**Course Title: Geography of Nepal** Full Marks: 100

Course No: Geo.Ed. 439 (Minor) Pass Marks: 35

Nature of the Course: Theoretical Periods Per Week: 6

Level: B. Ed. Total Periods: 150

Year: Third Time per period : 55 minute

1. **Course Description**

This course is designed to orient the students to the various aspects of Geography of Nepal. It deals with the comprehensive knowledge of formal and functional regions of Nepal including physical structure, physiography, climate, vegetation, drainage, resources bases, and economy and population. It also deals with the problems and prospects of resources distributions and management, and disaster risk reductions in Nepal.

1. **General Objectives**

The general objectives of this course are to:

* Enable students to understand the types and basis of formal and functional regions and their characteristics of **Nepal,**
* Acquaint students with the climate and natural vegetations, their physical conditions, types and geographical distribution,
* Familiarize students with major forms, characteristics, distributions and resource potentials and problems associated with the glaciers, rivers networks and wetlands,
* Acquaint students with the natural resource bases, their types, prospects, problems and policies.
* Acquaint students with the problems and prospects of industry, transportation and foreign trade.
* Familiarize students with the population, migration, urbanization and settlement issues of Nepal.
* Enable the students to find out the disaster and environmental issues of Nepal.
* Acquaint students with the various threats to cultural heritages and measures for conservation of cultural heritages of Nepal,
* Enable students to apply the various types of maps, reading materials, and online resources in teaching geography of Nepal.

