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Resolution No. 38 {38-1 [38-1-3(10)]}

INDEX

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

SEMESTER – II

B.Sc (Hons.) in Environment Science

COURSES OFFERED BY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Category-I

Environmental Science Courses for Undergraduate Programme of study with Environmental Science as a Single Core Discipline

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 4 (DSC-EVS-4): WATER AND WATER RESOURCES

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		
WATER AND WATER RESOURCES	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	NA

Learning objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- Gain insights into the hydrological cycle, properties of water, physico-chemical and biological
- Understand parameters and indies of water quality
- Classify types of water resources and thus develop practices for their sustainable use and management
- Investigate problems associated with water shortages in India and familiarize with case studies on international and national conflicts on water.

Learning outcomes

After this course, students will be able to learn the following skills.

- Acquire skills to identify potential water resources in a given region and manage existing water resources
- Analyze data on water resources to understand the current environmental challenge and prevent the future ones
- Make informed decisions on using and choosing appropriate methods for water resource management and develop nature-based methods to improve the health of water bodies
- Develop low-cost methods for purifying drinking and natural water
- Correlate water resource management practices with socio-economic challenges and prospects

- Relate and interpret the data on water resources data with other related sustainability challenges

SYLLABUS OF DSC-4

Theory (02 Credits: 30 lectures)

UNIT – I Introduction (1 Week) (2 lectures)

Sources and types of water; hydrological cycle; precipitation, runoff, infiltration, evaporation, evapo- transpiration; classification of water resources (oceans, rivers, lakes and wetlands).

UNIT – II Properties of water (2 Weeks) (4 lectures)

Physical: temperature, colour, odour, total dissolved solids and total suspended solids; Chemical: major inorganic and organic constituents, dissolved gases, DO, COD, BOD, acidity and alkalinity, electrical conductivity, sodium adsorption ratio; Biological: phytoplankton, phytobenthos,zooplankton, macro-invertebrates and microbes.

UNIT – III Surface and subsurface water (3 Weeks) (6 lectures)

Introduction to surface and ground water; surface and ground water pollution; water table; vertical distribution of water; formation and properties of aquifers; techniques for ground water recharge; river structure and patterns; watershed and drainage basins; importance of watershed and watershed management; rain water harvesting in urban settings.

UNIT – IV Wetlands and their management (2 Weeks) (4 lectures)

Definition of a wetland; types of wetlands (fresh water and marine); ecological significance of wetlands; threats to wetlands; wetland conservation and management; Ramsar Convention, 1971;major wetlands of India.

UNIT –V Marine resource management (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)

Marine resources; commercial use of marine resources; threats to marine ecosystems and resources; marine ecosystem and resource management (planning approach, construction techniques and monitoring of coastal zones).

UNIT – VI Water resources in India (2 Weeks) (4 lectures)

Demand for water (agriculture, industrial, domestic); overuse and depletion of surface and ground water resources; water quality standards in India; hot spots of surface water; role of state in water resources management.

UNIT –VII Water resource conflicts (2 Weeks) (4 lectures)

Water resources and sharing problems, case studies on Kaveri and Krishna River water disputes; Multipurpose River valley projects in India and their environmental and social impacts; case studies of dams; Narmada and Tehri dam – social and ecological losses versus economic benefits; International conflicts on water sharing between India and her neighbours; agreements to resolve these conflicts.

UNIT – VIII Major laws and treaties (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)

National water policy; water pollution (control and prevention) Act 1972; Indus water treaty; Ganges water treaty; Teesta water treaty; National River linking plan: ecological and economic impacts.

Practicals/Hands-on Exercises – based on theory (02 Credits: 60 hours)

1. Estimate water quality based on physico-chemical parameters, such as pH, electrical conductivity, salinity, total dissolved and suspended solids, iron contents, and dissolved oxygen
2. Classify and characterize aquifers of Indian states and analyse "Safe" and "Over-exploited" zones of two states based on groundwater use.
3. Determine alkalinity, alkalinity hazard and SAR of water samples and recommend their use for various purposes.
4. Identify and map water resources in NCT Delhi and correlate its current status with changing land use in past 60 years
5. Estimate sediment load in Yamuna River at different sections of its course in Delhi regions
6. Assess water quality (pH, TDS, TH, EC, BOD, Heavy Metals) and determine the water portability of samples collected from different sites of NCT Delhi.
7. Conduct an online survey to assess people's knowledge, perception and attitude towards water quality issues and their impact on the environment and health.
8. Analyze water conservation strategies in North-eastern and Western states of India from the data available from State Government Agencies.
9. Document and compare water conservation strategies in different agroclimatic zones of India
10. Analyze watershed management strategies in selected river basins of India.
11. Develop integrated water management strategies for two contrasting river basin of India.

