

தமிழ்நாடு மத்தியப்
பல்கலைக்கழகம்



**CENTRAL
UNIVERSITY OF
TAMIL NADU**

तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय
विश्वविद्यालय

ESTABLISHED BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT IN 2009

MINOR COURSES

(Academic Year 2026-2027 onwards)

**Department of Geography
School of Earth Sciences
Central University of Tamil Nadu
Neelakudi, Thiruvarur – 610 005**

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LIST OF MINOR COURSES OFFERED
(TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS)

Sl. No	Semester	COURSES			ASSESSMENT	
		Code	Title	Credits	CIA	ESE
1	I	UGEO26MN01	Physical Geography	3	40	60
2	II	UGEO26MN02	Human Geography	3	40	60
3	III	UGEO26MN03	Geography of Resources	3	40	60
4	IV	UGEO26MN04	Geography of India	3	40	60

NOTE:

The Geography department is offering the above four minor courses, one in each semester during the first and second years of the four-year UG (Honours) programmes which take Geography as one of their minor subjects.



Credits: 3

Course Code: UGEO26MN01

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1. understand the physical earth systems and their interactions*
- 2. describe the geomorphic processes and its resultant landforms*
- 3. identify geomorphological units and acquire geomorphological skills*

Unit - I

Earth Systems: Origin of Earth – Interior of Earth - Continental Drift Theory – Rock Cycle - Plate Tectonics - Folds and Faults – Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Unit – II

Atmosphere - Atmospheric composition, mass and structure - Seasons - Energy balance - Air Temperature, Pressure and Winds - Hydrological cycle - Atmospheric disturbances - Global warming - Climate Change

Unit - III

Geomorphic Processes: Weathering, Mass-movement and soils - Drainage Patterns - Landform processes (erosion, transportation and deposition)

Unit - IV

Major Landforms: Fluvial landforms - Aeolian landforms - Glacial landforms - Coastal landforms – Karst topography

Unit - V

Ocean Processes: Configuration of ocean floor - Temperature, salinity, and density of ocean water - Circulation of oceanic waters: waves, tides, and currents - Currents of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans.

REFERENCES:

1. Christopherson, R. W. and Birkeland, G. H., (2012) Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography (8th edition), Pearson Education, New Jersey.
2. Das Gupta, A & Kapoor, A.N., (2001) Principles of Physical Geography, S.C. Chand & Company Ltd. New Delhi.
3. Khullar, D.R., (2012) Physical Geography, Kalyani Publishers, New Delhi.
4. Strahler, A. H. and Strahler, A N., (2001) Modern Physical Geography (4/E), John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York.



Credits: 3

Course Code: UGEO26MN02

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1. identify and explain the global and local distribution of populations, cultures, economies, and settlements*
- 2. describe the factors influencing their spatial organization to understand the contemporary issues facing the global community*
- 3. critically evaluate the human-environment relationships and its impact*

Unit - I

Introduction to Human Geography: Nature, scope and branches of human geography - Concepts of spatial distribution, man-environment relationships: determinism, possibilism, and neo-determinism.

Unit - II

Human Races, Society and Culture: Evolution – Major races: Caucasoid, Mongoloid and Negroid – Distribution - Racial conflicts and racial prejudice - Habitats: Mode of life in different geographical regions – Culture and Identity: Gender and Ethnicity - Globalization and cultural change.

Unit - III

Understanding Religion, Languages, and Communication Systems: World's major religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Judaism - Sacred spaces - Languages: Linguistic relationships and dynamics - Major world languages – Communication: Types and development.

Unit - IV

Population and Development: Spatial pattern of population distribution and influencing factors - Population composition - Population growth - Problems of over population and under population - optimum population - Migration: types, causes, and consequences – Human Development.

Unit - V

Settlements, Geopolitical Systems and Contemporary Issues: Rural and Urban settlements: influencing factors – types - growth – Urban morphology – Urbanization - Geopolitics: Boundaries and frontiers - States, Nations and Citizenship - Imperialism and colonialism - Human rights – Globalization.



REFERENCES:

1. Knox, P. & Marston, S. (2013) Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context, 6th Edition, Pearson Education, New Delhi
2. Cheng Leong, G. & Morgan, G.C. (1995) Human and Economic Geography, Oxford University Press, Oxford
3. Daniels, P., Sidaway, J., Bradshaw, M. & Shaw, D. (2012) An Introduction to Human Geography, 4th Edition, Pearson, New Jersey
4. Majid Hussain, (2005), Human Geography, Rawat Publications, New Delhi.
5. Rubenstein, J.H. (2013) Contemporary Human Geography, 2nd Edition, Prentice-Hall, New Jersey



Credits: 3

Course Code: UGEO26MN03

GEOGRAPHY OF RESOURCES

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1. recognize the concepts, classification and spatial distribution of resources across the world*
- 2. understand the utilization, conservation and management of natural and human resources*
- 3. analyze resource scarcity, resource conflicts and sustainable resource development strategies*
- 4. acquire practical skills to evaluate resource planning, governance and sustainability policies*