**3. Specific Objectives and Contents**

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| **Specific Objectives** | **Contents** |
| * Introduce geographical and geophysical location * Explain origin and importance of Himalayas * Describe the physiographic division of Nepal * Describe administrative divisions * Describes the concepts and basis of regionalization | |  | | --- | | **Unit-I: Physiographic Structure and Regionalization (10)** | | 1.1 Geographical location | | * 1. Geopolitical situation   2. Origin of Himalayas (geophysical location   and its process of origin)   * 1. Importance of Himalayas | | 1.5 Physiographic division | | 1.6 Mountain ranges, peaks and passes  1.7 Ecological divisions  1.8 Administrative divisions  1.8.1 Federal state  1.8.2 Districts  1.8.3 Local Levels  1.9 Regions and basis of regionalization | |
| * Introduce the influencing factors of climate * Explain climatic conditions and climatic regions * Describe Koppen’s and Thornthwait’s climatic classification * Discuss the natural vegetation and its distribution pattern | **Unit-II: Climate and Natural Vegetation (8)**  2.1 Factors influencing climate  2.2 Climatic conditions  2.3 Climatic region  2.4 Koppen’s and Thornthwait’s classification  2.5 Natural Vegetation types and its distribution |
| * Explain the glacier and river system of Nepal * List the major wetlands (including lakes and ponds), waterfalls | **Unit-III: Glacier, River System and Wetlands (10)**  3.1 Glacier and glacier lake  3.2 River system of Nepal  3.3 Major lakes  3.4 Wetlands  3.5 Major waterfalls |
| * Classify soil resources in to major types and production potentialities * Describe soil erosion with its causes, consequences and preventive measures * Discuss major types of forest with its types and distribution * Explain the causes and consequences and preventive measures of deforestation * Mention the present status of mineral resources and problems of exploitation * Mention the prospects of hydro-power with its production and distribution * Analysis the problems of hydro electricity * Point out the ongoing policies of developing hydro electricity * Describes the present status, problems and prospects of various alternative energy * Discuss the causes and consequences of extinction of rare and endangered species * Discuss the way of conservation of rare and endangered species * Describe the importance of National Parks, Wildlife and Hunting Reserves, Conservation Area, Buffer Zone Area | **Unit-IV: Natural Resources and Management (30)**  4.1 Soils resource  4.1.1 Major types and distribution  4.1.2 Production potentialities  4.1.3 Soil erosion- causes, consequences and  preventive measures  4.2 Forest resources  4.2.1 Major types and distribution  4.2.2 Forest conservation and management – Community (CFUGs), Joint Stock (JSFM Forest Management , Leasehold Forest management (LH)  4.2.3 Deforestation- causes, consequences and measures  4.3 Mineral resources  4.3.1 Present situation  4.3.2 Problems of minerals exploitation  4.4 Power resources  4.4.1 Prospects and production of hydro  Electricity  4.4.1.1 National grid- power station and  transmission  4.4.1.2 Micro Hydro  4.4.2 Problems of hydro electricity  4.4.3 Policies of hydro electricity  4.4.4 Alternative Energy -present status(solar  energy, wind, bio-energy, and firewood)  4.5 Biodiversity Resources  4.5.1 Biodiversity resources in Nepal  4.5.2 Extinction of rare and endangered  species  4.5.3Conservation of rare and endangered  species  4.5.4 Invasive Alien species  4.5.5 Distribution of PAs  4.5.6 Importance of PAs -National Parks,  Wildlife and Hunting Reserves,  Conservation Area, Buffer Zone  Area |
| * Discuss the agricultural region and the characteristics of Nepalese agriculture * Mention the importance and problems of agriculture * Discuss the concept of transformation of agriculture system * Describe the various types of principal crops * Discuss about the methods of irrigation * Describe the problems of irrigation * Introduce livestock and dairy production | **Unit-V: Agriculture (16)**  5.1 Agricultural region  5.2 Characteristics of agriculture  5.3 Importance of agriculture  5.4 Problems of agriculture  5.4 Concept of transformation of agriculture  system  5.5 Principal crops  5.5.1 Food crops(rice, wheat, maize, millet  and potato)  5.5.2 Cash crops(tea, coffee, large cardamom,  Sugarcane, ginger)  5.5.3 Horticulture  5.6 Agro forestry  5.7 Irrigation  5.7.1 Methods of irrigation  5.7.2 Problems of irrigation  5.8 Livestock and dairy production |
| * Explain the importance and localization of industries * Discuss the types, problems and the status of Nepalese industries * Point out the problems of Industrialization * Locate the major industrial regions in map. | **Unit-VI: Industries (15)**  6.1 Importance of industries  6.2 Localization of industry  6.2 Types, problems and present status of  Nepalese industries  6.2.1 Small and cottage industries  6.2.2 Large scale industries(cement, carpet,  sugar and garment)  6.3 Problems of industrialization in Nepal  6.4 Major industrial regions |
| * Describe importance of tourism industry. * Discuss the contribution of tourism in national economy * Discuss potentialities and problems of tourism in Nepal * Illustrate the trends of tourism and tourism policies * Locate the major tourist places in map. | **Unit -VII Tourism (8)**  7.1 Importance of tourism  7.2 Contribution of tourism in national economy  7.3 Potentialities of tourism in Nepal  7.4 Problems of tourism  7.5 Trends of tourism  7.6 Tourism policies in Nepal  7.7 Major tourist routes and places |
| * Discuss the importance of transportation. * Explain the development and problems of roadways * Locate the major highways in map * Point out the problems and prospects of airways, railway, ropeway and waterway | **Unit-VIII Transportation (7 )**  8.1 Importance of transportation  8.2 Development and problems of roadways  8.3 Major highways  8.4 Problems and prospects of airway, railway,  ropeway and inland waterway |
| * Explain the historical development of foreign trade * Mention the nature of foreign trade * Describe the trade diversification * Point out the problems of foreign trade * Discuss the foreign trade policy of Nepal | **Unit-IX: Trade (6)**  9.1 Historical development  9.2 Nature of foreign trade  9.3 Trade diversification: goods and commodity,  country  9.4 Problems of foreign trade  9.5 Foreign trade policy |
| * Illustrate Population size, growth and its composition * Describe the factors affecting population distribution and density * Discuss population distribution and Density on the basis of ecological, federal state level and rural and urban * Mention the major causes and the consequences of population growth * Explain migration with its major trends * Mention the major causes and the consequences of migration * List out the Policies of Population in Nepal * Describe the types of settlement and houses on the basis of ecological region * Introduce the historical development and present status of urbanization | **Unit-X: Population and Settlement (20)**  10.1 Population composition, size and growth  10.2 Factors affecting population distribution  10.3 Population distribution and density  10.3.1 Physiographic region  10.3.2 Ecological region  10.3.3 federal state level  10.3.4 Rural and urban  10.4 Causes and consequences of population  growth  10.5 Migration  10.5.1 Major trends and direction: hill to  terai, rural to urban, international  10.5.2 Labor migration and Remittance  10.5.2 Causes and consequences of migration  10.6 Population policies in Nepal  10.7 Settlement  10.7.1 Types of rural settlement  10.7.2 Types of rural houses  10.7.3 Urban settlement  10.8 Urbanization  10.8.1 Historical development  10.8.2 Present Status |
| * Describe the different types of disaster * Explain the different type of environmental issues. | **Unit XI: Disaster and Environmental Issues (10)**  11.1 Landslide and flood  11.2 Earthquake  11.3 Climate change and desertification  11.4 GLOF  11.5 Lightning and fire  11.6 Wildlife hazard  11.7 Hailstone and storm  11.8 Hot wave and cold wave  11.9 Pollution and sanitation |
| * Explain the various types of cultural heritages of Nepal * Describe various threats to cultural heritages of Nepal * Point out the measures for conservation of cultural heritages of Nepal | **Unit XII Cultural Heritages of Nepal (10)**  12.1 Tangible Heritage  12.1.1 Building and Monuments  12.1.2 Landscape  12.1.3 Literature  12.1.4 Art and Artifacts  12.2 Intangible Heritage  12.2.1 Folklore  12.2.2 Tradition  12.2.3 Language  12.2.4 Knowledge  12.3 Threats for conservation to cultural  heritage  12.4 Measures for conservation of cultural  Heritages |

*Note: The figures in the parentheses indicate the approximate periods for the respective units.*

**4 Instructional Techniques**

Two types of instructional techniques have been recommended. The first group comprises general instructional techniques applicable to most of the units with the help of maps, online resources and published documents. The second group includes instructional techniques to be applied to each of the specific units.

