

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Profile

Course Number : STS 331	Course Title : Environment, Technology and Society
Required / Elective : Elective	Pre / Co-requisites : -
Catalog Description: Basic elements and principles of environmental quality. Concept of ecosystem. Resources, mineral cycles in living systems. Population, food and hunger; energy and environment. Effects of human activities on health and environment. Waste and disease. Water pollution, water pollutants and control. Air pollution, local and global problems. Solid wastes and management. Land use and misuse. Technology and environment. Industrial pollution, waste minimization, hazardous substances and wastes. Societal and ethical problems.	Textbook / Required Material :
Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS	
Extended Description : The importance of environmental studies cannot be overemphasized especially at a time when we are already experiencing the deleterious effects of global warming worldwide. An important aspect of this course is that in addition to scientific knowledge, the student is also exposed to environmental ethics and aesthetics.	
Design content : none	Computer usage: No particular computer usage required
<p><u>Course Outcomes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Explain the ecosystem concept and its workings to differentiate between natural and human induced environmental changes both at local and global level (1, 11). 2- Recognize that environmental ethics are important in protecting and conserving species and the physical environment (9). 3- Recognize that plants and animals depends not only on our scientific knowledge but also on our aesthetic appreciation of nature. (5,6) 4- Recognize that solution of most environmental problems require inter-disciplinary approach (4,11). 5- Recognize that multi-national cooperation is of utmost importance (11). 6- Apply analytical and critical thinking to current environmental issues (1, 14). <p>(1) Apply analytical and critical thinking skills to contemporary global issues.</p> <p>(4) Explain the historical, political and economic conditions in which science and technology emerge.</p> <p>(5) Explain the historical, political and material conditions in which art and cultural expression emerge.</p> <p>(6) Analyze how modes of thought are shaped by socio-cultural, historical, political and</p>	

economic variables.

(9) Recognize ethical issues and social responsibilities in the contemporary world.

(11) Generate creative solutions to local and/or global problems.

(14) Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively with written, oral and visual means

Recommended reading : Botkin and Keller, "Environmental Science". John Wiley, 4th. Ed.

Teaching methods : Lecture and class discussions, documentaries (BBC), individual readings and term paper preparation.

Assessment methods : Exams, term paper, class survey.

Student workload:

Reading	30 hrs
Lectures	45 hrs
Preparatory reading for term paper	45 hrs
Writing term paper	30 hrs
TOTAL	150 hrs

Prepared by : Sargun Ali Tont

Revision Date : 19.05.2010