Unit - I

Introduction to Resource Geography:

Nature, Scope and Significance of Resource Geography – Classification of Resources – Distribution and Utilization of Resources

Unit - II

Natural Resources:

Land Resources and Soils – Water Resources: Surface and Underground – Forest and Natural Vegetation – Mineral Resources – Marine Resources

Unit - III

Energy Resources:

Conventional Energy Resources – Non-Conventional Energy Resources – Energy Crisis, Resource Scarcity, and Sustainable Energy Development

Unit - IV

Resource Management:

Human Resources and Technology – Resource Conservation and Management – Geospatial Technologies in Sustainable Resource Development

Unit - V

Resource Planning and Issues:

Resource Regions of the World – Resource Planning in India – Resource Conflicts and Environmental Issues



REFERENCES:

1. Gautam, A. (2022): Geography of Resources: Exploitation, Conservation and Managements, Sharda Pustak Bhawan.
2. Husain, M., (2003). Resource Geography. Anmol Publications Pvt Ltd., New Delhi.
3. Mitchell, B. (2002): Resource and Environmental Management, Pearson Education.
4. Owen, S. & Owens, P. (1991): Environment, Resources and Conservation, Cambridge University Press.
5. Singh, J. & Dhillon, S.S. (2006): Agricultural Geography, Tata McGraw Hill.
6. Jha, C.S. et al. (2022): Geospatial Technologies for Resources Planning and Management, Springer.
7. Nunan, F. (2026): Sustainable Natural Resource Management: A Multidisciplinary Approach, Edward Elgar Publishing.
8. Rai, P.K. et al. (2024): Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Mountainous Region, Springer.
9. Shit, P.K. et al. (2024): Geospatial Practices in Natural Resources Management, Springer.
10. Thakur, B. et al. (2021): Resource Management, Sustainable Development and Governance, Springer.
11. <https://www.unep.org/>
12. <https://www.wri.org/>
13. <https://www.fao.org/natural-resources-management/en/>
14. <https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/>
15. <https://moef.gov.in/>



Credits: 3

Course Code: UGEO26MN04

GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1. Understand the physical and environmental setting of India, including physiographic divisions, monsoons, and natural resources.*
- 2. Analyze the development patterns in agriculture, industry, and trade and the regional disparities therein.*
- 3. Apply concepts of geopolitical and economic strategies in understanding India's internal and external challenges*
- 4. Develop research-based interpretations, and policy-oriented solutions to resource conservation, and socio-economic challenges.*

Unit - I

Physical Environment

Major physiographic regions and their characteristics - Drainage systems: Himalayan and Peninsular - Indian climate: Seasonal characteristics, Monsoon, Jet Stream, climatic divisions - Himalayan Cryosphere: Glaciers and permafrost zones.

Unit - II

Natural Resources:

Soil types and distribution - Natural vegetation regions - Mineral and Energy resources - Marine and Coastal zone resources - Environmental degradation: deforestation, desertification, and pollution.

Unit - III

Agriculture and Industry:

Cropping patterns and major food crops, Agro-climatic zones - Livestock, poultry, fisheries, aquaculture and dry farming - Industrial development: Automobile and information technology sectors; Industrial Policies, SEZs, Industrial regions.

Unit - IV

Population, Settlements and Cultural Aspects:

Growth and distribution of population; Migration trends - Population policies, problems, and health indicators - Rural and urban settlement types and morphology; Urbanisation: smart cities, slums and challenges - Cultural diversity: religion, language, ethnicity, tribal regions.



Unit - V

Transport, Trade, and Geopolitics:

Transport networks: railways, roadways, airways, waterways, pipelines - Internal and external trade: composition, direction, balance of trade - Interstate disputes, reorganization, boundary issues; Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm.

REFERENCES:

1. Khullar, D. R. (2018): India A Comprehensive Geography, Kalyani Publications.
2. Sharma, T.C., (2013): Economic Geography of India. Rawat Publication.
3. Singh, A., Kaushiva, P., (2014): Geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific, KW Publishers.
4. Singh, R. L., (1971): India: A Regional Geography, National Geographical Society of India.
5. Tirtha, R., (2002): Geography of India, Rawat Publications.
6. Deshpande, C. D., (1992): India: A Regional Interpretation, ICSSR.
7. Menon, S., (2018): Inside the Making of India's Foreign Policy, Penguin Random House India Private Limited.
8. Singh, R. B., (2014): Urban Development Challenges, Risk & Resilience in Asian Mega Cities, Springer.
9. Singh, R. B., Schickhoff, U., and Suraj M., (Eds.) (2016): Climate Change, Glacier Response, and Vegetation Dynamics in the Himalaya, Springer.
10. Spate, O. H. K., and Learmonth A. T. A., (1967): India and Pakistan: A General and Regional Geography, Methuen.
11. <https://www.usgs.gov/>
12. <https://www.fao.org/home/en/>
13. <https://moef.gov.in/>
14. <https://indiawris.gov.in/wris/#/>
15. <https://censusindia.gov.in/census.website/>