**4.1General Instructional Techniques**

* Lecture, discussion, question-answer, brain storming, student interaction.
  1. **Specific Instructional Techniques**

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| Unit | Instructional techniques |
| I | Use maps of Nepal for the physiographic divisions and regionalization |
| II | Use maps of Nepal for the influencing factors of climate, climatic conditions, discussion on Koppen’s and Thornthwait’s climatic classification. |
| III | Illustration of the types glacier and river system with the help of maps. |
| IV | Discussion based on lecture method and brainstorming on natural resources  Give ideas on resource distribution through visual aids, Google Earth Maps and world atlas maps as well as online resources |
| V | Student's classroom presentation on agricultural activities and their characteristics |
| VI | Student's classroom presentation on industrial activities and their characteristics |
| VII | Discussion on tourism activities, problem and policy in Nepal |
| VIII | Discussion and identification of foreign trade condition of Nepal |
| IX | Providing theoretical concept of historical development, nature and diversification of foreign trade |
| X | Preparing charts to show the trend of population growth and population distribution, migration and construction and use of density map.  Providing concepts of the rural and urban settlement and urbanization pattern with illustrations. |
| XI | Discussion and presentation of typology of disaster andenvironmental issues based **on reports, paper and books.** |
| XII | Discussion on identification of different cultural heritages of Nepal and measures for conservation of cultural heritages. |

**5. Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of written test, classroom participation, presentation of reports and other classroom activities. But the score obtained will be used only for feedback purposes. The performance of the students will be evaluated by the annual examination to be held by the Office of the Controller of Examinations. The types and number of questions to be asked in the examination are mentioned below:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Types of Questions** | **Total Questions to be asked** | **Number of Questions to be answered and marks** | **Total marks** |
| Group A: Multiple choice test items | 20 questions | 20 x 1 marks | 20 |
| Group B: Short answer questions | 8 with three 'or' questions | 8x7 marks | 56 |
| Group C: Long answer questions | 2 with one 'or' question | 2x12 marks | 24 |
|  |  | **Total** | **100** |

**6. Recommended Books and References**

**Recommended Books**

Pandey, R.K. (2058). *Nepal ko Bhautik Bhugol*. Kathmandu: Bidhyarti Pustak Bhandar

Pandey, R. K. (2066). *Nepal ko Manab Bhugol*. Kathmandu: Ratna Pustak Bhandar

Paudyal, N. P. (2004). *Geography of Nepal.* Kathmandu: Gyankunj publication

Pokhrel, B. P. (2063). *Physical, Economic and Cultural Geography of Nepal*. Pokhara:Sigdel Press

Shrestha, S. H. (1952). *Nepal ko Arthik Tatha Manav Bhugol.* Kathmandu: Education Enterprises

**References**

Bhandari, S (2059). *Geography of Nepal*, Kathmandu: Ratna Pustak Bhandar

Dhakal, K. R. (2073). *Basic Environmental Education*, Kathmandu: Quest Publication.

Gurung, H.B. (1980). *Vignettes of Nepal*. Kathmandu: Sajha Prakashan

Gurung, H. B. (2003). Highland agriculture as peasant perseverance. In Ya, T and Tulachan, P M (eds), *Mountain agriculture in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region*. Kathmandu: ICIMOD, pp. 17-22

Gurung, H. B. (1996). *Ethnic demography of Nepal*. Kathmandu: Nepal Foundation for Advanced Studies (NEFAS).

Hagen, T. (2058). *Nepal ko Chinari.* Lalitpur: Himalayan Book Publication

Karan, P. P. (1960). *Nepal: A Cultural and Physical Geography*. University of Kentucky Press

Pandey, R. K. (1987). *Effect of Altitude of Nepal.* Kathmandu: Himalayan Book Distribution

Sharma, C. K. (1973), *Geology of Nepal.* Kathmandu: Educational Enterprises

Shrestha, C. B. & Rijal S.P.(2016). *Nepal* : *Cultural Geography*. Bhaktapur: Rhino Publication Pvt. Ltd.

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Different volumes of Periodical of Geographers contributions of Nepal – Visit online open source Journals – <http://tribhuvan-university.edu.np/nepjols-responsibility-to-tucl/NT>

The Himalayan Review

The Third Pole

The Geographical Journal

Google search about the publication of Government of Nepal