Teaching and learning interface for theoretical concepts

To achieve the course objectives and match with the contents, a wide range of teaching and learning tools will be employed, including (a) Formal lectures; (b) Interactive sessions using visual aid; (c) Case study analyses; (d) Hypothetical scenario building; (e) Group discussion on key topics; and (f) documentary screening and critical analyses.

Essential/recommended readings

- McNabb, D.E., 2017. *Water Resource Management: Sustainability in An Era of Climate Change*. Springer.
- Loucks, D.P., Stedinger, J.R. & Haith, D. A. 1981. *Water Resource Systems Planning andAnalysis*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ, Prentice Hall.
- Brebbia, C.A. 2013. *Water Resources Management VII*. WIT Press.
- CEA. 2011. *Water Resources and Power Maps of India*. Central Board of Irrigation & Power.
- Bogardi, J.J., Gupta, J., Nandalal, K.W., Salamé, L., van Nooijen, R.R., Kumar, N., Tingsanchali, T., Bhaduri, A. and Kolechkina, A.G. eds., 2021. *Handbook of Water Resources Management: Discourses, Concepts and Examples*. Springer International Publishing.
- de Oliveira Vieira, E., Sandoval-Solis, S., de Albuquerque Pedrosa, V. and Ortiz-Partida, J.P., 2020. *Integrated Water Resource Management*. Springer International Publishing.
- Garg, V., Singh, V.P. and Raj, V. eds., 2017. *Development of Water Resources in India*. Springer International Publishing.
- Grigg, N.S., 2016. *Integrated Water Resource Management: An interdisciplinary Approach*. Springer.
- Mimikou, M.A., Baltas, E.A. and Tsihrintzis, V.A., 2016. *Hydrology and Water Resource Systems Analysis*. CRC Press.
- Vickers, A. 2001. *Handbook of Water Use and Conservation*. WaterPlow Press.

Suggestive readings

- Bansil, P.C. 2004. *Water Management in India*. Concept Publishing Company, India.
- Hidalgo, M.E.A., 2013. A Decision Framework for Integrated Wetland-River Basin Management in a Tropical and Data Scarce Environment: UNESCO-IHE PhD Thesis. CRC Press.
- Information Resources Management Association (Editor) (2017). *Hydrology and Water Resource Management: Breakthroughs in Research and Practice*, 1st edition IGI Global.
- Mays, L.W. 2006. *Water Resources Sustainability*. The McGraw-Hill Publications.
- McNabb, D.E., 2017. *Water Resource Management: Sustainability in An Era of Climate Change*. Springer.
- Schward & Zhang, 2003. *Fundamentals of Groundwater*. John Willey and Sons.
- Souvorov, A.V. 1999. *Marine Ecologonomics: The Ecology and Economics of Marine Natural Resource Management*. Elsevier Publications.

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

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 5 (DSC-EVS-5): LAND AND SOIL: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

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		
LAND AND SOIL: CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	NA

Learning objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- Gain insights into fundamentals of land and soil degradation
- Understand deeply the properties of soil and how the quality of land and soil degrades due to anthropogenic activities
- Develop solutions to combat land and soil degradation based on natural processes

Learning outcomes

After this course, students will be able to

- Acquire skills in managing soil and land sustainably
- Analyze data on soils and land use to identify the principal factor(s) governing sustainability
- Develop methods to address environmental issues related to soil health and changing land use
- Correlate positive or negative impacts of soil and land use on ecosystems and society
- Relate and interpret the soil and land use data with the sustainability of a region
- Use soil and land use data to develop evidence-based land use guidelines

SYLLABUS OF DSC-2

Theory (02 Credits: 30 lectures)

UNIT – I Introduction (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)

Land as a resource, soil health; ecological and economic importance of soil; types and causes of soil degradation; impact of soil loss and soil degradation on agriculture and food security; need for soil conservation and restoration of soil fertility.

