

VAC 1: ECOLOGY AND LITERATURE

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Ecology and Literature	02	1	0	1	Pass in Class 12 th	NIL

Learning Objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- To raise awareness among students towards the urgent predicament of Environmental and Ecological crisis and the need for reducing our carbon footprint upon fast depleting, ravaged ecological reserves.
- To develop a heightened ecological consciousness among students, leading to more responsible ecological behavior.
- To view environmental concerns as raised through plays, stories and poems.

Learning outcomes

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

- The course will highlight the urgency of environmental crisis, making Students conscious and aware of the role each one of us plays.
- Students will be trained into environmental sensitivity and responsible Ecological behavior.
- Students will be encouraged to respond to incidents of habitat destruction deforestation, etc. and realize the need for our urgent intervention

SYLLABUS OF ECOLOGY AND LITERATURE

UNIT – I Negotiating environmental issues creatively

(5 Weeks)

- William Wordsworth: 'In April beneath the scented thorn'
- Rabindranath Tagore: 'The Waterfall'
- Gieve Patel: 'On Killing a Tree'

UNIT – II Ecocritical literary representations

(5 Weeks)



- Mary Oliver: 'Sleeping in the Forest'
- 2.AK Ramanujan: 'A Flowering Tree'
- 3.Mamang Dai: 'Small Towns and the River'

UNIT – III Empathetic exploration and imaginative re-enactments (5 Weeks)

- Amitav Ghosh's 'Part I: Stories' from *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*.
- Thangjamlbopishak: 'Volcano, You cannot erupt' from *Dancing Earth: An Anthology of Poetry from North-East India*
- Thangjamlbopishak: 'Dali, Hussain, or Odour of Dream, Colour of Wind' from *Dancing Earth: An Anthology of Poetry from North-East India*

Practical component (if any) –

(15 Weeks)

- Students would undertake field visits to a school or a slum in the neighborhood or the play area of residential complexes to share, narrate stories, poems and articulate the ideas engaged with in the classroom lectures.
- They shall apply imaginative and creative ways of presenting socially responsible ecological behavior through re-tellings of the texts they have studied in the class.
- Creative re-enactment of key ideas studied by students in the form of a play, to be done individually and/or in a group to create awareness regarding environmental consciousness.
- They can also collectively organize a tree plantation drive in and around the college campus and adopt a sapling each in the college premises and in their neighborhood to take care of.
- Any other Practical/Practice as decided from time to time

Essential/recommended readings

- Akhter, Tawhida, and Ahmad Bhat, Tariq. *Literature and Nature*. United Kingdom, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2022.
- Shiva, Vandana. 'Development, Ecology and Women', *Staying Alive: Women Ecology and Development*. India: Zed Books, 1988. pp 1-14
- Carl, Safina. Prologue & Chapter 1, *Beyond Words: What animals think and feel*. Souvenir Press, 2015.
- Garrard, Greg. *Ecocriticism*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis, 2011.
- Wohlleben, Peter. *The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate—Discoveries from a Secret World*. India: Penguin Books Limited, 2016.

Examination scheme and mode: Subject to directions from the Examination Branch/University of Delhi from time to time