

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 8: Bryophytes, Pteridophytes and Gymnosperms

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		
Bryophytes, Pteridophytes and Gymnosperms DSC – 8	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass	Nil

Learning Objectives:

- Provide a deep understanding of morphology, anatomy, reproduction and developmental biology of these unique groups of non-flowering plants.
- Enhance understanding of diversity, economic value, taxonomy in representative members of phylogenetically important groups.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- identify and describe the group of plants that have given rise to land habit and the flowering plants.
- comprehend various phenological stages of the plants belonging to the sub-groups – bryophytes, pteridophytes and gymnosperms.

Unit 1: Bryophytes

9 hours

Origin of bryophytes through green algal ancestor; Morphology and Reproduction of *Marchantia*, *Anthoceros* and *Funaria* with fertilization & spore dispersal mechanism (excluding developmental stages). Progressive sterilization of sporogenous tissue; Ecological and economic importance of bryophytes with special reference to *Sphagnum*.

Unit 2: Pteridophytes

9 hours

Fossil pteridophytes (*Rhynia*). Morphology and Reproduction of *Selaginella*, *Equisetum* and *Pteris* (excluding developmental stages). Apogamy and apospory; Heterospory and seed habit; Stellar evolution. Economic importance.

Unit 3: Gymnosperms

9 hours

Morphology, Stem anatomy (significance of transfusion tissue) and Reproduction of *Cycas*, *Pinus* and *Gnetum* (excluding developmental stages and secondary growth). Economic importance.

Unit 4: Recent Advances**3 hours**

Model systems (*Physcomitrella*, *Ceratopteris*, *Ephedra*) and their applications in genetic, molecular and evolutionary studies.

Practicals:**60 hours**

1. *Riccia* – Morphology: Vegetative and reproductive structures (Specimen).
2. *Marchantia* - Morphology; V.S. of thallus through Gemma cup, whole mount of Gemmae (temporary slides); V.S. of Vegetative thallus, Antheridiophore, Archegoniophore, L.S. of Sporophyte (permanent slides).
3. *Pellia* - Morphological details through specimens/permanent slides; L.S. Sporophyte (permanent slide).
4. *Porella* - Vegetative Morphological details through specimens/permanent slides.
5. *Anthoceros* – Morphology; Dissection of sporophyte (to show stomata, spores, pseudoelaters, columella) (temporary slide), V.S. of thallus (permanent slide).
6. *Funaria* - Morphology; T.S. Stem (temporary and permanent slides both); Sporophyte: operculum, peristome, spores (temporary slides); Antheridial and archegonial heads, L.S. of capsule, W.M. of protonema (Permanent slides).
5. *Psilotum* – Morphology (specimen); T.S. of rhizome, stem and synangium (permanent slides).
6. *Selaginella* – Morphology (specimen); W.M. of leaf with ligule, T.S. of stem, L.S. of strobilus, W.M. of microsporophyll, megasporophyll (temporary slides); T.S. of rhizophore (permanent slide).
7. *Equisetum* – Morphology (specimen), T.S. of internode, L.S. of strobilus, T.S. of strobilus, W.M. of sporangiophore, W.M. of spores (wet and dry) (temporary slide).
8. *Pteris* - Morphology, T.S. of rachis, V.S. of sporophyll (temporary slides), T.S. of rhizome, W.M. of prothallus with sex organs and young sporophyte (permanent slide).
9. *Cycas* – Morphology, T.S. of coralloid root, T.S. of rachis, V.S. of leaflet, V.S. of microsporophyll, W.M. of spores (temporary slides); T.S. of stem, T.S. of root, L.S. of ovule (permanent slide).
10. *Pinus* - Morphology, T.S. of Needle, L.S. and T.S. of male cone, W.M. of microsporophyll (temporary slides); T.S. of stem, R.L.S. and T.L.S. of stem, L.S. of female cone (permanent slide).
11. *Gnetum* - Morphology (stem, male & female cones); T.S. of stem, L.S. of ovule (permanent slide).

12. Botanical Excursion and submission of digital catalogue/report of various species observed.

Suggested readings:

1. Bhatnagar, S.P., Moitra, A. (2023). Gymnosperms. 2nd edition, New Delhi, Delhi: New Age International (P) Ltd Publishers.
2. Kaur I.D., Uniyal P.L. (2019). Text Book of Gymnosperms. New Delhi, Delhi: Daya Publishing House.
3. Kaur I.D., Uniyal P.L. (2019). Text Book of Bryophytes. New Delhi, Delhi: Daya Publishing House.
4. Kaur I.D. (2023). Text Book of Pteridophytes. New Delhi, Delhi: Daya Publishing House.
5. Parihar, N.S. (2019). An Introduction to Embryophyta. Vol. II: Pteridophyta. Surjeet Publications.

Additional Resources:

1. Campbell, N.A., Reece J.B., Urry L.A., Cain M.L., Wasserman S.A., Minorsky P.V., Jackson, R.B. (2020). Biology. San Francisco, SF: Pearson Benjamin Cummings.
2. Raven, P.H., Johnson, G.B., Losos, J.B., Singer, S.R., (latest edition). Biology. New Delhi, Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.
3. Singh, H. (1978). Embryology of Gymnosperms. Berlin, Germany. GebruderBorntraeger.
4. Vashishta, P.C., Sinha, A.K., Kumar, A. (2022). Botany For Degree Students Pteridophyta, New Delhi, Delhi: S. Chand Publication. Delhi, India.
5. Vashishta, B.R., Sinha, A.K., Kumar, A. (2010). Botany For Degree Students, Bryophyta. New Delhi, Delhi: S Chand Publication.
6. Parihar, N.S. (1965). An Introduction to Embryophyta. Vol. I: Bryophyta. Allahabad, UP: Central Book Depot.
7. Puri, P. (1973). Bryophytes. New Delhi, Delhi, Atma Ram and Sons.

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