

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 17 (DSC-EVS-17): ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION & POLICY

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-17: ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION & POLICY	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	NA

Learning objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- Provide an overview of the key environmental laws, regulations, and policies of India and world
- Examine the role of government agencies, stakeholders, and the public in the environmental policy-making process.
- Explore the historical development and contemporary challenges of environmental policy and its implementation.
- Analyze the impact of environmental policies on environmental quality, public health, and social justice.

Learning outcomes

After this course, students will be able to

- Describe the key environmental laws, regulations, and policies of India and world, including their history and objectives
- Analyze the roles of government agencies, stakeholders, and the public in the environmental policy-making process, and understand the challenges and opportunities in policy implementation
- Evaluate the effectiveness of environmental policies in achieving their intended outcomes, including their impacts on environmental quality, public health, and social justice
- Communicate their understanding of environmental policy issues and solutions to a variety of audiences, including policymakers, stakeholders, and the public.

SYLLABUS OF DSC-EVS-17

Theory (02 Credits: 30 lectures)

UNIT – I Introduction (3½ Week) (7 lectures)

Constitution of India; fundamental rights; fundamental duties; Union of India; union list, state list, concurrent list; legislature; state assemblies; judiciary; panchayats and

municipal bodies; National Green Tribunal.

UNIT – II History of environmental legislation and policy (2½ Week) (5 lectures)

Ancient period: worship of water, air, trees; Mauryan period: Kautilya's Arthashastra, Yajnavalkyasmṛiti and Charaksaṃhita; Medieval period: forests as woodland and hunting resources during Mughal reign; British India: Indian Penal Code 1860, Forest Act 1865, Fisheries Act 1897; Independent India: Van Mahotsava 1950, National Forest Policy 1952, Orissa River pollution and prevention Act 1953.

UNIT – III Environmental legislation (2½ Week) (5 lectures)

Legal definitions (environmental pollution, natural resource, biodiversity, forest, sustainable development); Article 48A (The protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and wildlife); Article 51 A (Fundamental duties).

UNIT – IV Legislative Instruments (1½ Week) (3 lectures)

The Indian Forest Act 1927; The Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972; The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974; The Forests (Conservation) Act 1980; The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981; The Environment (Protection) Act 1986; Motor Vehicle Act 1988; The Public Liability Insurance Act 1991; Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules 2000; The Biological Diversity Act 2002; The Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act 2006; The National Green Tribunal Act 2010; Scheme and labeling of environment friendly products, Ecomarks.

UNIT – V India's recent efforts (1½ Week) (3 lectures)

Namami Gange Programme 2014, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture 2014, Smart Cities Mission 2015, Plastic Waste Management Rules of 2016, National Policy on Marine Fisheries of 2017, National Clean Air Programme 2019, Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2019, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 2.0, EIA Notification 2020, National Biodiversity Act of 2022.

UNIT – VI Government institutions and case studies (2 Week) (4 lectures)

Role of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change in environmental law and policy making; role of central and state pollution control boards in environmental law and policy making.

National Green Tribunal: Aditya N Prasad vs. Union of India & Others; Ganga Tanneries Case: M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India 1988; Environmental education case: M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India, WP 860/1991.

UNIT – VII International laws and policy (3 Week) (6 lectures)

Stockholm Conference 1972; Ramsar Convention, Montreal Protocol 1987; United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 1992; Rio de Janeiro (Rio Declaration, Agenda 21); Kyoto Protocol 1997; Copenhagen and Paris Summits; The Sustainable Development Goals 2015, and The Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments 2019,

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. Conduct a stakeholder analysis of an environmental policy issue in your community to understand the range of interests and perspectives of stakeholders in environmental policy-making
2. Analyze a recent environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposed development project
3. Develop a compliance checklist for a specific environmental regulation to understand the key requirements of an environmental regulation and ensure compliance
4. Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of a proposed environmental policy
5. Develop a communications plan for an environmental advocacy campaign
6. Analyze a landmark environmental court case and its implications for policy-making
7. Develop a policy brief on an emerging environmental issue. Aim to effectively communicate the key facts and policy options related to an emerging environmental issue
8. Analyze the policy-making process for a recent environmental regulation to understand the key stages and actors involved in environmental policy-making
9. Conduct a comparative analysis of environmental policies in two different countries
10. Analyze the role of civil society in environmental policy-making, especially of non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders
11. Conduct a stakeholder analysis of issues of climate change or biodiversity loss, or marine conservation

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

- Alexander, L. (2018). Environmental law: Cases and materials. West Academic

Publishing.

- Christoff, P. (2018). Fourteen environmental reformers: Speaking up for nature. Routledge.
- Donnelly, K. (2019). Environmental law, policy, and economics: Reclaiming the environmental agenda. Routledge.
- Fisher, E. (2019). Environmental law: A very short introduction. Oxford University Press.
- Hird, J. A. (2019). Pollution, politics, and international law: Tankers at sea. Routledge.
- Lavanya, R. (2021). Environmental law in India: An introduction to legal principles, policy and practice. Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Menon, M. K. (2020). Environmental law and policy in India. Springer.

Suggestive readings

- Bhaskar, V. (2019). Environmental law and policy in India: Trends, issues and challenges. Springer.
- Fisher, E. (2018). Regulating chemicals: Law, science, and the unbearable burdens of regulation. Routledge.
- Gunningham, N. (2015). Smart regulation: Designing environmental policy. Oxford University Press.
- Kramer, R., & Leape, J. (Eds.). (2018). Legal and policy tools for the transition to sustainable societies: Regional pathways to green economy. Routledge.
- Sutherland, E. H. (Ed.). (2020). Handbook of international environmental law (2nd ed.). Edward Elgar Publishing.

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