

Multidisciplinary Courses



University of Kerala

Discipline	BOTANY				
Course Code	UK2MDCBOT102				
Course Title	ECOTOURISM				
Type of Course	MDC				
Semester	II				
Academic Level	100 - 199				
Course Details	Credit	Lecture per week	Tutorial per week	Practical per week	Total Hours/Week
	03	03 Hours	-		03 Hours
Pre-requisites	No Pre-requisites				
Course Summary	The students will understand the basic concepts of ecological balance of life and non-living environment on earth and factors that deteriorate this balance and the requirement of sustainable activities in every sphere of life. Students will appreciate the importance of ecotourism as the potential area for making awareness among the masses which indirectly helps in conserving nature.				

Detailed Syllabus:

Module	Unit	Content	Hrs
I	Fundamentals of Ecology		09
	1	Fundamentals of Ecology- Basic Concepts in Ecology	
	2	Biodiversity and its Conservation - Management of Ecosystem	
	3	Pollution-Ecological Foot Prints	
	4	Relationship between Tourism and Ecology.	
II	Principles of Ecotourism		10
	5	Evolution of ecotourism, Principles, Trends and Functions of Ecotourism	
	6	Mass Tourism Vs Ecotourism -Typology of Eco-tourists	
	7	Sustainable Ecotourism - Resource Management, Socio-economic Development	
	8	Ecotourism Activities and Impacts -Western Views of Ecotourism - Quebec Declaration 2002 - Kyoto Protocol 1997 - Oslo Declaration 2007	
III	Ecotourism Policies		08
	9	Ecotourism Policies, Planning and Implementation	
	10	Eco-friendly Facilities and Amenities - Carrying Capacity	
	11	Alternative Tourism -Responsible ecotourism- Ecotourism Programming	
IV	Conservation through Ecotourism		09
	12	Protected Area Management through Ecotourism - Stakeholder Engagement - Community Participation Types of Participation, Issues and Challenges	

	13	Ecotourism Projects Case Studies on Periyar National Park, Thenmala Eco-Project, Similipal. Ecotourism Project, Sunderban Ecotourism Project, Kaziranga National Park, Run of Kutch, Nandadevi Biosphere Reserve	
V	Agencies Concerned with Ecotourism promotion		09
	14	<p>Role of agencies concerned with Ecotourism - International Ecotourism Society, UNWTO, UNDP, WWF - Department of Forest and Environment - Government of India, ATREE, EQUATIONS.</p> <p>Learning Activity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nature walks /Hikes: Guided tours through natural habitats, focusing on flora, fauna, and ecological balances and disturbances and submit reports. / Bird watching: Learning about the local bird species, their habitats and conservation. / Wildlife Safari and Responsible wildlife viewing to observe animals in their natural habitats while minimizing disturbances. 2. Nature Photography: Exploring photography techniques while capturing the beauty of nature, promoting appreciation and conservation. / Nature camps: 1-2 days camps to understand the nature with a focus on minimal environmental impact and appreciation of natural beauty 3. Tree planting: Participating in reforestation projects to understand the importance of trees in the ecosystem./ Planting of endangered tree species in the campus. / Beach cleanup: Contributing to coastal conservation by removing litter and learning about marine ecosystems 4. Local community engagement: Visit a tribal settlement and interact with indigenous or local communities to understand their relationship with nature and conservation efforts. 5. Group discussions: on issues like conservation, man-wildlife conflict, eco-friendly practices and responsible tourism issues etc. / Debates: Debates on conventional practices /sustainable practices, renewable energy/nonrenewable energy, conventional tourism/ecotourism, Tourism a Boon/Curse to biodiversity, etc. 	

Suggested Reading

1. Bhatt S, Liyakhat S (2008) Ecotourism Development in India Communities, Capital, and Conservation. Cambridge University Press.
2. Blumstein DT., Geffroy B, Samia DSM (2017) Ecotourism's Promise and Peril: A Biological Evaluation. Springer International Publishing
3. Fennel, D. A. (2002), Ecotourism Policy and Planning, CABI Publishing, USA
4. Ralf Buckley (2004), Environment Impacts of Ecotourism, CABI, London
5. Singh J (2010) Ecotourism. I.K. International Publishing House Pvt. Limited.