Course Specification
(Bachelor)

Course Title:	Protected Areas
Course Code:	EVS 1362
Program:	Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science
Department:	Biology
College:	Science
Institution:	Imam Mohammed Ibn Saud Islamic University
Version:	1
Last Revision Date:	-

Table of Contents

A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3 (2 Lecture + 2 Lab)

2. Course type

A.	☐University	☐College	☒ Department	☐Track	Others
B.	☒ Required		☐Elective		

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: (Level 6 / 3rd year)

4. Course General Description:

This course provides students with the essential knowledge related to the areas dedicated to nature conservation, also known as "protected areas." Protected areas cover more than 15% of global land mass and serve as a critical conservation tool for protecting nature and biodiversity. Effective conservation and management of this significant protected land is central to achieving global conservation and sustainable development goals. The knowledge, practical skills, and field training required by contemporary protected area conservation professionals are provided. The course contents explain why these areas are so important to the health of the environment in our fast-developing world. The students are introduced to the key concepts needed to understand protected area management and policy at the national and international levels. History, philosophy, laws, policies, and international conventions of the global protected area system are among the course key topics related to protected area management. The management planning, governance, management practice, ecological imperatives of protected areas and their sustainability are also covered to address complex conservation problems within protected areas. Terrestrial, freshwater and marine protected areas are addressed.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any)**:**

EVS 1110 EVS 1112

6. Co-requisites for this course (if any)**:**

None

7. Course Main Objective(s):

The structure of the course ensures that students can acquire the required skills for protected area planning and management. The course is designed to provide the necessary foundation to pursue a future career in protected area management.
The main course objectives involve:
-Providing knowledge of contemporary issues relating to biodiversity conservation and the role of protected areas.
-Develop skills in analysing the relationship and values between protected areas, adjacent lands, neighbouring communities and the wider community.
-Identifying the relevant environmental, social and economic values attributed to protected areas.
-Enhancing the appreciation of the importance of biological diversity and the ecological services provided by the protected areas.
-Understanding the key approaches and considerations for the management of protected areas.
-Gaining knowledge of different approaches to the management of protected areas at global, national and local levels.

2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	√	100%
2	E-learning	-	-
3	Hybrid • Traditional classroom • E-learning	-	-
4	Distance learning	-	-

3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	**Lectures**	30
2.	**Laboratory/Studio**	30
3.	**Field**	-
4.	**Tutorial**	-
5.	**Others (specify)**	-
Total		60

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with the program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	**Knowledge and Understanding**			
1.1	**Explain comprehensively the techniques and principles underpinning the design of effective and representative protected area networks.**	**K1**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data search
1.2	**Outline the principles and main processes of the government and management challenges of conservation.**	**K2**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data Search
1.3	**Describe the planning process for establishing protected areas**	**K3**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data Search
1.4	**Relate between protected areas and their impacts on community and biodiversity and clarify how the effectiveness of a protected area is assessed.**	**K4**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data Search

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with the program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
2.0	**Skills**			
2.1	**Apply integrated conservation and development concepts and approaches to the management of protected areas.**	**S1**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data search
2.2	**Evaluate the concepts and purposes of protected areas as part of global conservation strategies.**	**S2**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data search
2.3	**Synthesise theories relevant to protected areas and wider conservation fields and apply data collection and analysis techniques to define problems and solutions.**	**S3**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data search
2.4	**Analyse the contemporary relationship between protected areas and adjacent lands and communities.**	**S3**	-Weekly lectures -Class discussions	-Written exam -Participation -Essay -Data search
3.0	**Values, autonomy, and responsibility**			
3.1	**Demonstrate independence and cooperate effectively with research team**	**V1**	-Group discussions	-Presentations -Reports -Seminars

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with the program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
3.2	**Share in specialized discussions and present scientific data via written format and oral presentations**	**V2**	-Group discussions	-Presentations -Reports -Seminars
3.3	**Adhere to ethical rules while performing activities in the field of protected areas.**	**V4**	-Group discussions	-Presentations -Reports -Seminars

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	**Concepts of protected areas:** -Definitions of protected areas based on management categories and governance types -The history of protected areas -Importance of protected areas and protected area systems -Role and functions of protected areas -IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas -IUCN categories for protected areas -Convention on Biodiversity	**4**
2.	**Planning of protected areas:** -Integrated planning of a protected area and surrounding developed zones -Planning of a single protected area -Planning of a system of protected areas - Protected area networks - Representative ecological networks	**4**

3.	**Governance of protected areas:** -Private protected areas -Definition of governance -Governmental protected areas -Community-based protected areas -Shared governance	**4**
4.	**Monitoring and conservation of protected areas:** -Ecological monitoring and conservation -Monitoring of protected area management -Green List of protected areas -Management effectiveness and adaptive management -Law enforcement in protected areas -Education about conservation -World heritage convention -Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	**4**
5.	**Specificities of protected area management:** -Culture and nature -Capacity-building for protected area management -Species approach -Convention on international trade in endangered species -Interactions between protected areas and resident and local communities.	**4**
6.	**Marine protected areas:** -Specifications of marine protected areas	**2**
7.	**Tourism in protected areas (ecotourism):** -Tourism forms in protected areas	**2**
8.	**Economics of protected areas:** -Economical values of protected areas -Sustainable funding	**2**

	-Financial planning -Funding sources and mechanisms	
9.	**Themes with protected areas:** -Ecological restoration -Connectivity and buffer zones -Natural resources trafficking	**2**
10.	**Protected areas and climate change:** -Impact of climate change on protected areas	**2**
Total		**30**

D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	**Midterm exam 1**	Around 5th and 6th week	15%
2.	**Midterm exam 2**	Around 7th and 8th week	15%
3	**Attendance, Participation, Assignments, Presentations, Essay, Data Search**	Throughout course duration	10%
3.	**Lab Reports**	Throughout the course duration	5%
4.	**Final Lab Exam**	15th week	15%
5.	**Final exam**	16th week	40%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).

E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	**-IUCN's Protected Area Governance and Management. (2014) (World Commission on Protected Areas). -Protected Areas Management (2017). Weston Allen (Editor). Larsen and Keller Education. ISBN 978-1635492385 -Managing Protected AreasA Global Guide.(2006). Michael Lockwood, Graeme L., andAshish Kothari (Editors). Routledge. ISBN 9781844073030**
Supportive References	**-https://www.protectedplanet.net/en -https://www.oursafetynet.org/2021/01/14/why-linking-protected-areas-is-crucial-for-wildlife-movement/ https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PAG-021.pdf**
Electronic Materials	**-**
Other Learning Materials	**-**

2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Classroom and laboratory
Technology equipment (projector, smart board, software)	Projector and smartboard
Other equipment (depending on the nature of the speciality)	-

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	Direct
Effectiveness of Students assessment	Program leader	Direct
Quality of learning resources	Peer reviewer	Indirect
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Program leader	Direct
Other		

Assessors (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewers, Others (specify)

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	
REFERENCE NO.	
DATE	