UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

M.Sc. DEGREE PROGRAMME IN ZOOLOGY

SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2023-2024

531C4B

Course Objectives:		
The main objectives of this course are:		
1.	Knowing the ecology and climatic changes at world level and its impact on natural resources.	
2.	Understanding the contributing factors for pollution in the environment and the ways in controlling and restoring to natural conditions	
Course	**:**	**Core XII**
Course title	**:**	**Ecology**
Credits	**:**	**4**
Pre-requisite:		
Students should know about the fundamentals and studied the ecology of living organisms.		
Expected Course Outcome:		
On the successful completion of the course, student will be able to		
1.	Learn about the ecosystem, biotic communities and utilizing the energy processing	**K2**
2.	Study the various community and population and population control	**K2 & K3**
3.	Understand the fundamentals of climatic conditions and its impact on environment	**K2 & K6**
4.	Realizing the nature of pollution and the ways for its control/reduction	**K4 & K5**
5.	Impact of environmental studies on solid waste management	**K2 & K6**

K1 - Remember; **K2** - Understand; **K3** - Apply; **K4** - Analyze; **K5** - Evaluate; **K6** - Create

Units	
I	The Environment: Physical environment; biotic environment; biotic and abiotic interactions. Habitat and niche: Concept of habitat and niche; niche width and overlap; fundamental and realized niche; resource partitioning; character displacement.
II	Population ecology: Characteristics of a population; population growth curves; population regulation; life history strategies (*r* and *K* selection); concept of metapopulation-demes and dispersal, interdemic extinctions, age structured populations -action taken to control population explosion.
III	Species interactions: Types of interactions, interspecific competition, herbivory, carnivory, pollination, symbiosis. Community ecology: Nature of communities; community structure and attributes; levels of species diversity and its measurement; edges and ecotones. Ecological succession: Types; mechanisms; changes involved in succession; concept of climax
IV	Ecosystem: Structure and function; energy flow and mineral cycling (CNP);

	primary production and decomposition; structure and function of some Indian ecosystems: terrestrial (forest, grassland) and aquatic (fresh water, marine, eustarine). Biogeography: Major terrestrial biomes; theory of island biogeography; biogeographical zones of India.
V	Applied ecology: Environmental pollution; global environmental change; biodiversity-status, monitoring and documentation; major drivers of biodiversity change; biodiversity management approaches - Waste management. Conservation biology: Principles of conservation, major approaches to management, Indian case studies on conservation/management strategy (Project Tiger, Biosphere reserves).

Reading list

1. Sharma, P.D. 2009. Ecology and Environment, Rastogi Publication, India, pp-616.
2. Calabrese, E.J. 1978. Pollutants and High-Risk Groups, John Wiley, pp-286.
3. Raven, P.H. and L.R. Berg, G.B. Johnson, 1993. Environment, Saunders College Publishing, pp-579.
4. Cunningham, W. P. and B. W. Saigo, 1999. Environmental Science, McGraw Hill Boston, 5th Edition.
5. Online courses.nptel.ac.in / noc 19 - g e 23/preview
6. Class central.com/course/swayam -ecology - and environment – 14021.

Recommended texts

1. Odum, E.P. 1893. Basic Ecology, Saunders & Co., Philadelphia, pp-383.
2. Barthwl, R.R. 2002. Environmental Impact Assessment, New Age International Publishers, New Delhi, India, pp-425.
3. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). 1995. Global Biodiversity Assessment, Cambridge University Press, pp-1140.

Mapping with Programme Outcomes*										
Cos	**PO1**	**PO2**	**PO3**	**PO4**	**PO5**	**PO6**	**PO7**	**PO8**	**PO9**	**PO10**
CO1	S	S	M	M	S	M	S	S	M	S
CO2	S	S	M	M	L	S	S	S	M	M
CO3	S	M	M	L	M	S	L	L	S	L
CO4	M	M	S	S	M	L	L	S	S	S
CO5	M	S	S	M	S	M	L	M	L	S

*S - Strong; M - Medium; L – Low