

<b>Course title:</b> Governance and Management of Natural Resources			
<b>Course code:</b> NRE 149	<b>No. of credits:</b> 3	<b>L-T-P:</b> 35-10-0	<b>Learning hours:</b> 45
<p><b>Pre-requisite course code and title (if any):</b> Students should have familiarity with basic environmental and economic theories/concepts. The class requires regular reading and update with various discussions and debates pertaining to natural resources management in the country. Thus, only those students really interested in policy, governance and development issues should opt for this course. Each session requires prior reading of 2-3 articles. Where a student is found to have not prepared for the class, marks will be deducted accordingly. The topic for the term paper has to be decided by the second week of the course. This will be a group assignment. Groups will be expected to identify a particular sector or issue (pertaining to natural resources) and work on the governance issues/challenges.</p>			
<b>Department:</b> Natural and Applied Sciences			
<b>Course coordinator:</b>		<b>Course instructor:</b>	
<b>Contact details:</b>			
<b>Course type:</b> Elective		<b>Course offered in:</b> Semester 3	
<p><b>Course Description</b></p> <p>In today's rapidly globalizing world and finite resources, society is struggling to find a holistic and balanced approach to managing the interactions between nature and society. The interactions are complex and involve a number of stakeholders. In absence of a balanced approach to managing interests, we witness environmental conflicts that lead to adverse natural and social outcomes.</p> <p>Governance of natural resources entails interaction between array of institutions that regulate the interaction between natural and social systems. These institutions pertain to formal laws, rules and regulations as well as informal norms and customary practices that guide the behavior of individuals and groups with respect to environment/natural resources. Effective institutional interventions would be those that account for this complexity of interests and interactions and aim for sustainable outcome.</p> <p>In this course, the students would be introduced to this complex array of institutions, ideas of collective action in managing environment/natural resources and the role of actors (within the realm of state, market and civil society) in attaining the goal of sustainable management of natural resources.</p> <p>The course would be built on concepts drawn from various academic disciplines (political science, economics, sociology and ecology) to offer an inter-disciplinary lens to the students to examine issues of environmental governance and resource conservation and management. Empirical examples of governance arrangements and challenges would be cited from different ecological context (forestry, water, agriculture) also depicting temporal and spatial variation.</p>			
<p><b>Course objectives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To familiarize the students with complex array of stakeholders, interests and institutions in managing natural resources</li> <li>2. To introduce to the students various conceptual and analytical perspectives (drawn from different academic disciplines) to look at environmental problems</li> </ol>			

3. To offer a nuanced understanding of evolution of governance paradigms and an in-depth explanation of the role of bureaucracy, markets and civil society
4. To encourage critical thinking skills and interdisciplinary expertise among students