Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Natural Resource Management

Semester -I: July - December 2020

Coordinator	Prof. P. C. Tiwari
Credits	100 Marks [4 Credits]*
Lecturers	Decided in the Departmental Meeting
Level	M.A./M.Sc.
Host institution	Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts, Kumaun University, Nainital
Course duration	One Semester [July - December]

Summary

This one full semester course provides the master level students of Geography the basic understanding of the fundamental concept of natural resources and of the process of resource development. The students would learn the applications of remote sensing and Geographic Information System in natural resources analysis and mapping in the mountain regions. It will present a comprehensive overview of the carrying capacity and productivity of natural resources in high mountains with specific reference to Himalaya. It will also impart education to the students about the various approaches of natural resource management in high mountains in context of Himalaya. The course includes individual assignments.

Target Student Audiences

Semester - I Students of M.A./M.Sc.

Prerequisites

Required Courses (or equivalents):

- Environmental Management
- Ecology and Ecosystem
- Introduction to Computer Science or Information Technologies,
- Environmental Management

Aims and Objectives

This course will help in developing a complete understanding of concept of and process of natural resource development, and their conservation and management using application of Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) with special reference to high mountains and Himalaya. To help students in understanding the concepts of natural resources, learning methods of resource analysis and mapping, and developing natural resources information system using geo-spatial techniques. The main objectives of the course are: (i) to understand the process of natural resource development in varying natural and socio-economic, and legal environment; (ii) to demonstrate the application of state-of-art Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) with special reference to high mountains specifically Himalaya; (iii) to help students in learning concepts and approaches of natural resources management and understanding its inter-linkages with sustainable mountain development in context of Himalaya

* *Note: Kumaun University has Mark System at all Levels*

General Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, successful students will:

- Understand the significance and importance of understanding the concept of natural resources and their application in natural resource management
- Learn the application of the recent and emerging areas of science and technology in natural resource management
- Gain adequate knowledge of ecological processes and ecosystem functions
- Understand significance of adaptive natural resource management under climate change in high mountains, especially in context of Himalaya
- Develop comprehensive understanding of the necessity of sustainable resource development in Himalaya
- Understand the approaches and techniques of natural resource Management in context of Himalaya

Overview of Sessions and Teaching Methods

The course will make most of interactive and self-reflective methods of teaching and learning including mainly lectures and presentations. It will start with an overview of concept of natural resources and their development and management in view of the sustainable development of mountain regions. Subsequent sessions will combine interactive lecturing on different course components divided up into 5 Units, and individual assignments. The third part of the course is built around supervised preparation of short interdisciplinary dissertation by students.

Course Workload

The table below summarizes course workload distribution:

Activities	Learning outcomes	Assessment	Estimated workload (hours)
In-class activities			
Lectures and Presentations	**Unit I - Basic Framework:** Natural Resources: Concept; Classification and Process of Natural Resource Development	End Semester Written Examination	08
Lectures and Presentations	**Unit II - Application Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) in Natural Resources Studies:** Resource Analysis; Resource Mapping; Natural Resources Information System	End Semester Written Examination	08
Lectures and Presentations	**Unit III - Ecology and Ecosystem:** Meaning, Scope, Types and Classification of Ecology and Ecosystem; Functioning of Ecosystem; Productivity of Ecosystem; Tropic Levels, Food Chain and Food Web	End Semester Written Examination	08
Lectures and Presentations	**Unit IV - Carrying Capacity of Natural Resources:** Production, Availability and Utilization of Natural Resources, Resource Efficiency, Carrying Capacity of Natural	End Semester Written Examination	08

	Resources with special reference to Himalaya		
Lectures and Presentations	**Unit V- Natural Resource Management and Sustainable Development in Himalaya:** Concept and Approaches of Natural Resource Management, Community Based Natural Resource Management; Participatory Natural Resource Management; Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Mountain Development	End Semester Written Examination	08
Independent work			
- Individual Assignments	Ability to interpret data, and to use the concepts, tools, and methods for communicating information	Individual Presentations	20
Total			***60***

Grading

The students' performance will be based on the following:

- Written performance at the end Semester Written Examination 75%
- 25% based on the evaluation of 2 individual Assignments and attendance in classroom lectures

Course Schedule: July - December 2020

Course Assignments

The Structure of Course Assignments will be as follows:

- The Course Teacher will set 5 detailed answer Questions one each from 5 Units.
- Each of the students will have answer 2 questions of his/her choice before the commencement of the Semester End Examinations.

Literature

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