

Course details & Schedules

COURSE CODE	Module	Instructional aids	Classes (hrs)	Evaluation
SAP006	Environment and Development Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations• Lectures• Group discussions• Case studies• Audio-visual• Fieldwork	24 – teaching 24 – others 1-3 weeks project work	Class attendance & participation 6 hours – work shop 6 hours Seminar – group Discussion 10 hours project work 2 hours Test 100 marks to convert grade and credit

Learning Competencies

At the end of the module, the students should have a clearer and global understanding of interconnection between environment and development. When the world is faced with the dangers of climate change due to overproduction and consumption, paradoxically, all parts of the world do not enjoy equitable share of development. The development model is environmentally unsustainable in some parts and there is no basic development in many other parts. Regardless of the medium, the module hopes to make students competent in communicating on these complex matters with clarity.

Course Objective:

The course hopes to introduce students to the basics of environmentalism, ecosystem, threats to biodiversity and resources, international legal framework, movements and issues such as climate change and ozone layer depletion. Later, the course seeks to connect it with development models such as dominant and alternative paradigms. The students are

introduced to different forms of media communication with reference to environment and development in the global context.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Introduction to Terms and Concepts

- Environment, development and sustainable development
- Environmental conflict, justice and governance
- Global commons
- Impact of globalization on environment and development
- Role of communication in issues related to environment and development

Unit 2: Evolution of Contemporary Debates on Environmental Change and Environmentalism

- Ecosystems – renewable and non-renewable resources, biodiversity
- Overview of environmental problems/issues, international laws and policies – mainly climate change, pollution, disasters, extinction of species and ozone layer depletion
- Waves of environmentalism
- Differing standpoints on environmental issues (developed, developing and least developed countries) – perspectives on environment versus development debate

Unit 3: India's Positions on Environmental and Climate Change

- Impact of environmental change on India
- Environmentalism in India
- Environmental laws and policies in India
- India's positions on climate change at the international level

Unit 4: Evolution of Development and Development Communication

- Discourses, types and techniques of development communication
- Dominant discourse of development and its critique
- Alternative paradigms of development with examples from different countries

Unit 5: Role of Media in Environmental Communication

- Role of traditional and new media in environmental communication at local, national and international levels
- Environmental journalism

Unit 6: Case studies

- Pesticides and health (Silent Spring: Rachel Carson, United States)
- Organic Farming (Fukuoka experiment in Japan)
- Wangari Maathai's Green Belt Movement
- Chipko Movement in India: Himalayas and forest conservation

- Politics of displacement – Cases of Narmada Bachao Andolan and Niyamgiri-Vedanta Bauxite mining in India
- Politics of nuclear energy – Fukushima disaster in Japan, agitation against Kudankulam nuclear power plant in India
- Climate change and conflict? – debates on Darfur, Syria

Course Instructor / Faculty: Dr. Dhanasree Jayaram

Selected Readings:

Anders Hansen, “Communication, media and environment: Towards reconnecting research on the production, content and social implications of environmental communication”, *International Communication Gazette*, 2011.

Ashish Kothari, *Understanding Biodiversity: Life, Sustainability, and Equity*, Orient Longman, 1997.

J. Martinez-Alier, “Environmental Conflicts, Environmental Justice, and Valuation”, in Ageyman, J. et al. (eds.), *Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World*, MIT Press, 2003.

K. Sadanandan Nair and Shirley A. White, *Perspectives on Development Communication*, Sage, 1993.

Lawrence Surendra, Klaus Sachindler and Prasanna Ramaswamy, *Stories they tell – A dialogue among philosophers, scientists and environmentalists*, Earthworm Books Pvt. Ltd, 1996.

Madhav Gadgil and Ramachandra Guha, *The fissured land: An ecological history of India*, Oxford University Press, 1992.

Mark Neuzil and William Kovarik, *Mass Media and Environmental Conflict: America's Green Crusades*, Sage, 1996.

R. Rajagopalan, *Environmental Studies: From Crisis to Cure*, Oxford University Press, 2005.

William M. Lafferty, “The politics of sustainable development: Global norms for national implementation”, *Environmental Politics*, 2007.