

TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT: Annual; 1st Semester

CREDITS: 6

COURSE TEACHER(S): Professor Zhenci XU

**ASSESSMENT:**

EXAMINATION 40 %	COURSEWORK 60 %
• 2 hours	• 1 small group project • 1 small group field trip report

**OBJECTIVES:**

The course aims to enhance students' understanding of the links between environmental protection and economic development, and issues relating to sustainable development.

**COURSE SYNOPSIS:**

This course evaluates the links between environmental protection and economic development. The world must manage its natural and environmental resources to meet the human needs of the present while at the same time preserving these resources for future generations. The course introduces students to different views on how human society can achieve the goal of economic growth without depleting the Earth's capital and jeopardizing the planet's life support system. It aims to enhance students' understanding of the issues relating to sustainable development. Although the course cannot provide complete answers to the issues, it helps develop students' ability of critical thinking and suggest promising directions in which answers may be sought.

**LECTURE TOPICS:**

- Introduction to sustainable development
- Challenges around sustainable development
- Measurements of sustainable development
- Environment: energy
- Environment: climate change
- Environment: water, food, and waste
- Economy: economic development, poverty, inequality, and trade
- Society: environmental justice
- Sustainable urban development
- Actors and actions

**RECOMMENDED READING LIST:**

- Blewitt, J.(2015) Understanding sustainable development. London. 2nd ed., Sterling, VA:Earthscan, 2008.
- Elliott, J.A. (2012) An Introduction to Sustainable Development. 4th ed., London: Routledge.
- Sachs, J. D. (2015). The age of sustainable development. Columbia University Press.
- Beatley, T., & Wheeler, S. M. (Eds.). (2014). The sustainable urban development reader. 3rd ed., London: Routledge.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	know the links between social, environment and economic development	✓	✓					Exam
2	understand the concept of sustainable development and its applications	✓	✓					Exam
3	recognise various issues related to sustainable development			✓				Project, field trip report & exam
4	learn potential solutions to sustainable development				✓		✓	Project, field trip report & exam
5	think critically about various issues related to sustainable development	✓		✓				Project, field trip report & exam
6	evaluate critically the present state of development, both at local and global levels, based on the sustainable development concept					✓	✓	Project, field trip report & exam

### **\*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

**PLO1** critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

**PLO2** demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

**PLO3** identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

**PLO4** integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

**PLO5** participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

**PLO6** effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.