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| Module Code | AV-1201 | | | |
| Module Title | Introduction to Environments and Environmental Issues | | | |
| Type of Module: | Major/Breadth | | | |
| Modular Credits: 4 | Student Workload: | 8 hours per week | | |
| | Contact hours: | 2 hours per week | | |
| Prerequisite: | None | | | |
| Antirequisite: | None | | | |
| Aims/Objectives/Rationale: | | | | |
| <p>Humans have long had an impact on their biophysical environment much of which has been detrimental to humankind. In the pre-industrial era, pressures on the environment were mostly of a localized nature. However, with the increase in world population and the attendant expansion and intensification of economic activities, environmental impacts have recently become serious causes for concern on all spatial scales.</p> <p>This module introduces first-year students to the contemporary major environmental issues that, if not properly managed, are likely to cause irreversible environmental degradation in future. The first part of the course covers an overview of the environment and human-environment interrelationships. Each major environmental issue is then dealt with, highlighting its background and current status, as well as evaluating the approaches and strategies that are employed or proposed to address it.</p> | | | | |
| Module Content : | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human-environment relationships • Overview of environment and history of environmental concerns • Matter, energy and the environment • Environmental systems and processes • The physical environment • The living environment • Demography and world population pressures on the environment • Resource use and management • Environmental issues, e.g. atmospheric pollution, biodiversity, climate change, deforestation, desertification, waste and water management. | | | | |
| Assessment | Examination: (2 hours) | 60 % | Coursework: Two tests (10%) One presentation (10%) Two essays (20%) | 40 % |
| Textbook(s)/References : | | | | |
| <p>Enger, E. D., & Smith, B. F. (2008). <i>Environmental science</i>. Boston: McGraw Hill.</p> <p>Hester, R. E., & Harrison, R. M. (2002). <i>Global environmental change: Issues in environmental science and technology</i>. Cambridge: Royal Soc. Chem.</p> <p>Kemp, D. D. (2004). <i>Exploring environmental issues</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Simmons, I. G. (2008). <i>Global environmental history</i>. Chicago: UC Press.</p> | | | | |