Exploring Sustainability in the Indian Context

Online course | Apr 14 - Jul 3 | 2023





Rapid and widespread environmental, economic and social changes have led to urgent global questions of sustainability. Concerns of sustainability in developing countries like India can be very different than that of industrialised countries. In developing countries, equity and social justice are central to addressing sustainability, along with environmental concerns.

This interdisciplinary, multi-instructor course provides an introduction to sustainability within the context of development in India. We develop an integrated perspective on sustainability along ecological and social dimensions, and use these to examine critical themes of importance to India, like population, food, and climate change.

Participants in this fully online course are expected to watch video lectures, join interactive video-discussions with faculty, and participate in discussion forums. Those who complete all activities and tests and submit assignments will get a Certificate of Participation from Azim Premji University.

We explore how our imagination of culture, markets, state, and even of nature itself influences sustainability action. We end with examining how to take sustainability action - as individuals, communities and larger collectives, and across all scales, from the local to the global.



Who should attend

This course is designed for those seeking an integrated and multi-disciplinary understanding of sustainability both in theory and practice. It is ideal for students curious about sustainability as well as development practitioners interested in deepening their understanding.

What you will learn

Understand what sustainability is in an Indian context. Appreciate different social and ecological aspects of sustainability. Interpret real-world issues such as population, food and climate change through the lens of sustainability. Discover how our imagination of nature, culture, markets and the state influences sustainability action. Explore different types of action at individual, community and government levels and across all scales, from the local to the global.

Modules

- Framing Sustainability
- Population and Sustainability
- Food and Sustainability
- Climate Change
- Situating Sustainability
- Sustainability Action and You

Certificateof Participation

Will be issued to participants who complete requirements listed below. No marks or grade will be mentioned.

Course details

- Time commitment of 4-5 hours a week
- Video lectures with linked activities
- Discussion forum
- Weekly live interaction with faculty
- Two quizzes
- Two surveys (self assessment)

Course fees

₹1180, inclusive of taxes. Fee waivers available for deserving candidates.

Course completion requirements

Watch at least 70% of video lectures fully. Score at least 50% marks on the two quizzes.

Participants can access course materials through any web browser or Android OS mobile phone. Login credentials will be provided upon registration.

For more information, and to register: sustainability.online@apu.edu.in



Course Faculty



Harini Nagendra
teaches sustainability and is the
author of "Nature in the City:
Bengaluru in the Past, Present,
and Future". She has received
numerous awards, including a
2013 Elinor Ostrom
Senior Scholar.



Manu Mathai teaches sustainability. He has published two books that analyse nuclear power in India's sustainable development discourse and the international 'Green Growth' narrative, and study alternatives to these ideas.



Richa Govil teaches about agricultural livelihoods, food and gender at Azim Premji University. Her interests include the role of women in agriculture, interlinkages between agriculture and household nutrition and producer organisations.





P.S. Narayan leads Wipro's sustainability initiatives and has taught courses on sustainability at the University. His areas of focus are industrial ecology, energy, climate change and water.



Hita Unnikrishnan is a visiting faculty at Azim Premji University. She has an upcoming book on social ecological systems in the global south. She received an Elinor Ostrom Fellowship on Practice and Policy in the Commons in 2013.



Radha Gopalan
is a visiting faculty at Azim Premji
University. She is deeply engaged
with the theory and practice of
food sovereignty. Radha's
interests are in developing
learning modules to promote
critical thinking.

ACTIVITY	FACULTY	RELEASE DATE	LIVE-INTERACTION WITH FACULTY (9.00 TO 10.30AM)	SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Introduction (1 video) Pre-course Survey	_	Friday, Apr 14		Monday, Apr 24
Framing Sustainability (5 videos)	Hita Unnikrishnan	Friday, Apr 21	Saturday, Apr 29	
Populaton and sustainability (3 videos) Food and Sustainability (3 videos)	Richa Govil	Friday, Apr 28	Saturday, May 6	
Cimate change (5 videos)	P.S. Narayan	Friday, May 5	Saturday, May 13	
Situating Sustainability (5 videos)	Manu Mathai	Friday, May 12	Saturday, May 20	
Sustainability Action and you	Radha Gopalan	Friday, May 19	Saturday, May 27	
Wrap-up (1 video) Post-course Survey	_	Friday, May 26		Thursday, Jun 8
Quiz 1	_	Saturday, May 13		Sunday, Jun 11
Quiz 2	_	Saturday, May 27		Sunday, Jun 11
Termination of access	_	Sunday, Jun 25		
Issue of Certificate	_	Monday, Jul 3		

Azim Premji University

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Website: https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in

To register: http://onlinecourses.apu.edu.in/load/enrollment/form