

**MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF STUDIES(UG- SOCIAL WORK)**

**SW5CRT21–SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Semester	Hours/week	Total Hours	Credits
V	4	72	4

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To acquire an awareness of the inter-relationship between man and environmentand develop sensitivity to the total environment and its allied problems
2. To acquire skills for identifying and solving environmental problems
3. To build knowledge and skills to protect the environment, healthy and sustainable for the future.
4. To strengthen respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**MODULE I: MULTIDISCIPLINARY NATURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES  
(10 HOURS)**

Environmental studies- Definition, Scope and Importance

Natural resources and associated problems, Non-renewable and Renewable resources: Forest Resources, Water Resources, Mineral Resources, Food Resources, Energy Resources, Land resources

Role of an individual in conservation of natural resources

**MODULE II: ECOSYSTEMS& BIODIVERSITY (16 HOURS)**

Concept of an ecosystem:-Introduction, Types, Characteristic features, Structure and functions of an ecosystem

Producers, consumers and decomposers, the food chains, food webs, ecological pyramids

Biodiversity- Introduction, Types and importance, Value of biodiversity: Consumptive value, Productive value, Social value, Ethical value, Aesthetic value, Option value

Threats to biodiversity: habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man-wildlife conflicts

Endangered and endemic species of India, Conservation of biodiversity: In-situ and Ex-situ

### **MODULE III: ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION (14 HOURS)**

Causes, Effects and Control Measures of: Air Pollution, Water Pollution, Soil Pollution, Marine Pollution, Noise Pollution, Thermal Pollution

Solid waste management: causes, effects and control measures of urban and industrial waste, role of individuals in pollution prevention

Global environmental issues-Climate change, global warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion, nuclear accidents

Disaster and Disaster Management: floods, earthquakes, cyclones, landslides, Need for disaster management, Disaster management in India

### **MODULE IV: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT (14 HOURS)**

Sustainable Development-Organic farming for sustainable development, water conservation, rain water harvesting and watershed management, Social forestry

Eco-tourism-concept, principles, opportunities and challenges

Role of NGOs in environmental protection

Role of social worker in environmental development and improvement

Environmental laws in India: Environment Protection Act, Air Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, Wildlife Protection Act, Forest Conservation Act, Issues Involved in Enforcement of Environmental Legislation.

### **MODULE V: HUMAN RIGHTS (18 HOURS)**

Human Rights -An Introduction to Human Rights, Meaning, concept and development –History of Human Rights-Different Generations of Human Rights- Universality of Human Rights- Basic International Human Rights Documents - UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR.-Value dimensions of Human Rights

Human Rights and United Nations -Human Rights co-ordination within UN system- Role of UN secretariat- The Economic and Social Council- The Commission Human Rights-The Security Council and Human rights- The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination- The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women- the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights- The Human Rights Committee- Critical Appraisal of UN Human Rights Regime.

Human Rights National Perspective- Human Rights in Indian Constitution – Fundamental Rights- The Constitutional Context of Human Rights-directive Principles of State Policy and Human Rights- Human Rights of Women-children - minorities- Prisoners- Science Technology and Human Rights- National Human Rights Commission- State Human Rights Commission- Human Rights Awareness in Education.

## REFERENCES

1. Barucha, E. (2005). *Textbook for Environmental Studies for Undergraduate Courses*. Universities Press, UGC.
  2. Abbasi, S. (1991). *Wetlands of India: Ecology and threats; the Wetlands of Kerala Volume.3. Discovery publishing*.
  3. P.S, Ramakrishnan. (2001). *Ecology and sustainable development*. National book trust.
  4. George, S. (2005). *Environmental impact assessment*. Save a family plan.
  5. Jain, K, R., Hutchings, & L, B. (1977). *Environmental analysis:emerging issues in planning*. University of Illinois press.
  6. J.P. Sharma.(n.d),*Enviromental studies*, Laxmi publications, New Delhi.
  7. Rajagopalan. R. (2016), *Environmental Studies from crisis and cure*, Oxford University Press, Published.
  8. Shukla, S., & Srivastava, P. (1992). *Environmental population and chronic diseases*. Common wealth publishers.
- Human Rights**
9. AmartyaSen, *The Idea Justice*, New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2009.
  10. Chatrath, K. J.S., (ed.), *Education for Human Rights and Democracy*, Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, 1998)
  11. Asia Law House (2001). *Law Relating to Human Rights*, New Delhi: Asia Law House.
  12. Shireesh Pal Singh (N d).*Human Rights Education in 21st Century*, New Delhi:Discovery Publishing House Pvt.Ltd.
  13. S.K.Khanna (2011).*Children andthe Human Rights*, Common Wealth Publishers.
  14. Sudhir Kapoor (2001).*Human Rights in 21stCentury*, Jaipur: Mangal Deep Publications.
  15. United Nations Development Programme (2004). *Human Development Report 2004: Cultural Liberty in Today'sDiverse World*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.