

## DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 15 (DSC-EVS-15): NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

### 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-EVS-15: NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	NA

#### Learning objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- Gain insights into the principles and practices of natural resources management and sustainability
- Understand critical linkages among social, economic, and environmental issues related to natural resources management and sustainability
- Impart analytical and critical thinking skills related to natural resources management and sustainability
- Equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and implement sustainable solutions to natural resource management challenges
- Prepare students for careers in natural resource management, environmental policy, sustainability, and related fields

#### Learning outcomes

After this course, students will be able to

- Analyze the socio-economic, and environmental issues related to natural resource management
- Explain the key principles and practices of natural resource management and sustainability.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of natural resource management and sustainability policies and practices and develop sustainable solutions
- Communicate effectively about natural resource management and sustainability issues to a variety of audiences.
- Assess the environmental impacts of natural resource management and sustainability practices and apply ecological, economic and ethical principle to natural resource management and sustainability issues

- Pursue careers in natural resource management, environmental policy, sustainability, and related fields.

## **SYLLABUS OF DSC-EVS-15**

Theory (02 Credits: 30 lectures)

### **UNIT – I Natural resources and reserves and their management**

**(3½ Weeks)** (7 lectures)

Classification of natural resources, Renewable and non-renewable resources, Land resources; Soil resources, Forest resources, food resources, Water resources; Fisheries and other marine resources; energy resources; mineral resources; resource availability and factors influencing its availability; human impact on natural resources; Resource degradation; Resource conservation; Concept of natural resource management, Relationship between natural resource management and sustainability, Stakeholders and natural resource management, Social and economic dimension of resource management, Role of science and technology in natural resource management, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and natural resources.

### **UNIT –II Land Use and Management**

**(2 Weeks)** (4 lectures)

Land use and land cover change, Land use planning and management, Land degradation and desertification, Soil conservation and management, Agroforestry and sustainable agriculture, Urbanization and land use, Land rights, Land use conflict and resolution

### **UNIT – III Mineral resources**

**(3 Weeks)** (6 lectures)

Mineral resources: definition, types, rock cycle, significance in society and importance economic development, Mineral extraction and processing: types of mining, techniques, methods, waste management, and social and environmental impacts, Global consumption patterns of mineral resources, techniques to increase mineral resource supplies; ocean mining for mineral resources, Mineral markets and economics, Mineral governance and policy, Sustainable mineral resource management, Future of mineral resources

### **UNIT – IV Non-renewable and renewable energy resources (3½ Weeks)** (7 lectures)

Oil, coal natural gas liquified natural gas: formation, reserve, exploration, extraction and processing, and consumption; Environmental and economic impacts of non-renewable energy consumption;

Solar energy, hydropower, geothermal energy, tidal energy, wave energy, ocean thermal energy, nuclear power, biomass and biofuel: technology, potential, operational costs, advantages, challenges, innovation and future; Radioactive contamination; Application of green technology; India's efforts and its global impacts on solar mission, Indian renewable energy programme, Future energy options and challenges.

### **UNIT – V Resource management for sustainability (3 Weeks)** (6 lectures)

Approaches in Resource Management: ecological, economic, and ethnological, Implications of integrated resource management; Climate Change and Energy Management: energy sources, efficiency and conservation, carbon capture and storage;

Urban Ecosystems: energy efficiency, transportation, industry, and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; Energy policy and governance.

#### 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. Identify, classify and assess the status of different tree species in a given ecosystems and recommend appropriate management strategies
2. Investigate the effects of different land management practices on soil erosion to understand how to prevent soil degradation and protect natural resources
3. Test the water quality of given water samples collected from two water bodies and suggest appropriate management practices
4. Survey and document the socio-economic and ecological importance of plant species sampled from a local ecosystem
5. Assess the current status of plant species prioritized in practical 4 and recommend the appropriate conservation and management practices
6. Calculate and interpret the ecological footprint of a community or organization using the Ecological Footprint Standards.
7. Conduct energy audits of buildings or facilities using standard methods such as the ASHRAE Level I, II, or III Energy Audits.
8. Analyze stakeholders to identify and engage with key stakeholders in natural resources management and sustainability.
9. Conduct life cycle assessment of products or processes using standard methods such as the ISO 14040/14044 standards
10. Document agricultural research priorities of India and comment on its importance as sustainable agricultural practices for natural resource management and food security
11. Develop and implement a sustainable plan for water resource management of your institute
12. Assess the environmental impacts of mining activities in India during past 10 years and identify the shift in trend, if any
13. Analyze mineral/energy resource policies in a national or global context to understand the importance of sustainable mineral resource management.
14. Extract bioenergy from organic waste or crops to understand the importance of renewable energy sources and their management.

#### 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

- Cleveland, C. J. (2018). Biophysical economics: From physiocracy to ecological economics and industrial ecology. Routledge.
- Folke, C., Österblom, H., Jouffray, J. B., Lambin, E. F., & Adger, W. N. (Eds.). (2020). For ocean sustainability: Challenges, opportunities, and the role of science-policy interaction. Cambridge University Press.
- Mitchell, B. (2019). Resource efficiency and sustainable production: A handbook for achieving sustainability in manufacturing. Springer.
- Reed, M. G. (2021). Environmental and natural resource economics: A contemporary approach. Routledge.
- Varghese, J. (2019). Resource management for sustainable development. Springer.

### Suggestive readings

- Agyeman, J. (Ed.). (2020). Sustainability: A handbook for management and leadership. Routledge.
- Daly, H. E. (Ed.). (2017). Valuing the Earth: Economics, ecology, ethics. MIT Press.
- Norton, B. G. (2018). Sustainability: A philosophy of adaptive ecosystem management. University of Chicago Press.
- Westman, W. E. (Ed.). (2018). How much is enough? Shaping the defense program, 1961-1969. Routledge.
- Wright, T. (2020). Sustainable communities and urban housing: A comparative analysis of self-help housing practices in the United States and Mexico. Routledge.

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