

**Common Pool of Generic Electives (GE) Courses  
Offered by Department of Environmental Studies**

*Category - IV*

**GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE-1)**

**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
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
<b>ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Pass</b>	<b>NIL</b>

**Learning Objectives**

- Examine the relationship between the environment and society
- Enable students to understand and appreciate the role played by environment, society, and, their interface in shaping environmental decisions
- Think critically on environmental issues and different solutions
- Learning outcomes

**Learning outcomes**

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

**SYLLABUS OF GE-1**

**UNIT – I Introduction (4 hours)**

Social and cultural construction of ‘environment’; environmental thought from historical and contemporary perspective in light of the concepts of Gross Net Happiness and Aldo Leopold’s Land Ethic

**UNIT – II Issues in Environmentalism (4 hours)**

Significant global environmental issues such as acid rain, climate change, and resource depletion; historical developments in cultural, social and economic issues related to land, forest, and water management in a global context; interface between environment and society.

**UNIT – III Development -Environment Conflict (4 hours)**

Developmental issues and related impacts such as ecological degradation; environmental pollution; development-induced displacement, resettlement, and rehabilitation: problems, concerns, and compensative mechanisms; discussion on Project Affected People (PAPs).

**UNIT- IV Urbanization and environment (4 hours)**

Production and consumption oriented approaches to environmental issues in Indian as well as global context; impact of industry and technology on environment; urban sprawl, traffic congestion and social-economic problems; conflict between economic and environmental interests.

### **UNIT – V Environment and Social Inequalities (4 hours)**

Inequalities of race, class, gender, region, and nation-state in access to healthy and safe environments; history and politics surrounding environmental, ecological and social justice; environmental ethics, issues and possible solutions.

### **UNIT – VI Regulatory Framework (4 hours)**

Brief account of Forest Conservation Act 1980 1988; Forest Dwellers Act 2008; Land Acquisition Act 1894, 2007, 2011, 2012; Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013

### **UNIT- VII Community participation (6 hours)**

State, corporate, civil society, community, and individual-level initiatives to ensure sustainable development; case studies of environmental movements (Appiko Movement, Chipko Movement, Narmada Bachao Andolan); corporate responsibility movement; appropriate technology movement; environmental groups and movements, citizen groups; role played by NGOs; environmental education and awareness.

### **Practical component (if any) - (60 hours)**

1. Analyse the cultural construction of the environment in a country of your choice
2. Compare and contrast the perception of the environment in countries with varying levels of environmental quality
3. Critically evaluate the developmental status and type of environmental issues across societies from region within a country and different countries.
4. Determine the socio-demographic and industrial characteristics of a region and correlate them with the environmental issues of that region?
5. Identify the relationship between societies varying in cultures and environment and analyse the role of economic factors in changing the relationship over time
6. Show any relationship between natural resource use and changing population dynamics of the community
7. Evaluate the pattern of natural resource use by people and their likelihood of participating in the conservation of natural resources
8. Demonstrate any pattern between the resources use and population dynamics, industrial activities, and employment generation in a given region
9. Analyse attitudes, knowledge, and values towards an environmental resource of a population or stakeholder and what trade-off is the public willing to make for conservation of the resource.
10. Determine access to resources across members of a society and suggest measures for equitable sharing of resources or associated benefits, if required.
11. Select an environmental policy/regulation and identify its impact on society over time.

### **Suggestive readings**

1. Cárdenas, J.C., 2009. Experiments in environment and development. *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 1(1), pp.157-82.
2. Chokkan, K.B., Pandya, H. & Raghunathan, H. (eds). 2004. *Understanding Environment*. Sagar Publication India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
3. Elliot, D. 2003. *Energy, Society and Environment, Technology for a Sustainable Future*. 30 Routledge Press.
4. Ioris, A.A.R. ed., 2021. *Environment and Development: Challenges, Policies and Practices*. Springer Nature.
5. Leopold, A. 1949. *The Land Ethic*. pp. 201-214. Chicago, USA.