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Rajiv Gandhi University

(Formerly Centre for Distance Education)
Rajiv Gandhi University
Rono Hills, Doimukh

ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORMAT

Name : Mr/Ms. DEBEN LANGNEH

ERN*/Roll No. : 20DEPOL011

Class : M.A. FINAL YEAR

Subject : POLITICAL SCIENCE - (501)

Paper : MODERN POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Marked Obtained : 100 (MARKS)

Instruction :

The assignments are to be written neatly in his/her own handwriting. Every candidate must submit completed assignment booklets **within the specified date**. It is one of the essential components of examination. The students are supposed to **obtain minimum 40%** of marks in assignment as per University rules.

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(N.B.: ERN*- Enrolment Number)

Q.1 Ans: The Study of political science is, hence, referred to as political analysis. This science is concerned with matters of the state and seeks to explore, understand as well as comprehend the state in its various conditions in the nature of its existence and the manifold forms in which it develops itself. Basically thus, this is an exploration of the state and the government.

The study of political science or politics limited itself with the life of man in relation to organized states," said British political theorist Harold Joseph Laski. On the other hand, British political scientist Sir George Edward Gordon Catlin argued that "political science means the study of activities of political life and activities of various organs of the government." In the same breath, American political science professor James Willard Garner said, "In short, political science begins and ends with the state." These arguments by some of the best scholars in political suggest that it is the study of study, government and political organizations.

At the same time, however these definitions have viewed political science from the traditional realms of the narrow legal institutional approach. After the end of the Second World War, a popular approach adopted to this study was the Behavioural Revolution approach. This approach brought a change to the analysis in the field of political analysis. Rather than institution dynamics, this approach stressed on political behaviour. In the beginning of the 20th Century, Social Scientists like Arthur Bentley, Graham Wallas and Charles E. Merriam used this approach and emphasized on some crucial aspects of political analysis like the psychological aspects.

Traditional Approaches in Political Science.

Philosophical nature of political analysis:

The philosophical nature of political analysis concentrates on the values which a political system should set for itself. It emphasizes that a political system should be based upon certain ideals and that it should strive to give shape to them. Plato, the Greek philosopher, represented best this philosophical tradition of political or politics. He said it was the duty of the philosopher-king to establish the ideal society based on justice. In the medieval period, this tradition was continued by Augustine and Aquinas.

The philosophical approach of political analysis is also known as the traditional approach. It involves an analytical study of ideas and doctrines which have long formed the core part of political thought. However, this approach has been criticized on grounds that it cannot be scientific as it ignores objective reality.

Empirical nature of political analysis:

The empirical approach stresses on 'experience' or ground reality in the study of politics. Though this approach took a systematic theoretical shape in the 17th century as a result of the influence of John Locke and David Hume, this approach is almost as old as the philosophical approach. The first practitioner of this approach was Aristotle who studied a large number of constitutions in order to prepare a classification of constitutions. Machiavelli's 'Prince' which is an objective account of statecraft and Montesquieu's sociological theory of government and law belong to this



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ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORMAT

Name : Mr./Ms. TABU MILLING

ERN*/Roll No. : 20DEPOL040

Class : MA. II year

Subject : political science

Paper : modern political Analysis - 501

Marked Obtained : _____

Instruction :

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11. In the sphere of social sciences the term 'method' and 'approach' are applied rather closely, and sometimes even interchangeably. Method is a more general term which denotes a particular way of doing something. On the other hand, approach is a wider term which comprehends not only the methods but also the focus of our study in order to understand the given phenomenon. That is why an approach suggests the relevant method also.

The traditional approach is value based and lays emphasis on the inclusion of values to the study of political phenomena. The adherents of this approach believe that the study of political science should not be based on facts alone since facts and values are closely related to each other. Since the days of Plato and Aristotle "the great issues of politics" have revolved around the normative orientations. Accordingly there are a large number of traditional approaches like legal approach, philosophical approach, historical approach, institutional approach etc.

1) Philosophical Approach

The philosophical approach is concerned with the clarification of concepts used in a particular discipline. It is also aims at evolving "standards of right and wrong" for the purpose of a critical evaluation of the existing institutions, laws and policies.

Philosophical approach to the study of political science could be traced in the writings of ancient philosophers like Plato and Aristotle. Leo Strauss who was one of the ardent supporters of this approach of this approach believed that "the philosophy is the quest for wisdom and political philosophy is the attempt truly to know about the nature of political things and the right or good political order." This approach lays stress on ethical and normative study of politics and its idealistic in nature. It deals with the problems of nature and functions of state, issues of citizenship, rights and duties etc. Its themes are generally concerned with moral reasoning which cannot be subjected to scientific test.

(ii) Historical Approach: This approach believes that political phenomena could be understood better with the help of historical factors like age, place, situation etc. Political thinkers like Machiavelli, Sabine and Dunning believed that politics and history are intricately related and the study of politics always should have a historical perspective. Every past is linked with the present and thus the historical analysis provides chronological order of every political phenomenon.

The term 'historical approach' to politics may be used in two senses. Firstly, it may denote the process of arriving at the laws governing politics through an analysis of historical events, that is events of the past. Secondly, it is stated for an attempt at understanding



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ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORMAT

Name : Mr./Ms. Nido Sumita

ERN*/Roll No. : 20DEPOL030

Class : MA Second Year

Subject : Political Science

Paper : MAPOLS-501

Marked Obtained : _____

Instruction :

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(N.B.: ERN* - Enrolment Number)

Q1 :- What is Scientific approach? Discuss value-fact Dichotomy.

