

## History UG

<b>Semester: 5</b>				
<b>Programme : History</b>				
<b>Course : Situating Environment in the History of India: Certain Key Aspects</b>				
<b>Paper code: C3HS230541T</b>			<b>Credits: 4</b>	
<b>Hours/week : 4</b>				
<b>Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : Core (Major)</b>				
<b>Theory / Practical / Composite : Theory</b>				
<b>No of Modules : 2</b>				
<p><b>Course Overview:</b> This course explores the dynamic interplay between human civilization and the environment in India, tracing the shift from traditional resource management to colonial exploitation and post-independence development. Students will investigate how forest policies, agrarian expansion, and industrial infrastructure like railways and dams reshaped the landscape and impacted marginalized communities. By analyzing the contributions of British naturalists alongside Indian thinkers like Gandhi and Tagore, the curriculum highlights the intellectual evolution of environmentalism. The study culminates in a critical look at contemporary issues, including the Green Revolution, biodiversity loss, and the intersection of gender and ecology. Ultimately, the course provides a historical lens to understand the roots of today's most pressing ecological crises.</p>				
<b>Course Outcome:</b>				
1. <b>Remember (Knowledge):</b> Identify key historiographical sources and define the fundamental concepts of environmental history and ecofeminism. voyages.				
2. <b>Understand (Comprehension):</b> Explain how colonial policies, such as railway expansion and forest management, transformed land-use patterns in India				
3. <b>Apply (Application):</b> Use the environmental philosophies of thinkers like Gandhi and Tagore to interpret contemporary ecological challenges.				
4. <b>Analyze (Analysis):</b> Examine the interdisciplinary links between agrarian expansion, irrigation systems, and their long-term environmental consequences.				
5. <b>Evaluate (Evaluation):</b> Critique the socio-environmental impact of "Modern Temples" (dams) and the Green Revolution regarding biodiversity loss and gender displacement.				
6. <b>Create (Synthesis):</b> Formulate an original research perspective or case study that bridges historical migration patterns with modern environmental refugee crises.				
<b>Prerequisites: Basic knowledge about any prior course</b>				
<b>SYLLABUS</b>				
<b>UNIT/Module</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES</b>	<b>CO Mapping</b>	<b>COGNITIVE LEVEL</b>
I.	What is Environmental History? 1. Historiography and Sources	18	CO1 CO2	KI,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6

	<p>2. The emergence of Environmental history as a discipline</p> <p>3. Interdisciplinary connections</p>		<p><b>CO3</b></p> <p><b>CO4</b></p> <p><b>CO5</b></p> <p><b>CO6</b></p>	
	<p>Living with Nature</p> <p>1. Natural Resources and Human Interactions</p> <p>2. Ecology and urbanization</p> <p>3. Forests and Tribal Groups – beliefs and practices; pastoral groups</p>			
<b>II.</b>	<p>Era of Major Agrarian Expansion</p> <p>1. Patterns of agrarian expansion and its environmental dimensions</p> <p>2. Irrigation and Canals in colonial India</p>	<b>18</b>	<p><b>CO1</b></p> <p><b>CO2</b></p> <p><b>CO3</b></p> <p><b>CO4</b></p> <p><b>CO5</b></p> <p><b>CO6</b></p>	<b>K1,K2,K3,K4.K5,K6</b>
	<p>Colonialism and Transformation of Nature</p> <p>1. Early Environmentalism – role of the British Naturalists, Colonial Management of Forests and its Impact.</p> <p>2. Changing Land Use Patterns; Railway and Deforestation, Dams and reservoirs, droughts and famines.</p> <p>3. Conceptualizing Environment in India: The Role of the Indian thinkers – Rabindranath Tagore, MK Gandhi and others</p> <p>4. Contemporary debates</p>			
	<p>Development, Environment, and Migration in Contemporary India</p> <p>1. Temples of Modern India: Dams, irrigation, and agrarian land distribution in Post-Independent India</p> <p>2. Gender and Environment, Ecofeminism, Environmental refugees</p> <p>3. Law and environment.</p> <p>4. Green Revolution; Biodiversity Loss; Species Extinction</p>			

<b>Text Books</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Richard Grove – Green Imperialism</li> <li>2. David Arnold (ed.) – Nature, Culture, Imperialism</li> <li>3. Mahesh Rangarajan – Fencing the Forest</li> <li>4. M. Gadgil and Ramchandra Guha (eds.) - This Fissured Land: an ecological history of India</li> <li>5. Mahesh Rangarajan, Environmental Issues in India: A Reader</li> <li>6. Ranjan Chakravarti - Critical Themes in Environmental History of India</li> <li>7. Irfan Habib - A People's History of India 36 – Man and Environment</li> <li>8. Michael H. Fisher – An Environmental History of India</li> <li>9. Mohit Roy- Poribesh Charcha: Itihas o Biborton</li> </ol>
<b>Suggested readings</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ramchandra Guha-European Environmentalism</li> <li>2. Vinita Damodaran-Nature &amp; The Orient (OIP): The Environmental History of South and Southeast Asia</li> <li>3. Vinita Damodaran , Rohan D'Souza -Commonwealth Forestry and Environmental History</li> </ol>
<b>Web Resources</b>
1.
2.
3.
4.
<b>Evaluation : Theory</b> <b>CIA: 5 + Mid Sem:20 + Attendance:5 =30</b> <b>Semester Exam: 70</b>
<b>Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam:</b> <b>Total Marks: 70</b> <b>Two modules of 35 marks each.</b> <b>(3 questions of 5 marks from 5 options: 3X5=15</b> <b>2 questions of 10 marks from 3 options: 2X10=20</b>

#### Course outcomes (COs) and Cognitive Level Mapping

COs	CO Description	Cognitive levels
CO1	Remember (Knowledge): Identify key historiographical sources and define the fundamental concepts of environmental history and ecofeminism. voyages.	K1

CO2	<b>Understand (Comprehension):</b> Explain how colonial policies, such as railway expansion and forest management, transformed land-use patterns in India	K2
CO3	<b>Apply (Application):</b> Use the environmental philosophies of thinkers like Gandhi and Tagore to interpret contemporary ecological challenges.	K3
CO4	<b>Analyze (Analysis):</b> Examine the interdisciplinary links between agrarian expansion, irrigation systems, and their long-term environmental consequences.	K4
CO5	<b>Evaluate (Evaluation):</b> Critique the socio-environmental impact of "Modern Temples" (dams) and the Green Revolution regarding biodiversity loss and gender displacement.	K5
CO6	<b>Create (Synthesis):</b> Formulate an original research perspective or case study that bridges historical migration patterns with modern environmental refugee crises.	K6