

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur



Name of the Faculty: All Faculty

As per NEP-2020 New Structure

Value Education Course (VEC):

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

(Syllabus to be implemented w.e.f. June 2024)

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur

All Undergraduate (UG) Program with CBCS: Second Semester

VEC-Environmental Studies

Syllabus is framed as per UGC Model Curriculum and University Guidelines for implementation of NEP-2020.

- 1) **Title of the Paper:** Environmental Studies
- 2) **Pattern:** Semester
- 3) **Total Contact Hours:** 30 hours (2 Credits)

Structure for Syllabus of VEC: Environmental Studies

Class & Semester	Type and Name of the Course paper		Credits	Contact Hrs	Marks		
	Type	Name			IA/CA	UA	Total
All UG First Year: II Semester	Value Education Course (VEC)	Environmental Studies	2	30	20	30	50

Nature Visits / Field Work / Field Tour/ Industrial visits of one day with handwritten report of individual student may also be conducted under internal evaluation/assessment.

4) Evaluation Scheme:

Theory paper has 50 marks out of which 30 marks will be for Term End Examination and 20 marks for College/Internal Assessment. Hence the candidate must appear for both internal evaluation (College Assessment) of 20 marks and external evaluation (University Assessment) of 30 marks.

A) Internal Evaluation (College Assessment):

Internal assessment of 20 marks shall be based on Internal tests, Home assignment, Tutorials, Open Book examination, Seminars, Group discussion, Brain storming sessions etc. Apart from this, Nature Visits/Field Work/Field Tour/Industrial visits of one day with handwritten report of **individual student** may also be conducted under internal evaluation/assessment method. Some of are:

- 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, dam, pond, ocean / marine etc.

B) External Evaluation (University Assessment):

Nature of Theory question paper:

- 1) Theory paper is of 30 marks.
- 2) Question paper nature/pattern is as per credits prescribed by Punyashlok Ahilyadevi

Holkar Solapur University, Solapur

Learning Objectives:

1. To know the importance of environment and various issues in environment.
2. To test the knowledge and understanding of the students in the field of environmental science.
3. To inculcate the positive approach in the students towards environment and ecology from the social perspective.
4. To develop scientific, interpretive and creative thinking skills in the students about environment.
5. To explore the problems that we face in understanding our nature that correlate with socio-economical solution for sustainable development.

Course Outcomes:

At the end of this course students will:

1. Have awareness on issues with environmental pollution, their effects and possible solutions.
2. Gain knowledge of natural resources, their significance, and the effects of human activity on the resources in environment.
3. Be familiar with biodiversity conservation and its significance.
4. Understand the need of sustainable development for future and become competent and socially responsible citizen of India.

Environment Studies (VEC)

Total Contact Hours - 30

Unit 1: Introduction, Environmental Pollution, Biodiversity, Ecosystems, Natural Resources and Management (15 Hrs)

a) Introduction to Environmental Studies

- Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies
- Scope and importance; Concept of sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals, Environment Social Governance (ESG), Green Finance and Environmental Economics.
- Environmental pollution types, causes, effects and controls; Air, water, soil and noise pollution, nuclear hazards and human health risks, Solid waste management, 3R Principle and Pollution case studies.

b) 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 and Values of Biodiversity.

c) Ecology & Ecosystems:

- Structure and function of ecosystem, Energy flow, food chains, food webs and ecological succession. Forest ecosystem, Grassland ecosystem, Desert ecosystem and Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries) and case studies.

d) Natural Resources: Renewable and Non-renewable Resources

- Land resources and land use 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.

Unit 2: Environmental Policies, practices, Acts and regulations

(15 Hrs)

a) 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.

b) 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 ethics and Environmental movements: Chipko, Silent valley, Bishnoi's of Rajasthan in environmental conservation.
- Environmental communication and public awareness, case studies (e.g., CNG vehicles in Delhi), National Climate Action Programme (NCAP)

Text Books:

1. Environmental Studies E-Text Book (Marathi and English Medium) Solapur University, Solapur ,
2. Environmental Studies – UGC- Text Book for Undergraduate Courses for all Branches of Higher Education – Erach Bharucha, Bharti Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment Education and Research, Pune
3. Text Book Of Environmental Studies, Asthana D.K. and Asthana Meera S Chand & Company
4. A Textbook of Environmental Studies, January 2006 Ahmed Khan ABD Publishers

References:

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3. Gleick, P. H. 1993. Water in Crisis. Pacific Institute for Studies in Dev., Environment & Security. Stockholm Env. Institute, Oxford Univ. Press.
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11. Sengupta, R. 2003. Ecology and economics: An approach to sustainable development. OUP.
12. Singh, J.S., Singh, S.P. and Gupta, S.R. 2014. Ecology, Environmental Science and Conservation. S. Chand Publishing, New Delhi.
13. Sodhi, N.S., Gibson, L. & Raven, P.H. (eds). 2013. Conservation Biology: Voices from the Tropics. John Wiley & Sons.
14. Thapar, V. 1998. Land of the Tiger: A Natural History of the Indian Subcontinent.
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16. Wilson, E. O. 2006. The Creation: An appeal to save life on earth. New York: Norton.
17. World Commission on Environment and Development. 1987. Our Common Future. Oxford University Press.