Ans :- An attempt was initiated to make the study of political analysis scientific. The philosophical tradition of political analysis gradually yielded to the scientific tradition of political analysis. ~~the~~ Emphasis was shifted from political norms values to political behaviour.

Scientific approach is an empirical approach of acquiring knowledge that has characterized the development of science since at least 17th century. It involves careful observation, applying rigorous skepticism about what is observed, given that cognitive assumptions can distort how one interprets the observation. It involves formulating hypotheses, via induction, based on such observations; experimental and measurement-based testing of deductions drawn from the hypothesis based on the experimental findings. These are principles of the scientific method, as distinguished from a definitive series of steps applicable to all scientific enterprises.

Though diverse models for the scientific method are available, there is in general a continuous process that includes observations about the natural world. people are naturally inquisitive, so they often come up with questions about things they see or hear, and they often develop ideas or hypotheses about why things are way they are.

Although procedures vary from one field of inquiry to another, they frequently the same from one to another.

Those who sought to make the study of political analysis scientific argued that for every analysis hypothesis could be verified on the basis of objective quantifiable data. In 1950s and 1960s, the study of politics assumed a new form called 'behaviouralism' or 'behavioural persuasion in politics'. This doctrine, making the theoretical development of the scientific tradition of the study of politics, made a big impact.

Below are the arguments that have been advanced against the claim that political analysis should be treated as a science:

- (i) Political scientists do not agree on its methods, principles and conclusions.
- (ii) Universally valid uniform principles or laws are lacking to political science. Laws are frequently described as the generalizations of natural sciences. However, those generalizations that are forwarded by social sciences, including political analysis, are often disputed. It is contended that they do not possess the same degree of certainty or universality. They are often called just 'tendencies' and not 'laws'.
- (iii) It is difficult to unearth the exact and definite views and conclusions when it comes to the political behaviour of man, which is unpredictable. predictability is a quality that generalizations in social sciences lack. This is a major characteristic of 'laws' of natural sciences because it makes forecasts about future developments possible.



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ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORMAT

Name : Mr./Ms. YAJUM MURI

ERN*/Roll No. : 20DEPOLOSI

Class : M.A 2nd year

Subject : MODERN Political Analysis

Paper : MAPOLS-SOI

Marked Obtained : _____

Instruction :

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what is Scientific approach? Discuss value-fact Dichotomy.

An attempt was initiated to make the study of political analysis scientific. The philosophical tradition of political analysis gradually yielded to the scientific tradition of political analysis.

Those who sought to make the study of political analysis scientific argued that for every analysis hypothesis could be verified on the basis of objective quantifiable data.

In 1950s and 1960s, the study of politics assumed a new form called 'behaviouralism' or 'behavioural persuasion in politics'. The doctrine, marking the theoretical development of the scientific tradition of the study of politics, made a big impact.

But before long it faced criticism and challenge. In 1970, a group of scholars argued that behaviouralism narrowed down the scope of political science and undermined its quality by ignoring the value or values and norms in the study of politics. They stood for going back to political values and norms without abandoning the scientific method of collecting and processing data. This new phase is

the study of politics has been known as political behaviouralism.

Below are the arguments that have been advanced against the claim that political analysis should be treated as a science:-

1. Political scientists do not agree on its methods, principles and conclusions.
2. Universally valid uniform principles or laws are lacking to political science. Laws are frequently described as the generalizations of natural sciences. However, those generalizations that are forwarded by social sciences, including political analysis, are often disputed. It is contended that they do not possess the same degree of certainty or universality. They are often called 'tendencies' and not 'laws'.
3. It is difficult to unearth the exact and definite views and conclusions when it comes to the political behaviour of man, which is unpredictable. Predictability is a quality that generalization in social sciences lack. This is a major characteristic of 'laws' of natural sciences because it makes forecasts about future develop



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ASSIGNMENT RESPONSE FORMAT

Name : Mr./Ms. Rumi Changmai
ERN*/Roll No. : 20DEPOLO37
Class : M.A 2nd Year
Subject : Pol science
Paper : 501
Marked Obtained : _____

Instruction :

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Ans1 scientific Approach.

↳ An attempt was initiated to make the study of political analysis scientific. The philosophical tradition of political analysis gradually yielded to the scientific tradition of political analysis.

Emphasis was shifted from political norms and values to political behaviour. Since late 19th century, behaviouralism has dominated the study of political analysis. However of late, emphasis on values in the study of political analysis has been revived. It is now realized that while scientific method is useful for studying politics, the study of politics would be directionless and meaningless if it does not aim at realizing some values. This renewed

emphasis on norms and values in studying politics has given birth to post-behaviouralism

Those who sought to make the study of political analysis scientific argued that for even analysis hypotheses could be verified on the basis of objective quantifiable data. In 1950s and 1960s, the study of politics assumed a new form called 'behaviouralism' or 'behavioural persuasion in politics'. This doctrine, marking the theoretical development of the scientific tradition of the study of politics, made a big impact. But before long it faced criticism and challenge. In 1970, a group of scholars argued that behaviouralism narrowed down the scope of political science and undermined its quality by ignoring the value or values and