



Università  
degli Studi di  
Messina  
DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE  
POLITICHE E GIURIDICHE

**Professor**  
**BUSHRA BEEGOM RK,**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN SOCIOLOGY**  
**DIRECTOR CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF KERALA, INDIA**  
**FREE CREDITS COURSE**

## **Towards building a sustainable and Inclusive Communities in South Asian Perspective, in terms of class, gender and local development**

*Develop practical proposals for building resilient, equitable, and environmentally responsible communities”*

### **Part A – Sustainable and Inclusive Communities**

#### **Free Credits for:**

- Students of the bachelor's degree program in Political Science and International Relations (in English and Italian) and other bachelor's degree programs in the Department of Political Science and Law (Social Work, New Technology Law, Political Science, Administration, and Services).
- Students of the master's degree programs in “International Relations” and “Public Administration.”

*0,75 FREE CREDIT FOR PARTICIPATION IN ALL 4 LECTURES (0.25 PER LECTURE)*

#### **CONTENTS**

The course aims to make students aware of sustainability and social inclusion when we build up communities. The students will be equipped to address global issues like sustainability, environmental issues and social equity. The topics given will explore with the idea of reciprocal relationship between environment and society and it also deals with different ideologies and perspectives of Environmental Sociology and sustainability and gendered experiences.

The Teaching Activities introduce the concept of sustainable development and social inclusion in a South Asian Perspective. Here students examine case studies related to people's participation and socio-cultural perspective in sustainable development. It also covers different methodological approaches such as environmental impact assessments, participatory planning and integrated policy frameworks also. These topics would help the students to compare and critically evaluate current policies and can how sustainability is promoted in different socio-cultural contexts.

Also, through this course the students will understand how women experience environmental impacts differently particularly in Indian contexts; for instance, women spent hours for collecting water and firewood for household needs in rural areas. These gendered experiences offer new insight into environmental degradation and related issues. This involves how societal norms and women's role in decision making influence accessibility and decision-making. The course also deals with how gender sensitive policies can promote equality and environmental sustainability.

This series of lectures aim to improve students understanding of the principles, strategies involving



the communities that are sustainable, inclusive, resilient and equitable. Students will understand how far the community led initiatives ensure the social equity and inclusion through different programs in different socio cultural contexts.

The objectives of the series of lectures are given herewith:

- To make the students aware of the concepts related to sustainability and social inclusion
- To examine and analyse the challenges and possibilities of communities in achieving sustainable development
- To learn different strategies adopted by communities in a South Asian perspective
- To critically evaluate policies, programs, and initiatives aimed at community sustainability.

### **Lecture 1: Introduction to Sustainable and Inclusive Communities (2 Hours)**

February 12, 3:00-5:00 p.m., AULA MAISANO – Building A, entry by the Street Malpighi.

- Course overview and objectives
- Key concepts: Sustainability, Social inclusion, Resilience, Social equity, Intergenerational responsibility. Multi-stakeholder involvement
- The importance of community-based development
- Global frameworks and guidelines (SDGs)

### **Lecture 2: Social Inclusion and Marginalisation (2 Hours)**

February 17, 3:00-5:00 p.m., AULA MAISANO – Building A, entry by the Street Malpighi.

- Barriers to participation: gender, caste, disabilities, socioeconomic status
- Strategies for inclusive participation Case studies of inclusive community initiatives: Kudumbasree, MGNREGA

### **Lecture 3: Sustainable Development and Community Led Initiatives ( 2 Hours)**

February 19, 3:00-5:00 p.m., AULA MAISANO – Building A, entry by the Street Malpighi.

- Human Wildlife Conflict - Anthropogenic Stress on Ecosystem, Case studies India
- Environmental Movements; National- Chipko movement, Narmada Bachao Andolan, Plachimada struggle.
- Success stories from South Asia
- Community financing: microcredits, cooperatives

IN ADDITION:

### **Part B - Three Single lectures for PhD Students of Political Sciences (mandatory)**

These PhD lectures are also open to bachelor's and master's degree students in the Department as free credits. (0.25 PER LECTURE)

### **Lecture 1 - Concepts & Theorizing Gender Equality/ History and Trajectories of Women's Movement in India**



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February 5, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Room: AULA DOTTORANDI, located at Piazza XX  
Settembre, no. 4, first floor (Building C)

**Lecture 2 - Development Induced Displacement and Dispossession through Land Acquisition:  
Special Reference to Kerala, India**

February 9, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Room: AULA DOTTORANDI, located at Piazza XX  
Settembre, no. 4, first floor (Building C).

**Lecture 3 - Socio-Cultural Exclusion of Transgender Community and Atrocities against  
Women at Work in the local context**

February 10, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Room: AULA DOTTORANDI, located at Piazza XX  
Settembre, no. 4, first floor (Building C).

*For info: Prof. Domenica Farinella, [dfarinella@unime.it](mailto:dfarinella@unime.it)*

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