

Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
First Semester 2023-2024
Comprehensive Examination

Course No : GS F211
Course Title : Modern Political Concepts
Nature of Exam : Closed Book
Weightage : 40
Total Marks : 40
Duration : 3 hrs
Date of Exam : 15/12/2023 (FN)

Answer the following questions. Keep in mind that you will be evaluated not only on your knowledge of the relevant literature but also on your ability to think independently and make a compelling argument. Focus on your arguments, not the word limit; hence, the latter is not mentioned. However, write the answers based on the marks distribution.

1. According to you, which one of the following is better, anarchy or tyranny, and why? How would the following philosophers respond to this question: Aristotle, Hobbes, and Locke? **(20 Marks)**

2. Rousseau has been an enigma and quite polarizing in the history of political philosophy. Discuss his General Will and explain how you would apply this concept in contemporary politics. **(10 Marks)**

3. “Civil society, the new frontiers of war, can be manipulated to hurt a nation’s interests.” What are your thoughts on this statement and why? Justify the answer through a critical engagement with the concept of civil society. **(10 Marks)**