



COURSE CURRICULUM

Course Title: Habitat Ecology

Course Code:

Credit Units: 02

Level: PG

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to describe about the habitat ecology, ecology of major terrestrial habitats, and their physical and anthropogenic factors influencing terrestrial habitats. To also study the inventory, evaluation and monitoring of wildlife habitat, and monitoring changes in habitat parameters, use and availability of habitat resources.

Prerequisites:

Graduate from Biological science Bachelor degree in Science/Zoology/Botany/Anthropology/Veterinary/Environmental Science/Forestry/ Agriculture/Geography/Natural Resources/Ecology and minor in any of these subjects.

Course Contents/Syllabus:

	Weightage (%)
Module I	50
Introduction to Habitat Ecology - Historical, ecological & evolutionary perspectives of Habitat Ecology, basic concepts. Ecology of major terrestrial habitats: Deserts, Grasslands, Wetlands, Forests. Habitat diversity: edge, ecotones, interspersion and juxtaposition. Physical and anthropogenic factors influencing terrestrial habitats. Habitat degradation and fragmentation. Successional changes and wildlife habitat.	
Module II	50

L	T	P/S	SW/FW	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS
2	0	0	0	2

Inventory, evaluation and monitoring of wildlife habitat - Measuring wildlife habitat, availability, quality, palatability of graze and browse. Inventory of unique habitats and their distribution, Animals signs as indicators of habitat use, use of map overlay approach in habitat evaluation. Monitoring changes in habitat parameters, use and availability of habitat resources.	
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Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Enable to gain knowledge about the importance of landscape pattern on ecological processes.
2. Gaining knowledge about the implications of habitat loss and fragmentation for biological conservation.
3. Appreciation of addressing current issues such as corridors, fragmentation, and ecosystem management from a landscape perspective.
4. Recognize and contrast the effects of natural environmental and anthropogenic factors on ecological systems and processes.

Pedagogy for Course Delivery:

Class room lectures, PowerPoint presentations, Tutorial sessions, Discussions and Interactions and assignments/tests/term papers/seminars

Assessment / Examination Scheme:

Theory L/T (%)	Lab/Practical/Studio (%)	End Term Examination
30%	NA	70%

Theory Assessment (L&T):

Continuous Assessment/Internal Assessment					End Term Examination
Component (Drop down)	Mid-Term Exam	Project	Viva	Attendance	
Weightage (%)	10	10	5	5	70

References:

1. Habitat structure: the physical arrangement of objects in space. Editors [Bell, S. S.](#); [McCoy, E. D.](#); [Mushinsky, H. R.](#) 1991 pp. xiv + 428 pp. ISBN [0-412-32270-6](#)
2. [Wildlife-habitat relationships: concepts and applications](#) ML Morrison, B Marcot, W Mannan - 2006 - books.google.com
3. [Habitat selection in birds](#) ML Cody - 1985 - books.google.com, New York.
4. The shrinking world: ecological consequences of habitat loss [Hanski, I.](#), Oldendorf/Luhe, International Ecology Institute, 2005, XXVII, 307 p. ISSN 0932-2205 ; 14
5. Habitat Fragmentation and Landscape Change: An Ecological and Conservation. By David B. Lindenmayer, Joern Fischer