

SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY - TIRUPATI

Multidisciplinary Course

w.e.f. AY 2024-25

SEMESTER-IV

INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

Credits: 2

2 hrs/week

Course Description:

This course serves as an introduction to the field of geography, exploring the fundamental concepts, theories, and methods used to study the Earth's physical features, human societies, and their interactions. Through lectures, readings, discussions, and practical exercises, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of geographic principles and how they shape our world.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Define and explain key geographic concepts and terms.
2. Describe and analyse the Earth's physical features, including landforms, climate, and ecosystems.
3. Understand the spatial distribution of human populations, cultures, and societies.
4. Analyse the interactions between humans and the environment.
5. Interpret maps, globes, and spatial data.

Course Outcomes: Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of fundamental geographic concepts.
2. Identify and describe the absolute and relative locations of different places on the Earth's surface, using latitude and longitude coordinates and geographic landmarks.
3. Read, analyse, and interpret various types of maps.
4. Analyse the ways in which human societies interact with and impact their environments.

Course Outline:

Unit 1:

Introduction – Definition – Scope – Importance of Geography – Geographic Tools and Methods – Five Themes of Geography – Structure and Composition of Earth

Unit 2:

Plate Tectonics and Continental Drift – Landforms – Hydrosphere – Climate and Weather Patterns – Ecosystems and Biodiversity - Distribution and Depletion of natural resources - Environmental Hazards.

Unit 3:

Population Distribution and Growth – Cultural Landscapes and Cultural Diffusion – Language, Religion, and Ethnicity – Urban and Rural Landscapes – Migration and Urbanization – Globalization and its Impacts

Activities:

1. Case Studies in Geography
2. Applying Geographic Knowledge to Real-World Scenarios
3. Regional Studies: Exploring Different Parts of the World

Assessment Methods:

1. Quizzes and Examinations
2. Individual or Group Projects
3. Class Participation and Discussions
4. Map Interpretation Exercises
5. Presentations
6. Research Papers

Recommended books:

1. "*Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts*" by Harm J. de Blij and Peter O. Muller
2. "*The Geography Book: Activities for Exploring, Mapping, and Enjoying Your World*" by Caroline Arnold
3. "*How to Lie with Maps*" by Mark Monmonier
4. "*The Penguin State of the World Atlas*" by Dan Smith