

# **GEOG-604 Geography of Uttarakhand**

## **Course Description:**

This course provides an in-depth examination of the physical and human geography of Uttarakhand, a state in northern India known for its diverse landscapes, rich cultural heritage, and unique environmental challenges. Topics include the physical geography, natural resources, socio-economic characteristics, and environmental issues of Uttarakhand.

## **Learning Objectives:**

1. Understand the physical and environmental characteristics of Uttarakhand.
2. Analyze the socio-economic and cultural dynamics of the region.
3. Examine the historical development and geographical significance of Uttarakhand.
4. Evaluate the environmental challenges and sustainable development strategies in Uttarakhand.

## **BLOCK 1: UTTARAKHAND: A GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT**

1. Geographical location and administrative divisions, Historical background, and cultural heritage
2. Physical Geography of Uttarakhand, Geology, and geomorphology: Himalayan ranges, valleys, and Landforms
3. Climate and weather patterns: monsoon, temperature, precipitation, and Hydrology: rivers, lakes, glaciers, and water resources
4. Ecosystem diversity: forests, grasslands, wetlands, Wildlife, and conservation areas: national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, Threats to biodiversity: deforestation, habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict

## **BLOCK 2: UTTARAKHAND: AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIO-CULTURAL DYNAMICS**

5. Agricultural practices and cropping patterns, Rural livelihoods and socio-economic challenges and Government schemes and initiatives for rural development
6. Ethnic diversity: indigenous communities, languages, and traditions
7. Gender dynamics and social issues, Education, healthcare, and social welfare initiative

## **BLOCK: 3 UTTARAKHAND: URBANIZATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND TOURISM**

8. Urban growth and demographic trends

9. Infrastructure development: transportation, energy, communication urban planning challenges and sustainable development strategies

10. Tourism industry: pilgrimage sites, hill stations, adventure tourism, Cultural heritage: temples, monuments, traditional art form

#### **BLOCK 4: UTTARAKHAND: DISASTER RISK AND MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES**

11. Geological and Climate induced hazards: earthquakes, landslide, floods, droughts, avalanches and Disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies

12. Emerging trends and opportunities in Uttarakhand

13. Policy implications and recommendations for sustainable development

##### **Texts/Resources:**

- "Geography of Uttarakhand" by Dr. R. C. Sharma and Kamlesh Kumar
- Selected research articles, reports, and case studies on Uttarakhand
- Online resources and databases for geographical data and analysis