UNIT – II Fundamentals of soil science (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Soil formation; classification of soil; soil architecture; physical properties of soil; soil texture; soil water holding capacity; soil temperature; soil colloids; soil acidity and alkalinity; soil salinity and sodicity; soil organic matter; micronutrients of soil; nitrogen, sulphur, potassium and phosphoruseconomy of soil; soil biodiversity; soil taxonomy maps.

UNIT – III Soil degradation – causes (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Soil resistance and resilience; nature and types of soil erosion; non-erosive and erosive soil degradation; losses of soil moisture and its regulation; nutrient depletion; soil pollution due to mining and mineral extraction, industrial and urban development, toxic organic chemicals, and organic contaminants in soils; fertilizers and fertilizer management; recycling of soil nutrients.

UNIT – IV Landuse changes and land degradation (3½ Weeks) (7 lectures)
Land resources: types and evaluation; biological and physical phenomena in land degradation; visual indicators of land degradation; drivers of land degradation - deforestation, desertification; habitat loss, loss of biodiversity; range land degradation; land salinization; human population pressure, poverty, socio-economic and institutional factors; drivers of land use and land cover change in major geographic zones and biodiverse regions with particular reference to the Himalaya and the Western Ghats.

UNIT – V Costs of land degradation (3½ Weeks) (7 lectures)
Economic valuation of land degradation; onsite and offsite costs of land degradation; loss of ecosystem services; effects on farming communities; effects on food security; effects on nutrient cycles; future effects of soil degradation; emerging threats of land degradation to developing countries.

UNIT – VI Controlling land degradation (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)
Sustainable land use planning; role of databases and data analysis in landuse planning control and management; land tenure and land policy; legal, institutional and sociological factors; participatory land degradation assessment; integrating land degradation assessment into conservation.

Teaching and learning interface for theoretical concepts

To achieve the course objectives and match with the contents, a wide range of teaching and learning tools will be employed, including (a) Formal lectures; (b) Interactive sessions using visual aid; (c) Case study analyses; (d) Hypothetical scenario building; (e) Group discussion on key topics; and (f) documentary screening and critical analyses.

Practicals/Hands-on Exercises – based on theory (02 Credits: 60 hours)

1. Determine and assess soil texture, color, structure, water, and temperature using the jar test and soil textural triangle. Discuss and describe the soil profiles for different types of ecosystems.
2. Characterize the given soil samples for the proportion of soil particle size fractions.
3. Determine bulk density, moisture content, and water holding capacity of garden soil and compare it with other soil types
4. Estimate variations in pH, alkalinity, acidity, and salinity of the given soil sample. Establish the relationship between soil quality and crop productivity.
5. Evaluate given soils samples for soil organic matter contents and comment on their productivity
6. Calculate permeability of soil samples and comment on its impact on plant growth
7. Separate minerals using the selective dissolution method
8. Estimate PO_4-P of soils using ammonium molybdate reactions by spectrophotometric analysis
9. Estimate SO_4-S contents of soils by titrating with the barium chloride solution
10. Extract, investigate and interpret soil health data (micronutrient status, macronutrient status, and pH) for Northern, Western, and North-Eastern states of India. For the selected states, discuss the various soil types, agriculture practices, cropping patterns, crop production, conservation, and management strategies.
11. Extract, investigate and interpret the available datasets on soil maps, soil databases, and land degradation maps for India and draw suitable inferences. Conduct a perception-based study on the importance of soils and various impacts of soil and land degradation through an online survey.
12. Assessment of fertilizer management and integrated nutrient management practices for selected crops in India.

Teaching and learning interface for practical skills

To impart training on technical and analytical skills related to the course objectives, a wide range of learning methods will be used, including (a) laboratory practicals; (b) field-work exercises; (c) customized exercises based on available data; (d) survey analyses; and (e) developing case studies; (f) demonstration and critical analyses; and (h) experiential learning individually and collectively.

