

Contemporary Cross-Cutting Issues

Credit point: 3

Full mark -100

Total Hours: 45

COURSE OUTCOMES

- UGC and NAAC emphasize the coverage of contemporary cross cutting issues in the curriculum of Graduate Studies.
- NAAC has identified following issues: Gender, Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Environmental Protection Etc. In addition to above presently A.I is fast emerging as a cross cutting issue. The proposed course under Value Added Category proposes to address the above issues.
- The students will be cognizant of contemporary cross cutting issues at the national and global level. Develop an understanding of all the issues identified such as: Gender, Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Environment Protection and AI etc.

Students will contribute and act actively to meet the challenges of cross cutting issues.

COURSE CONTENTS

UNIT- I GENDER

[8 hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To understand the concept of gender and sensitize students about gender related issues.*
- **Meaning of Gender and Gender related Concepts:**
Meaning and definition of gender, difference between sex and gender, socialization and gender stereotypes, care work and differential pay
- **Demographic aspects of Gender:**
Sex selections, overall sex ratio and social consequences
- **Knowledge and Gender:**
Historical perspective on gender in academics, contribution of women writers, gender in language and literature
- **Issues and Response:**
Transgender and social exclusion, sexual harassment and policies, development index-gender gap

(Subject Teacher- Sociology/Political Science/Anthropology or Any other)

UNIT- II HUMAN RIGHTS

[9 Hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To Understand evolution of Human Rights from the earliest times and learn basics of Human Rights at National and Global Level*

- **Understanding Human Rights:**

Meaning and Definition of Human Rights; differences between right and human rights, Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Law

- **Evolution of Human Rights :**

Developments prior to French Revolution, The French Declaration of Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789), The US Bills of Rights (1791), Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

- **Three Generation of Rights :**

First Generation Rights- Civil and Political Rights, Second Generation Rights- Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, Third Generation Rights- Solidarity /Group /Collective Rights, The Advance of Science and Human Rights

- **Human Rights in India:**

Protection of Human Right Act, 1993 and 2006, National Human Right Commission (NHRC), Protection of Human Right Amendment Act, 2019

- **The Human Rights Issues in the World:**

Arbitrary deprivation of life; War crimes; Issues of Surveillance, Censorship, Refugees and religious minorities; Terrorism and Genocide; Cybercrime

- **Human Rights Issues in India:**

Domestic violence, Ethnic/Caste violence, Violation of the Rights of aboriginals/ indigenous people, human trafficking, Issues of Displacement, Protective Laws of the Government.

(Subject Teacher- Political Science/History/Law or Any other)

UNIT- III SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

[7 hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To understand the meaning and evolutionary growth of sustainable development goals (SDGs)*
- ✓ *To acknowledge challenges and responses of Sustainable Development*

- **Meaning and Evolution of SDGs:**

Meaning, definition and principles of sustainable development, evolutionary growth of the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Green growth

- **Challenges to Sustainable development:**
Agriculture, population & food security; public health and nutrition; education; natural resources, climate change; unemployment and poverty
- **Responses to the challenges of sustainable development:**
Public policy (community participation and participatory learning), technology and engineering, and the inter-linkage between sustainable development and governance

(Subject Teacher- Economics/Geography/Political Science/History or Any other)

UNIT- IV CLIMATE CHANGE ESSENTIALS

[7 hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To understand meaning and factors of Climate Change.*
- ✓ *To understand the global impact of climate change and the response towards it.*
- **Understanding Climate Change:**
Meaning and definition of climate change, Drivers of climate change: natural and anthropogenic
- **Impacts of Climate Change:**
Climate change as threat to human wellbeing and the planet, evidence of rapid and intensifying changes across the world
- **Global response to Climate Change:**
Historical mooring of the global response towards climate change; Role of major international bodies and steps taken to address the issues of climate change

(Subject Teacher- Geography or Any Science Teacher)

UNIT- V ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

[7 hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To understand the need for environmental protection, basic concepts and the efforts taken at national and global levels.*
- **Understanding Environment and Environmental Protection:**
Components of environment, Ecological Footprint, Living planet index and bioprospecting, Need of protection of the Natural Capital (Natural resources and ecosystem services)
- **Challenges and Response towards Environmental Protection:**
Extinction of species, Types of Biodiversity conservation (In-situ and Ex-situ), National and International efforts towards Conservation, Environmental ethics and Economics

(Subject Teacher- Any Science Teacher)

UNIT- VI Artificial Intelligence

[7 hours]

Learning Outcome:

- ✓ *To understand what is AI and how its, effect on humanity*

- ✓ *To comprehend the interdisciplinary nature of AI and its impacts on various domains.*
- ✓ *To discuss strategies for addressing challenges and maximizing benefits of AI in society.*

- **Introduction to Artificial Intelligence**

Definition and scope of AI, Historical background and evolution, AI applications across different sectors.

- **Ethical Considerations**

Ethical dilemmas in AI development and deployment, case studies highlighting ethical challenges (e.g., bias, privacy concerns), Strategies for promoting ethical AI practices

- **Socio-Economic Implications**

Explorations of societal impacts of AI on employment, education, healthcare, etc., examination of AI's role in exacerbating or mitigating social inequalities, analysis of AI's influence on economic growth, productivity and job market, fostering inclusively and accessibility in AI technologies.

- **Legal and Regulatory Frameworks (30 Minutes)**

Overview of existing legal frameworks for AI, Challenges in regulating AI technologies, International perspective on AI Governance

- **Environmental Sustainability**

AI's contributions to Environmental Sustainability and Challenges, exploration of Energy Consumption, E-waste, and Carbon Footprints of AI technologies, solutions for minimizing AI's Environmental Impact

- **Integrating AI into Human Rights**

Examination of AI's implications for Human Rights including Privacy, Freedom of Expression, and Access to Information, Strategies for safeguarding Human Rights in AI Development and Deployment

- **Future Trends and Reflection**

Overview of Emerging Trends and Future Directions in AI, Ideas for promoting responsible AI Innovation and addressing Cross-Cutting Issues

(Subject Teacher- Computer Science/Mathematics/Any Science Teacher)

Sample Questions-

1. Define Human Rights in one Sentence. [1 mark]
2. List two positive impacts at AI. [2 marks]
3. Write a paragraph on sustainable development Goals. [5 marks]
4. Critically examine India's efforts to preserve Bio-diversity. [8 marks]

Course material: To be developed by OSHEC and DDCE, Utkal University. Video Lectures will be also prepared by OSHEC and VTP, Utkal University. There shall be no internal examination for this course. The Term End Examination shall be conducted by the respective Universities. Student would engage in self-study and colleges shall conduct at least 4 doubt clearing session for each unit by engaging subject teachers as indicated above. The Principal may assign responsibility to any teacher.