

B.A. Part- I Semester II

Foundation Course IV

Environmental Studies

Credits: 4

Lectures: 60

Marks: 100

Objectives: To bring about an awareness of a variety of environmental concerns.

To create a pro-environmental attitude and a behavioral pattern which is based on creating sustainable lifestyles.

To achieve a total behavioral change in student community.

Course content	Credits	Lectures	Marks
I) The Multidisciplinary Nature of Environmental Studies (2 lectures)	Unit-	Unit-	Unit-
a) Definition, Scope and Importance	I	I	I
b) Need For Public Awareness	II	II	II
II) Natural Resources (8 lectures)	III =	III =	III =
Renewable And Non-Renewable Resources	I	15	25
Natural resources and associated problems.	credit	lectures	marks
a. Forest Resources: Use and over-exploitation, deforestation, case studies. Timber extraction, mining, dams and their effects on forests and tribal people			
b. Water Resources: Use and over-utilisation of surface and ground water, floods, drought, conflicts over water, dams – benefits and problems.			
c. Mineral Resources: Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources, case studies.			
d. Food Resources: World food problems, Changes caused by agriculture and grazing, Effects of modern agriculture, Fertilizer/ pesticide problems, Water logging and salinity case studies.			
e. Energy Resources: Increasing energy needs, Renewable/ non renewable, Use of Alternate energy sources, Case studies			
f. Land resources: Land as a resource, land degradation, man induced land-slides, soil erosion and desertification.			
- Role of an Individual in Conservation of Natural Resources			
- Equitable Use of Resources for Sustainable Lifestyles			



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<p>III) Ecosystems (5 lectures) Concept of an Ecosystem Structure and Functions of an Ecosystem Producers, Consumers and Decomposers Energy Flow in the Ecosystem Ecological Succession Food Chains, Food Webs and Ecological Pyramids Introduction, Types, Characteristic Features, Structure and Functions of the following ecosystem: a) Forest Ecosystem b) Grassland Ecosystem c) Desert Ecosystem d) Aquatic Ecosystems (Ponds, Lakes, Streams, Rivers, Estuaries, Oceans)</p>			
<p>IV) Biodiversity and its conservation (7 lectures) Introduction – Definition: Genetic, Species & Ecosystem Diversity Biogeographical Classification of India Value of Biodiversity: Consumptive, Productive Use, Social, Ethical, aesthetic and option values. Biodiversity at Global, National and Local Levels . India as a Mega Diversity Nation Hot-spots of Biodiversity Threats to Biodiversity: Habitat Loss, Poaching of Wildlife, Man-Wildlife Conflicts. Endangered and Endemic Species of India Conservation of Biodiversity: In-Situ And Ex-Situ situation.</p>	<p>Unit- IV & V = 1 credit</p>	<p>Unit- IV & V = 15 lectures</p>	<p>Unit- IV & V = 25 marks</p>
<p>V) Environmental Pollution (8 lectures) Definition Causes, Effects and Control Measures of: Air Pollution Water Pollution Soil Pollution Marine Pollution Noise Pollution Thermal Pollution Nuclear hazards Solid Waste Management: Causes, Effects and Control Measures of Urban and Industrial Wastes. Role of Individuals in Prevention of Pollution. Pollution Case Studies Disaster Management: Floods, Earthquakes, Cyclones, Landslides</p>			



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VI) Social Issues and the Environment <i>(9 lectures)</i>	Unit-	Unit-	Unit-
From Unsustainable to Sustainable Development	VI	VI	VI
Urban Problems related to Energy	&	&	&
Water Conservation, Rain Water Harvesting, Watershed Management.	VII=	VII =	VII =
Resettlement and Rehabilitation of People; its Problems and Concerns Case Studies.	1	15	25
Environmental Ethics: Issues and Possible Solutions	credit	lectures	marks
Climate Change, Global Warming, Acid Rain, Ozone			
Layer Depletion, Nuclear Accidents and Nuclear			
Holocaust. Case Studies.			
Wasteland Reclamation			
Consumerism and Waste Products			
Environment Protection Act			
Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 194			
Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 196			
Wildlife Protection Act 197			
Forest Conservation Act 199			
Issues involved in Enforcement of Environmental			
Legislation			
Public Awareness			
VII) Human Population and the Environment <i>(6 lectures)</i>			
Population Growth, Variation Among Nations.			
Population Explosion – Family Welfare Program.			
Environmental and Human Health.			
Human Rights			
Value Education: Environmental Values, Valuing Nature,			
Valuing cultures, Equitable use of Resources			
Role of Information Technology in Environment and			
Human Health			
VIII) Field Work	1	15	25
Visit to a Local area to document Environmental Assets-	credit	lectures	marks
River/Forest/Grasslands/Hill/Mountain.			
Visit to a Local Polluted Site.			
Study of Common Plants, Insects, Birds.			
Study of Simple Ecosystems- pond, river, hill slopes, etc.			




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