

<b>Module code</b>	AW-2311		
<b>Module Title</b>	Ecosystem Dynamics		
<b>Degree/Diploma</b>	Bachelor of Arts (Geography, Environment and Development Studies)		
<b>Type of Module</b>	Major Option/Breadth		
<b>Modular Credits</b>	4	<b>Total student workload</b>	8 hours/week
		<b>Contact hours</b>	4 hours/week
<b>Prerequisite</b>	None		
<b>Anti-requisite</b>	None		
<b>Aims</b>			
To introduce the concepts and drivers of processes that produce spatial and temporal variations within ecosystems. This module also seeks to introduce how ecosystems are connected to human well-being and history of development.			
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>			
<i>On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:</i>			
Lower order :	60%	- Understand the basics of ecosystem composition, concept of stability and equilibrium - Understand the biological and ecological characteristics of ecosystems including life cycle, dispersal, migrations and interactions	
Middle order :	20%	- Analyse the spatial and temporal organisation of population and communities	
Higher order:	20%	- Work co-operatively to visualise the world's ecosystems - their present status and development in the context of the emerging concepts, and global changes due to climatic and anthropogenic impacts.	
<b>Module Contents</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concepts of stability and equilibrium in ecological systems</li> <li>- Energy and material flows in ecosystems with an emphasis on the terrestrial &amp; wetland ecosystems, and temporal organisation of populations and communities</li> <li>- Biological and ecological characteristics including life cycle, dispersal, migrations, interactions</li> <li>- Ecosystem dynamics in the context of global changes from climate and anthropogenic impacts</li> <li>- Ecosystems and human well-being</li> <li>- Emerging concepts: Anthropocene, anthropogenic biomes and (human) niche construction.</li> </ul>			
<b>Assessment</b>	Formative assessment	Exit test, Weekend tests, Class tests.	
	Summative assessment	Examination: 60% Coursework: 40% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fieldwork assignment (20%)</li> <li>- Fieldwork report (20%)</li> </ul>	