

BA.LL.B (HONS.) – V SEMESTER

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

COURSE CODE:

Course Objective: The main objective of this Course is to know the nature and role of individuals and Society in protecting the Environment in the industrial and technological advancement context. It is important to know the dynamics of science and technological developments in the global context of environment protection.

Course Outcomes:

1. To understand the evolution and growth of the discipline of Environmental studies.
2. Learning of basic principles and approaches of Environment Management
3. To Understand environmental theory and concepts from multiple perspectives
4. To acquaint with the functioning of the various bodies to protect environment, at central, state and local levels and the responses of these systems in addressing the concerns of the people
5. To Understand the interface of theory and practice in Environment protection

UNIT-I: The multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies: Definition, scope and importance, Need for public awareness; Natural Resources: Renewable and non-renewable resources, Natural resources and associated problems, Role of an individual in conservation of natural resources, Equitable use of resources for sustainable lifestyles.

UNIT- II: Ecosystems: Concept of an ecosystem, Structure and function 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 function of the following ecosystem: Forest ecosystem, Grassland ecosystem, Desert ecosystem, Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, ocean estuaries)

UNIT-III: Biodiversity and its conservation: Introduction – Definition: genetic, species and ecosystem diversity, Bio geographical classification of India, Value of biodiversity: consumptive use, 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 conservation of biodiversity

Unit IV: Environmental Pollution: Definition, Causes, effects and control measures of: Air pollution, Water pollution, Soil pollution, Marine pollution, Noise pollution, Thermal pollution, Nuclear pollution, Solid waste management: Causes, effects and control measures of urban and industrial wastes, Role of an individual in prevention of pollution, Pollution case studies, Disaster management: floods, earthquake, cyclone and landslides

UNIT-V: Social Issues and the Environment. From unsustainable to sustainable development, Urban problems and related to energy, Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management, Resettlement and rehabilitation of people; its problems and concerns Case studies, Environmental ethics: Issues and possible solutions

Text Books:

1. Mahua Basu, "Fundamentals of Environmental Studies"

References:

1. Rachel Carson, "Silent Spring", (Penguin Modern Classics)
2. Martin J. Ossewaarde, "Introduction to Sustainable Development"
3. Elizabeth Kolbert, "The Nature of the future under a white sky"