



## KAUTILYA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

GITAM (Deemed to be University)  
Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal  
Hyderabad, Telangana 502329

<b>Course Code:</b> PPOL6771	<b>Course Title:</b> Emotions in State Behaviour	
<b>Trimester:</b> 2 & 5	<b>Course Type:</b> Elective	<b>Credits:</b> 3
<b>Home Program(s):</b> MPP	<b>Batch/Academic Year:</b> 2023-2025 & 2022-2024	
<b>Course Lead:</b> Dr. Kanica Rakhra	<b>Assigned T/RA:</b> Ms. Rituja Ghosh	

### Course Description

In public policy, state-to-state interaction has become more significant with the changing geo-political developments. While realist and constructivist approaches to understanding state relations have been the norm in academic and policy circles, there are many other factors that influence state decision making that lie outside or between the purview of these two spectrums. This course would give students an opportunity to understand different aspects of the State as an actor in International Politics and differentiate between national, ethnic and state identities.

Looking at concepts of sovereignty and rationality, and at the concept of the group versus individual in State behavior, the course would empower students to understand how emotions impact decision making. The course would explain the different types of emotions that impact decision making- from positive emotions such as trust, honor and hope to negative emotions such as guilt, humiliation, fear and anger. As upcoming public policy professionals, the course would assist in discerning how emotions impact state behavior and in turn decision making of states.

### Learning Objectives

1. Understand the difference between national, ethnic and state identities and their impact on public policy
2. Gain an overview of concepts such as rationality, irrationality, sovereignty and reason in State Behavior.
3. Learn the different emotions that have influenced and continue to shape State actors on the international stage.
4. Get theoretical clarity on concepts of social identity and comprehend the difference between the group and individual in State behavior.

## Course Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Differentiate between types of emotions prevalent in international politics and its impact on public policy.
2. Identify the state behavior as stemming from collective consciousness or individual actions.
3. Examine the current trends in geo-politics beyond the given paradigms of realism and constructivism.
4. Understand the nuances of state actions using the concepts of rationality, sovereignty and reason.

## Required Readings

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Verso Books, 1983.

Bloom, William, *Personal Identity, National Identity and International Relations*, Cambridge University Press, 1990

Hall, Todd H. *Emotional Diplomacy: Official Emotion on the International Stage*, Cornell University, 2015

Rythoven, Eric and Mira Sucharov. *Methodology and Emotion in International Relations: Parsing the Passions*, Routledge 2020

Hutchison, Emma. *Affective Communities in World Politics: Collective Emotions after Trauma*, Cambridge University Press 2016

## Course Schedule

Unit I	Sessions: 4	State Structures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● State as an Actor: Agency- Structure dichotomy</li> <li>● Treaty of Westphalia and the divide between the State and the Church</li> <li>● Nation - State or State- Nations</li> <li>● State Identity and the Sovereignty: Eating Grass</li> </ul>		
Unit II	Sessions : 4	Rationality and Emotions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Rational- Irrational debate in IR</li> <li>● Narratives of rationality: Axis of evil or the right side of history</li> <li>● Emotions and rational decision making</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use of Hubris in narrative building in current international landscapes</li> <li>● The State of Reason : Plato, Kant and Weber</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit III</b>	<b>Sessions: 5</b>	<b>Group vs. Individual in State Behaviour</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● State Representatives &amp; Emotional Diplomacy</li> <li>● Using emotions or acting out of Emotions</li> <li>● Social and State identity</li> <li>● Emotional Clusters and the Spectrum of Emotions</li> <li>● Understanding the need of collective consciousness in State decisions</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit IV</b>	<b>Sessions: 5</b>	<b>Negative Emotions in State</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Guilt: The Holocaust and its impact on Israel's FP</li> <li>● Humiliation: Aftereffects of War- The 1962, 1965 and 1971 wars in South Asia</li> <li>● Anger: Understanding Chinese reactions to Japanese invasions</li> <li>● Fear: Survival of the State structures</li> <li>● Trauma: 9/11 and its short and long term impact</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit V</b>	<b>Sessions : 4</b>	<b>Positive Emotions in State</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sympathy: Finding compassion in world politics; from bringing the 'other' on board to compassion fatigue</li> <li>● Hope: Leaders and their national/ international appeal</li> <li>● Trust: Repercussions of breaking trust- The Kargil War</li> <li>● Honor: Prestige, Status and 'Honor seeking' behavior of States</li> <li>● Lessons for Public Policy Making</li> </ul>		