INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Arundhati Vishwasrao

CREDITS: 4 semester credits

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course is designed to acquaint students with environmental and developmental challenges before India, with Pune providing to be the local window to these. Through field visits, discussions and classroom activities, students will get to know the local perspective about global environmental problems. Taking into account the transition from being an ancient and culturally advanced country, to a rapidly urbanized one, this course is an opportunity to know what is lost and how India is preparing to face new challenges. We will also study important environmental movements in India that have enabled the local people to save ecology, which portray the strength of democracy in resolving environmental issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
• To understand the contemporary environmental challenges in India from global and local perspectives.
• To understand a different way of life which enabled conservation of natural environment until recently, through traditional and cultural practices and how they are now threatened owing to globalization.
• To understand how simple changes in lifestyles can lead to monumental impacts on environment.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES
• Students will get a glimpse of the connection between global and local decision and how they have influenced and impacted the natural environment and development of India
• Students will get an opportunity to understand the real life challenges faced by local population, as a result of the changing face of the city
• As future citizens and decision makers they will get an opportunity to understand the role democracy plays in resolving global and local environmental and developmental issues
• Students will understand the challenges faced by cultural practices when development issues come into play.
• They will also learn why cultural conservation is an integral part of environmental conservation.

COURSE CONTENT
   Readings: (1) Urban Wilderness (2) Native Fauna of Pune (3) Conservation of Natural
   Readings (1) Environmental Issues in India by Edited by Mahesh Rangarajan, Pearson-Longman 2007 (2) Interdependence of Biodiversity and Development under Global Change

   Readings: (1) Patterns of Urbanization (2) Indian Cities: Demographic Trends, System of Governance and a Perspective of Growth – Amitabh Kundu

4. **Common Environmental Problems in contemporary India (9th to 28th Oct)**

5. **Environmental Movements in India: (2nd, 4th, 16th Nov 2015)**
   Readings: (1) The Chipko Movement (2) The Silent Valley Movement (3) Narmada Bachao Andolan (4) Navdanya Movement

6. **Environmental Management (18th & 23rd Nov 2015)**
   Reading: (1) India: Environmental Management and Environmental Regulation (2) Climate Change Society & Sustainable Development – Agenda for Action Times Group Publication 2010

**General Readings / Reference Material:**
1. [www.conservationindia.org](http://www.conservationindia.org)
2. [www.indianbiodiversitytalks.blogspot.in](http://www.indianbiodiversitytalks.blogspot.in)
3. Executive Summary of Draft Development Plan for Pune
4. Springs of Life – Ganesh Pangare, Vasudha Pangare & Binayak Das
5. ‘Down To Earth’ CSE magazine available online [www.downtoearth.org.in](http://www.downtoearth.org.in)

**COURSE ASSESSMENT**
1. There will be field visits and classroom discussions on various topics related to the subject. Assessments, 5 in all.
2. **Field Visits:**
   a. Bird watching at Pune University
   b. Kumbhar wada (potters)
   c. Pashan village
   d. Jawhar
   e. NGO

**ACM POLICY ON ACADEMICS**
A complete listing of ACM policies can be found in your student handbook.

Class attendance and participation: You are expected to attend and participate fully in all classroom sessions, site visits, and field trips.
Academic honesty: Actions of dishonesty are destructive to the well-being of the academic community, and ACM staff respond to them vigorously. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic theft will result in a failing grade for that assignment and may result in failure for the course.

**ACM POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION**
The Associated Colleges of the Midwest does not discriminate in the operation of its educational programs, activities, or employment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, marital status, or disability.

**ATTENDANCE**
It is essential that students participate fully in coursework and all required academic activities. Excused absences may only be approved by the Director, and students are expected to make up any missed work. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your grades.