

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The genesis of Pattamundai College dates back to the sixties of the last century, when its foundation was laid on 1st June, 1967, though it started functioning on 5th July 1970. This locality, a breadbasket of the district, turned proverbially backwards both socially and economically as it became the continual haunt of natural calamities like cyclone, flood and drought, as it is even now, and there was no scope at all for higher education, the obvious catalyst for socio-economic transformation. The only college at Kendrapara, some 20 km away and logistically disadvantageous for access, then had a limited scope to cater to the academic needs of the aspiring young college-goers of this vast locality. At this crucial juncture, a team of education enthusiasts and activists, comprising college students from Cuttack city and local activists and social gentry, came together to establish a college for the benefit of all concerned. Launched as an Arts college with only 128 students, it has grown to its present premier position with two other streams of science and commerce and 1500 students on its rolls, with 15 programs at the UG level. With an eventful history of 54 years and a picturesque sprawling campus of 16 acres, it is indeed a testimony to the dream and sacrifice of our predecessors. Its alumni, globally positioned today, are its identity markers, and this institution has been playing a pivotal role in the development of its satellite localities. Affiliated permanently to Utkal University, this college has been listed under 2(F) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, vouching for its academic standard and administrative acumen. The addition of new buildings, hostels, library, laboratories and playground over the years has not only given a new dimension to its infrastructure but also has facilitated the expansion of curricular and extra-curricular horizons. Quite ahead of its contemporaries, it has adopted new technology of ICT facilities, library automation, Wi-Fi campus, online classes, green initiatives, etc., by adopting the modern change to meet the expectations of its stakeholders.

VISION

The vision of the College is to provide high-quality, value-based higher education that fosters socio-economic transformation in the nation. To instill a sense of discipline and morality among the student community, and to make the students socially responsible citizens.

MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

The institution aspires to grow into a centre of excellence and a model of academic distinction at the university level. It is committed to providing literary, scientific, professional, and technical education to aspiring rural youth at an affordable cost. The college seeks to be

recognised for its proven capacity to deliver quality education across disciplines, including Science, Commerce, Arts, and the Humanities. It aims to establish a dynamic and mutually beneficial relationship with society by addressing emerging educational needs and introducing self-financing courses in multidisciplinary fields. Continuous measures are undertaken to enhance the quality and relevance of all academic programmes. The institution further strives to offer need-based, career-oriented courses that respond to societal demands, and to actively engage its Alumni in contributing to the holistic development of the college.

GENESIS OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Political Science as a major subject was established in Pattamundai College during the academic year 1979-80 with 16 sanctioned strengths of students. Subsequently, in the academic year 1991-92, it was converted to 32 seats and during the academic year 2016-17, it again increased to 40 seats. Currently, the department is functioning with four faculty members namely Mr Sarbeswar Sahoo, Head of the Department, Dr Nibedita Pradhan, Dr Simangini Das and Mrs Shubhashree Pothal. Apart from the classroom teaching, the department of Political Science provides special coaching for PG entrance tests and NET. Since its inception, the department has pioneered in providing quality education and has thus able to produce many scholars, intellectuals and educationists. The department not only imparts an updated model course curriculum as prescribed by Utkal University in the classroom, but also makes the students learn about social issues and community through various fieldwork. It is trying to outreach the society by undertaking research projects, organising extramural, state and national level seminars. Eminent Professors and distinguished scholars from different universities are invited to contribute to disseminating knowledge and experience to our students. The department maintains a positive relationship among the students, teachers and the administration, which creates a harmonious and welcoming learning environment for the students. It helps the students to increase their intellectual accomplishments and learning more effectively.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Democracy is not merely a system of governance but an evolving process that requires active citizen continuous participation, accountability, transparency and inclusiveness. In recent years, democratic institutions across the world have faced significant challenges such as political inequality, declining public trust, misinformation, and exclusion of marginalised voices. Simultaneously, new opportunities have emerged through digital platforms, grassroots movements, decentralised governance, and active civil society engagement.

