

B.A. (H) Sociology
Discipline Specific Core (DSC) 18
Environmental Sociology

Discipline Specific Core Course -18 (Dsc-18): Environmental Sociology

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSC 18 Environmental Sociology	4	3	1	0	12th Class Pass	BA (H) DSC 01 Introduction to Sociology Or equivalent course

Learning Objectives:

1. The course will enable students to reflect on *environment* as an object of sociological inquiry.
2. The course will develop analytical thinking on the linkages between society and the environment from a sociological standpoint.
3. To develop an awareness of the character of causality in environmental sociology and expose students to critical debates on the role of humans in ecological crises.
4. The course will enhance the capacity to examine the social consequences and responses to ecological crises with the help of case studies.

Learning outcomes:

Students will be able to:

1. Understand the dynamic between natural and social worlds from a sociological perspective.
2. Identify and grasp the fundamental principles and core theoretical debates of the discipline.

3. Apply a sociological perspective on environment and contribute to research endeavours or public policy conversations that assess the causes, effects and possible solutions to environmental problems.
4. Examine the intertwining issues of ecology and inequity and address the questions of environmental justice and ethics.

SYLLABUS OF DSC-18: Environmental Sociology

Unit 1: Basic Concepts in Environmental Sociology (12 Hours)

This unit introduces the basic concepts and themes in environmental sociology necessary to develop a holistic perspective.

- a. What is Environmental Sociology?**
- b. Mainstream Ideas in Environmentalism**
- c. Indian Environmentalism**

Unit 2: Social Theory and the Environment (21 Hours)

This unit exposes students to the intersectionality of the environment with social processes and institutions.

- a. Theorising the Environment**
- b. Intersectionality and Environment**
- c. Social Ecology**

Unit 3: Social Responses to Environmental Disruption (12 Hours)

This unit examines the social responses to ecological crises through new issues of livelihood and experiments in sustainable living.

- a. Environmental Justice**
- b. Alternative Engagements**

Practical Component: NIL

Essential/Recommended Readings:

Unit 1: Basic Concepts in Environmental Sociology

- a. What is Environmental Sociology?**

Chung-En Liu, J. and Mayerfeld Bell, M. (2017). 'Environmental Sociology'. In Kathleen O. Korgen (Ed.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Sociology: Core Areas in Sociology and the Development of the Discipline*, Vol. 1. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 435-444.

- b. Mainstream Ideas in Environmentalism**

Dunlap, Riley E. (2010). 'The Maturation and Diversification of Environmental Sociology: From Constructivism and Realism to Agnosticism and Pragmatism'. In Michael R. Redclift and G. Woodgate (Eds.), *International Handbook of Environmental Sociology*, 2nd Ed. Cheltenham. UK: Edward Elgar. Pp. 15-32.

c. Indian Environmentalism

Gadgil, M and Guha, R (1995) Ideologies of Environmentalism. In Madhav Gadgil and Ramachandra Guha , *Ecology and Equity: The Use and Abuse of Nature in Contemporary India*. London : Routledge. Chapter 4. Pp.98-112

Chapple, Christopher K. (1998). 'Toward an Indigenous Indian Environmentalism'. In Lance E. Nelson (Ed.), *Purifying the Earthly Body of God: Religion and Ecology in Hindu India*. Albany, USA: State University of New York Press. Pp. 13-38.

Unit 2: Social Theory and the Environment

a. Theorising the Environment

Barbosa, Luiz C. (2009). 'Theories in Environmental Sociology'. In Kenneth A. Gould and Tammy L. Lewis (Ed.), *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 25-44.

Cordner, Alissa (2021). 'Risk'. In Beth S. Caniglia, et al. (Eds.), *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*. Switzerland: Springer. Pp. 167-187.

Agarwal, Bina, (2007). 'The Gender and Environment Debate: Lessons from India'. In Mahesh Rangarajan. (Ed.), *Environmental Issues in India: A Reader*. New Delhi: Pearson, Longman. Pp. 316-324, 342-352.

b. Intersectionality and Environment

Ergas, Christina, McKinney, Laura and Bell, S. Elizabeth (2021). 'Intersectionality and the Environment'. In Beth S. Caniglia, et al. (Eds.), *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*. Switzerland: Springer. Pp. 15-30.

Sharma, Mukul (2017). 'Eco-casteism: Sulabh and the Denial of Dalit Existence'. In Mukul Sharma, *Caste and Nature: Dalits and Indian Environmental Politics*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 1-22.

c. Social Ecology

Mukerjee, Radhakamal (1994). 'An Ecological Approach to Sociology'. In Ramchandra Guha (Ed.), *Social Ecology. Oxford in India Readings in Sociology and Social Anthropology*. Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 22-26.

Unit 3: Social Responses to Environmental Disruption

a. Environmental Justice

Maung, Rebecca and Pellow, David. N. (2021). 'Environmental Justice'. In Beth S. Cagnilia, et al. (Eds.) *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*. Switzerland: Springer Pp. 35-47.

Lewis, Tammy L. (2009). 'Environmental Movements in the Global South'. In Kenneth A. Gould and Tammy L. Lewis (Ed.), *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 244-254.

Sangvai, S. (2007). 'The Tragedy of Displacement'. In Mahesh Rangarajan (Ed.), *Environmental Issues in India: A Reader*. New Delhi: Pearson/Longman. Pp. 437-443.

b. Alternative Engagements

Leahy, Terry (2021). 'What is Permaculture? Three Perspectives' in *The Politics of Permaculture*. London: Pluto Press. Pp. 1-23.

Suggested Readings:

Guha, R and Martinez-Alier, J (2006). *Varieties of Environmentalism: Essays North and South*. London: Earthscan

Baviskar, A. (1995). *In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts Over Development in the Narmada Valley*. Delhi, New York: Oxford University Press.

Bell, Michael M. (2008). *An Invitation to Environmental Sociology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Divan, S. and Rosencranz, A. (2022). *Environmental Law and Policy in India: Cases and Materials*. US: Oxford University Press.

Vasan, S. (2006). *Living with Diversity: Forestry Institutions in the Western Himalaya*. India: Indian Institute of Advanced Study.

Hannigan, J. (1995). *Environmental Sociology*. London and New York: Routledge.

Schnaiberg, A. (1980). *The Environment: From Surplus to Scarcity*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Shiva, V. (1988). *Women In Nature*. In *Staying Alive: Women Ecology and Development*. New Delhi: Zed Books

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

Category II