Essential/recommended readings

- Brady, N.C. & Well, R.R. 2007.*The Nature and Properties of Soils* (13th edition), Pearson Education Inc.
- Hazelton, P. and Murphy, B., 2021. *Understanding Soils in Urban Environments*. CSIRO publishing.
- Johnson, D.L. 2006. *Land Degradation* (2nd edition). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- Kutz, M., 2018. *Handbook of Environmental Degradation of Materials*. William Andrew.
- Mir, B.A., 2021. *Manual of Geotechnical Laboratory Soil Testing*. CRC Press.

- Pansu, M. and Gautheyrou, J., 2007. *Handbook of Soil Analysis: Mineralogical, Organic and Inorganic Methods*. Springer Science & Business Media.
- Peterson, G. D., Cumming, G. S. & Carpenter, S. R. 2003. Scenario planning: a tool for conservation in an uncertain world. *Conservation Biology* 17: 358-366.

Suggestive readings

- Fahad, S., Sonmez, O., Saud, S., Wang, D., Wu, C., Adnan, M. and Turan, V. eds., 2021. *Sustainable Soil and Land Management and Climate Change*. CRC Press.
- Jones, J.B., 2001. *Laboratory Guide for Conducting Soil Tests and Plant Analysis*. CRC press.
- Loconto, P.R., 2022. *Laboratory Experiments in Trace Environmental Quantitative Analysis*. CRC Press.
- Marsh, W. M. & Dozier, J. 1983. *Landscape Planning: Environmental Applications*. John Wileyand Sons.
- Patnaik, P., 2017. *Handbook of Environmental Analysis: Chemical Pollutants in Air, Water, Soil, and Solid Wastes*. CRC Press.

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

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 6 (DSC-EVS-6): ECOLOGY AND ECOSYSTEMS

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		
ECOLOGY AND ECOSYSTEMS	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	NA

Learning objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- Develop an understanding of ecosystems and their structural and functional aspects
- Reveal interconnectedness and interdependentness among all the biotic and abiotic components of the environment
- Gain insights into the dynamic nature of the ecological processes in maintaining equilibrium in nature.

Learning outcomes

After this course, students will be able to

- Acquire skills in ecological census techniques
- Analyze the status of biodiversity and ecosystem structure
- Develop methods to assess the changes in ecosystems with time and space
- Correlate effects of anthropogenic factors on ecosystem stability
- Relate and interpret the connections between environmental factors and ecosystem changes
- Use ecological data to predict the impact of a given factor on ecosystem and biodiversity

SYLLABUS OF DSC-6

Theory (02 Credits: 30 lectures)

UNIT – I Introduction (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)

Basic concepts and definitions: ecology, landscape, habitat, ecozones, biosphere, ecosystems, ecosystem stability, resistance and resilience; autecology; synecology; major terrestrial biomes.

UNIT – II Ecology of individuals (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Ecological amplitude; Liebig's Law of the Minimum; Shelford's Law of Tolerance; phenotypic plasticity; ecotypes; ecoclines; acclimation; ecological niche; types of niches: Eltonian niche, Hutchinsonian niche, fundamental niche, realized niche; niche breadth; niche partitioning; niche differentiation; thermoregulation; strategies of adaptation in plants and animals.

UNIT – III Ecology of populations (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Concept of population and meta-population; r- and K-selection; characteristics of population: density, dispersion, natality, mortality, life tables, survivorship curves, age structure; population growth: geometric, exponential, logistic, density-dependent; limits to population growth; deterministic and stochastic models of population dynamics; ruderal, competitive and stress-tolerance strategies.

UNIT – IV Ecology of communities (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Discrete versus continuum community view; community structure and organization: physiognomy, sociability, species associations, periodicity, biomass, stability, keystone species, ecotone and edge effect; species interactions: mutualism, symbiotic relationships, commensalism, amensalism, protocooperation, predation, competition, parasitism, mimicry, herbivory; ecological succession: primary and secondary successions, models and types of successions, climax community concepts, examples of succession.