This **Seminar** aims to critically explore the concept of *democratising democracy* by examining both the opportunities for democratic deepening and the challenges confronting democratic systems today. The seminar provides an academic platform for critical reflection and dialogue on deepening democratic practices and strengthening democratic institutions in the present context.

Sub-themes

1. Conceptual Perspectives on Democratising Democracy
2. Democracy Beyond Elections: Participation and Deliberation
3. Opportunities for Democratic Deepening
4. Challenges to Contemporary Democracy
5. Democracy, Inclusion, and Social Justice
6. Digital Democracy, Media, and Technology
7. Civil Society, Social Movements, and Democratic Engagement
8. Institutional Reforms and Democratic Accountability
9. Youth, Women, and Marginalised Groups in Democracy
10. Comparative and Global Perspectives on Democracy
11. Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Objectives

1. To understand the concept and significance of democratising democracy
2. To analyse emerging opportunities for participatory and inclusive governance
3. To identify key challenges affecting democratic institutions and practices.
4. To encourage academic discussion and a policy-oriented perspective
5. To analyse innovative democratic practices worldwide
6. To identify barriers to inclusive democracy
7. To discuss policy and institutional reforms for strengthening democracy

1. CALL FOR PAPER & GUIDELINES

Research Papers/Papers are invited in the form of original works from the researchers, teachers, research scholars, social workers and students on or before 10.01.2026. Two hard copies and one soft copy of the full paper are to be submitted. The medium of the research paper can be in English only in MS Word (Times Roman font size 12, having 1.5spacing). Authors are requested to follow strictly the specification given below, without which it would be very difficult to select papers for publication. Submission of Abstracts and the research paper should be submitted with the following information and in this order.

- **Title of Abstract**
- **Name and Designation of Author(s)**
- **Institutional affiliation**
- **E-mail address**
- **Mob- Number**

**Last date of submission
on or before 10.01.2026**

- **Body of Abstract**
- **Key Words alphabetically.**

The abstract should not exceed three hundred words (300 Words), and a full paper not more than three thousand words (3000 words).

Authors are requested to kindly send the abstracts and full papers through E-mail Id nibedita006@gmail.com or dsimangini@gmail.com.

CHIEF PATRON

Prof. Umakanta Patra, Principal, Pattamundai College

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

1. Mr Sarbeswar Sahoo, Reader in Political Science (HOD)
2. Dr Nibedita Pradhan, Lecturer in Political Science
3. Dr Simangini Das, Lecturer in Political Science
4. Mrs Shubhashree Pothal, Lecturer in Political Science

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Capt. Manoj Parida, Reader in Sociology
2. Dr Ramesh Kumar Sahoo, Reader in Physics
3. Dr Anjali Kumari Dash, Reader in Botany
4. Dr Sunil Kumar Pradhan, Reader in Chemistry
5. Mr Subhasis Mishra, IQAC Coordinator, Lecturer in Economics
6. Dr Manas Kumar Nayak, IQAC Joint Coordinator, Lecturer in English

Programme Convener

Mr Sarbeswar Sahoo

Reader in Political Science &HOD

Programme Co-conveners

1. Dr Nibedita Pradhan, Lecturer in Political Science
2. Dr Simangini Das, Lecturer in Political Science

3. Mrs Shubhashree Pothal, Lecturer in Political Science

4. Mr Ranjan Kumar Behera, Lecturer in Political Science, Olaver College, Olaver

INVITATION

Sir/Madam,

It gives us immense pleasure to inform you that the Department of Political Science, Pattamundai College, Pattamundai, Kendrapara, is going to organise a state-level seminar in Political Science on “***Democratising Democracy: Opportunities and Challenges***” on **17th January, 2026**, in the **Auditorium Hall** of the College.

So, we would like to invite you to participate and contribute research papers to this seminar.

Your presence and participation will make the occasion more meaningful and successful.

With Warm Regards.

Co Convener

Convener

Chief Patron /Principal

Dr Nibedita Pradhan

Mr Sarbeswar Sahoo

Prof. Umakanta Patra

Dr Simangini Das

HOD Political Science

Principal

Mrs Shubhashree Pothal

Mr Ranjan Kumar Behera

You May Reach Out

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