



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

GURUPADA SAREN
SECRETARY
COUNCILS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA.

SENATE HOUSE
Kolkata – 700 073.
Phone : 2241-0071-74,
2241-0077-78, 2241-4989-90,
2241-2850-51, 2241-2859
Fax : 91-033-2241-3222
E-mail : u.g.councilsc.u@gmail.com
Website : www.caluniv.ac.in

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Dated the 16th May, 2018

To
The Principals/T.I.C.
of all the Undergraduate Colleges
affiliated to the University of Calcutta

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is to inform you that the **draft Syllabus for Environmental Studies (Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC-2) under CBCS** has been uploaded in the Calcutta University website (www.caluniv.ac.in).

The said syllabus has been prepared by the **U.G. Board of Studies in Environmental Studies, C.U.**, will be implemented from the academic session 2018-2019.

You are requested kindly to go through it and send your feedback within 25th May, 2018.

In this regard you may send your observation/ suggestion to the **Department of U.G. Councils, C.U.** or through email (u.g.councilsc.u@gmail.com), and you also may contact **Prof. Punarbasu Chaudhuri, Department of Environmental Science, C.U.** through e-mail (pcenvs@caluniv.ac.in or punarbasu_c@yahoo.com).

Your cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated. Kindly treat the matter as urgent.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


Secretary

University of Calcutta

Under Graduate Curriculum under Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

Syllabus for Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course-2 (AECC-2) in **Environmental Studies**

Semester-2

Total Marks-100(Credit -2)

(50 Theory-MCQ type + 30 Project + 10 Internal Assessment + 10 Attendance)

[Marks obtained in this course will be taken to calculate SGPA & CGPA]

Theory

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|---|------------|
| Unit 1 Introduction to environmental studies | 2 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies;•Scope and importance; Concept of sustainability and sustainable development. | |
| Unit 2 Ecology and Ecosystems | 6 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Concept of ecology and ecosystem, Structure and function of ecosystem; Energy flow in an ecosystem; food chains, food webs; Basic concept of population and community ecology; ecological succession.•Characteristic features of the following:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Forest ecosystemb) Grassland ecosystemc) Desert ecosystemd) Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, wetlands, rivers, oceans, estuaries) | |
| Unit 3 Natural Resources | 8 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concept of Renewable and Non-renewable resources• Land resources and land use change; Land degradation, soil erosion and desertification.•Deforestation: Causes, consequences and remedial measures•Water: Use and over-exploitation of surface and ground water, floods, droughts, conflicts over water (international & inter-state).•Energy resources: Environmental impacts of energy generation, use of alternative and nonconventional energy sources, growing energy needs. | |
| Unit 4 Biodiversity and Conservation | 8 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•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. | |
| Unit 5 Environmental Pollution | 8 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental pollution: concepts and types,• Air, water, soil, noise and marine pollution- causes, effects and controls• Concept of hazardous waste and human health risks• Solid waste management: Control measures of Municipal, biomedical and e-waste. | |

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|---|---------------------|
| Unit 6 Environmental Policies and Practices | 7 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Climate change, global warming, ozone layer depletion, acid rain and their impacts on human communities and agriculture •Environment Laws: Wildlife Protection Act; Forest Conservation Act. Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act; Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act; Environment Protection Act; Biodiversity Act. •International agreements: Montreal Protocol, Kyoto protocol and climate negotiations; Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). •Protected area network, tribal populations and rights, and human wildlife conflicts in Indian context. | |
| Unit 7 Human Communities and the Environment | 6 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Human population growth: Impacts on environment, human health and welfare. •Case studies on Resettlement and rehabilitation. • Environmental Disaster: Natural Disasters-floods, earthquake, cyclones, tsunami and landslides; Manmade Disaster- Bhopal and Chernobyl. •Environmental movements: Bishnois, Chipko, Silent valley, Big dam movements. •Environmental ethics: Role of gender and cultures in environmental conservation. •Environmental education and public awareness | |
| Project/ Field work | Equal to 5 lectures |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Visit to an area to document environmental assets: Natural resources/flora/fauna, etc. •Visit to a local polluted site-Urban/Rural/Industrial/Agricultural. •Study of common plants, insects, fish, birds, mammals and basic principles of identification. •Study of ecosystems-pond, river, wetland, forest, estuary and agro ecosystem. | |
| Total | 50 Lectures |

Suggested Reading:

Asthana, D. K. (2006). *Text Book of Environmental Studies*. S. Chand Publishing.

Basu, M., Xavier, S. (2016). *Fundamentals of Environmental Studies*, Cambridge University Press, India

Basu, R. N., (Ed.) (2000). *Environment*. University of Calcutta, Kolkata

Bharucha, E. (2013). *Textbook of Environmental Studies for Undergraduate Courses*. Universities Press.

De, A.K., (2006). *Environmental Chemistry*, 6th Edition, New Age International, New Delhi.

Mahapatra, R., Jeevan, S.S., Das, S. (Eds) (2017). *Environment Reader for Universities*, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi.

Masters, G. M., & Ela, W. P. (1991). *Introduction to environmental engineering and science*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Odum, E. P., Odum, H. T., & Andrews, J. (1971). *Fundamentals of ecology*. Philadelphia: Saunders.

Sharma, P. D., & Sharma, P. D. (2005). *Ecology and environment*. Rastogi Publications.