
SEMESTER II

4 Papers**Total 100 x 4 = 400 Marks****I. ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COMPULSORY COURSE (AECC)**

(Credits: Theory-02)

Marks : 100 (ESE: 3Hrs) =100**Pass Marks Th ESE = 40***Instruction to Question Setter for**End Semester Examination (ESE):*

*There will be **objective type test** consisting of hundred questions of 1 mark each. Examinees are required to mark their answer on **OMR Sheet** provided by the University.*

AECC – ENVIRONMENT STUDIES**Theory: 30 Lectures****Unit 1 : Introduction to environmental studies**

Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies;

Scope and importance; Concept of sustainability and sustainable development.

(2 lectures)**Unit 2 : Ecosystems**

What is an ecosystem? Structure and function of ecosystem; Energy flow in an ecosystem: food chains, food webs and ecological succession. Case studies of the following ecosystems :

Forest ecosystem

Grassland ecosystem

Desert ecosystem

Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries)

(2 lectures)**Unit 3 : Natural Resources : Renewable and Non--renewable Resources**

Land resources and landuse change; Land degradation, soil erosion and desertification.

Deforestation: Causes and impacts due to mining, dam building on environment, forests, biodiversity and tribal populations.

Water : Use and over--exploitation of surface and ground water, floods, droughts, conflicts over water (international & inter--state).

Energy resources : Renewable and non renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources, growing energy needs, case studies.

(5 lectures)**Unit 4 : Biodiversity and Conservation**

Levels of biological diversity : genetic, species and ecosystem diversity; Biogeographic zones of India; Biodiversity patterns and global biodiversity hot spots

India as a mega--biodiversity nation; Endangered and endemic species of India

Threats to biodiversity : Habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man--wildlife conflicts, biological invasions; Conservation of biodiversity : In--situ and Ex--situ conservation of biodiversity.

Ecosystem and biodiversity services: Ecological, economic, social, ethical, aesthetic and Informational value.

(5 lectures)

Unit 5 : Environmental Pollution

Environmental pollution : types, causes, effects and controls; Air, water, soil and noise pollution

Nuclear hazards and human health risks

Solid waste management : Control measures of urban and industrial waste.

Pollution case studies.

(5 lectures)

Unit 6 : Environmental Policies & Practices

Climate change, global warming, ozone layer depletion, acid rain and impacts on human communities and agriculture

Environment Laws: Environment Protection Act; Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act; Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act; Wildlife Protection Act; Forest

Conservation Act. International agreements: Montreal and Kyoto protocols and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Nature reserves, tribal populations and rights, and human wildlife conflicts in Indian context.

(4 lectures)

Unit 7 : Human Communities and the Environment

Human population growth: Impacts on environment, human health and welfare.

Resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected persons; case studies.

Disaster management : floods, earthquake, cyclones and landslides.

Environmental movements : Chipko, Silent valley, Bishnois of Rajasthan.

Environmental ethics: Role of Indian and other religions and cultures in environmental conservation.

Environmental communication and public awareness, case studies (e.g., CNG vehicles in Delhi).

(3 lectures)

Unit 8 : Field work

Visit to an area to document environmental assets: river/ forest/ flora/fauna, etc.

Visit to a local polluted site--Urban/Rural/Industrial/Agricultural.

Study of common plants, insects, birds and basic principles of identification.

Study of simple ecosystems--pond, river, Delhi Ridge, etc.

(Equal to 4 lectures)