Preparing curriculum vitae/resume/letter
8. Communicating Effectively in Group Discussion and personal interviews
9. How to Communicate Organizational Change (2020) by Angela Fisher Ricks
a. <https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/how-to-communicate-organizational-change>
10. Change Management and Internal Communication | Rita Linjuan Men, Shannon A. Bowen | Business Expert Press | BEP334-PDF-ENG
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/BEP334-PDF-ENG>

11. Lighting the Fire: Crafting and Delivering Broadly Inspiring Messages|Tsedal Neeley, Tom Ryder|Harvard Business School|416046-PDF-ENG|
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/416046-PDF-ENG?>
12. Bad Writing Is Destroying Your Company's Productivity (2016) by Josh Bernoff
a. <https://hbr.org/2016/09/bad-writing-is-destroying-your-companys-productivity>
13. Group Communication and Decision-Making Simulation: Wildfire Mitigation| Matthew Koschmann| FO0001-HTML-ENG|<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/FO0001-HTML-ENG>
14. Three Rules for Communicating During a Crisis|Nancy Koehn| 5238AV-AVO- ENG
| <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/5238AV-AVO-ENG> | <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/5238AV-AVO-ENG> | BUSINESS COMMUNICATION

Course Outcomes:

1. Apply the skills for writing various workplace written communications.
2. Effectively analyze and evaluate Business Reports.
3. Demonstrate competence in delivering impressive power-point presentations.
4. Create objective and succinct Resumes and be prepared to perform optimally in Job Interviews.