UNIT – V Ecosystem ecology (2½ Weeks) (5 lectures)
Types of ecosystem: forest, grassland, lentic, lotic, estuarine, marine, desert, wetlands; ecosystem structure and function; abiotic and biotic components of ecosystem; ecosystem boundary; ecosystem function; ecosystem metabolism; primary production and models of energy flow; secondary production and trophic efficiency; ecosystem connections: food chain, food web; detritus pathway of energy flow and decomposition processes; ecological efficiencies; ecological pyramids: pyramids of number, biomass, and energy.

UNIT – VI Biogeochemical cycles and nutrient cycling (2 Weeks) (4 lectures)
Carbon cycle; nitrogen cycle; phosphorus cycle; sulphur cycle; hydrological cycle; nutrient cycle models; ecosystem input of nutrients; biotic accumulation; ecosystem losses; nutrient supply and uptake; role of mycorrhizae; decomposition and nutrient release; nutrient use efficiency; nutrient budget; nutrient conservation strategies.

UNIT – VII Biological invasions (1½ Weeks) (3 lectures)
Concept of exotics and invasives; natural spread versus man-induced invasions; characteristics of invaders; stages of invasion; mechanisms of invasions; invasive pathways; impacts of invasion on ecosystem and communities; invasive ecogenomics – role of polyploidy and genome size in determining invasiveness; economic costs of biological invasions.

Teaching and learning interface for theoretical concepts

To achieve the course objectives and match with the contents, a wide range of teaching and learning tools will be employed, including (a) Formal lectures; (b) Interactive sessions using visual aid; (c) Case study analyses; (d) Hypothetical scenario building; (e) Group discussion on key topics; and (f) documentary screening and critical analyses.

Practicals/Hands-on Exercises – based on theory (02 Credits: 60 hours)

1. Using and choosing quadrat types for vegetation analyses
2. Carry out vegetation analysis using line-transect techniques
3. Estimate the populations of aquatic beetles and bugs in ponds by the mark-capture method
4. Conduct bird surveys in your college/nearby garden using the point transect method
5. Determine the variations in abundance of micro-, meso-, and macrofauna in soils of different land use
6. Estimate the diversity of species within a community or habitat and comment on alpha diversity
7. Analyze the rate and extent of change in species along a gradient from one habitat to others and comment on beta diversity
8. Considering the analyses of practicals 6 and 7, estimate the gamma diversity and comment.
9. Prepare and interpret the species accumulation curve for the total species richness of an area

10-13 Compare and classify communities for (a) similarity and differences, (b) influential environmental variables, (c) interspecific association

Teaching and learning interface for practical skills

To impart training on technical and analytical skills related to the course objectives, a wide range of learning methods will be used, including (a) laboratory practicals; (b) field-work exercises; (c) customized exercises based on available data; (d) survey analyses; and (e) developing case studies; (f) demonstration and critical analyses; and (h) experiential learning individually and collectively.

Essential/recommended readings

- Gurevitch, J., Scheiner, S. M., & Fox, G. A. 2020. *The Ecology of Plants. 3rd Ed.* Sinauer associatesincorporated.
- Henderson, P.A., 2009. *Practical Methods in Ecology*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Jorgensen, S.E. ed., 2009. *Ecosystem Ecology*. Academic press.
- Morin, P.J., 2009. *Community Ecology*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Odum, E.P. 1971. *Fundamentals of Ecology*. W.B. Sounders.
- Rockwood, L.L., 2015. *Introduction to Population Ecology*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Sutherland, W.J. ed., 2006. *Ecological Census Techniques: A Handbook*. Cambridge university press.

Suggestive readings

- Groom. B. & Jenkins. M. 2000. *Global Biodiversity: Earth's Living Resources in the 21st Century.* World Conservation Press, Cambridge, UK.
- Loreau, M. & Inchausti, P. 2002. *Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning: Synthesis and Perspectives.* Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
- Pastor, J., 2008. Mathematical Ecology of Populations and Ecosystems. John Wiley & Sons.
- Pimentel, D. (Ed.). 2011. *Biological invasions: Economic and Environmental Costs of Alien Plant, Animal, and Microbe Species*. CRC Press.
- Ranta, E., Lundberg, P. and Kaitala, V., 2005. Ecology of Populations. Cambridge University Press.
- Wilson, E. O. 1985. The biological diversity crisis. *BioScience* **35**: 700-706.

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