

GE-7: Geoheritage and Geotourism (L3, T1)

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course GE-5

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
GE-7 Geoheritage and Geotourism	4	3	1	0	12 th Pass	Nil

Learning Objectives

This course aims to:

- Consider strategies to sample, understand, and address geoconservation and geotourism issues.
- Develop the skills and knowledge to: Conduct and curate (geo) heritage inventories, Assess prospective sites for geotouristic and geoeducational purposes, Propose new geotouristic experiences and Develop materials for geoconservation and geotourism consumers and operators
- Offer an applied learning experience where students learn to combine and optimize tourism potential of spectacular geological features.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Learn, distinguish, and identify potential geological sites of tourist interest.
- Recognize and assess: Spectacular geosites such as geomorphic landforms and structural features; Intrinsic geosites including major time boundaries, fossil sites, large igneous provinces (LIPs), transgressions, and regressions
- Understand the economic aspects of geotourism.
- Learn to link geospots with other tourist destinations to develop thematic geotourism experiences.

THEORY

(45 Hours)

UNIT – I

(9 Hours)

Geodiversity, Geoheritage, Geoconservation and their relationship to geotourism. Concept of geoheritage in relation to other historical heritages, Tourism and its different forms and their interrelations, Geotourism: definition, characteristics and international/national perspectives, Eco-tourism and Geo-tourism, Defining the geoheritage sites and the concept of Geoheritage parks (UNESCO guidelines). Geographical context and contemporary geoheritage challenges, Geoheritage inventory of India and its curation context, legal framework of geoheritage, Relevance of geoheritage to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

UNIT – II

(9 hours)

Education as a key tenet of geotourism and Earth Science Education & Geotourism

Geoheritage and public geoliteracy: opportunities for effective geoscience education within geosites Earth Science Museums and their role in promotion of Geotourism

Examples of Geotourist sites from India - e.g. Glacier features, Ox-bow lakes, Deltas etc.

UNIT – III

(10 Hours)

Geotourism, Society and Sustainability: Public–private partnership framework for sustainable geopark development. Geotourism—a focus on the urban environment including historical Geotourism. Geotourism and cultural heritage. Potential of Geotourism in Economic development of any region. Role of Tourism sector in terms of world economy/ Indian economy. Role of Geotourism in Tourism industry with special reference to Indian scenario Entrepreneurship and start-up.

UNIT – IV

(17 Hours)

Geotourism and geoparks: UNESCO Global Geoparks and Geoconservation

Geo site developed by Geological Survey of India. The application of geographical information systems in geotourism. Geotourism potential of the Indian geoheritage sites- societal and economic context including case studies

Geoheritage in Indian Context: Study of Geological Map of India

Plotting the established geosites, geoparks and geo monuments of India on map.

Plotting geosites, geoparks and geo monuments on map of World. Detailed study of geosites of India- Locality, Approach, Geological importance and foot fall. Five Case studies from India where geosites can be developed.

Tutorial

(15 hours)

Students in different batches or groups will be given exercises to prepare shorts reports about the life evolution and extinction through different geological times on Earth.

Essential/recommended readings

- T.A. Hose (Ed.) (2016). Appreciating Physical Landscapes: Three Hundred Years of Geotourism, Geological Society Special Publication No. 417, London.
- Thomas A. Hose (Ed.) (2016). Geoheritage and Geotourism- a European Perspective, Boydell Press Woodbridge, UK
- Ross Dowling & David Newsome (Eds) (2018). Handbook on Geotourism, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- A monograph on National Geoheritage Monuments of India. Indian National Trust for Art
- and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) Natural Heritage Division, New Delhi (2016).
- National Geological Monuments. Geological Survey of India, Kolkata, Special Publication No.6 1(2001)

- Kale, V.S. (ed.) (2014). Landscapes and Landforms of India, Springer, Dordrecht.
- C. V. Burek and C.D. Prosser (Eds.) (2008) History of Geoconservation Special Publication 300, Geological Society of London

Suggestive readings

- Young C.Y. Ng. & Yunting Lu (2015). The Principles of Geotourism, Anze Chen, (Springer).
- Dowling, R. & Newsome, D. (Eds) (2018). Handbook on Geotourism, Edward Elgar Publishing.
- National Geological Monuments. (2001) Geological Survey of India, Kolkata, Special Publication No.61
- Burek, C.V. & Prosser, C.D. (Eds.) (2008). History of Geoconservation Special Publication 300, Geological Society of London.
- Santangelo, N. and Valente, E. (Eds.) (2020). Geoheritage and Geotourism Resources, MdpiAG