



Academic year	2017-18
Subject	20521 - Environmental Economics in Tourist Areas
Group	Group 31, 2S, GTUR
Syllabus	K
Language	English

Subject

Name	20521 - Environmental Economics in Tourist Areas
Credits	1.8 in-class (45 hours) 4.2 distance (105 hours) 6 total (150 hours).
Group	Group 31, 2S, GTUR (Campus Extens)
Period	Second semester
Language	English

Lecturers

Lecturers	Office hours for students					
	Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	End date	Office
Catalina Maria Torres Figuerola cati.torres@uib.es	15:00	16:00	Wednesday	11/09/2017	31/05/2018	DB-254, Edifici Jovellanos (cita prèvia per e-mail)

Context

The aim of the course is to make students familiar with the concepts, principles, theories and methodologies of environmental economics. In this sense, and after completing the course, they are expected to be able to analyse environmental issues from a neoclassical economics perspective, which involves, among others, understanding the economic value of ecosystems; acquiring knowledge about Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) and the implications for CBA-based decision-making of considering risk and uncertainty; and understanding the functioning of market-based environmental policy tools. However, for a better understanding of the implications of adopting a neoclassical economics perspective to deal with environmental issues, the course will also provide some insights into how ecosystems work as well as how the environment has been perceived and dealt with in economic thought.

The language of instruction for this course will be English. Students taking this course will learn specific economic /tourism-related vocabulary and develop both their productive and receptive skills in English, and therefore acquire further knowledge of the English language.

Requirements

Recommended

It is highly recommended students are familiar with neoclassical economics analysis.

Skills



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Specific

- * CE-9. Applying key technologies used to study reciprocal links between the physical and human environment in different tourism frameworks, particularly those used to assess the environmental impacts of such activities, their consequences on the landscape and the transmission of scientific information so as to facilitate their application in academic and professional circles..
- * CE-10. Applying concepts, techniques and an understanding of different scientific fields to the resolution of problems (with adequate legislative knowledge), promotion of development, creation of wealth, and improved quality of life (for tourists and residents alike) through public and private sectoral planning, spatial planning, risk prevention, conservation, and policies in the fields of sustainability and equality, with quality of life and tourism experiences as key factors at all times..
- * CE-11. Demonstrating a command of a wide range of analytical and observational strategies, developed through habitual research methods used in different scientific fields during his/her academic training and consolidated in the workplace..

Generic

- * CG-1. Demonstrating and possessing a basic knowledge and basic understanding of tourism-related subjects through different scientific disciplines, together with their epistemological evolution and the links between each scientific discipline and all the other tourism-related ones, based on knowledge acquired at secondary school and onward up to a level that guarantees an awareness of spearhead studies in this field..
- * CG-2. Knowing how to apply technical and methodological knowledge to his/her work and doing so in a professional manner, integrating the different tourism-related subject areas that he/she has studied. Possessing the necessary skills and demonstrating them by putting forward and defending arguments and solving problems in relevant subject areas..
- * CG-3. Having the capacity to gather and interpret relevant quantitative, qualitative and spatial data, so as to make judgements that entail critical reflection on relevant tourism-related subjects of a spatial, social, economic, legal, scientific and ethical nature..

Basic

- * You may consult the basic competencies students will have to achieve by the end of the degree at the following address: <http://www.uib.eu/study/grau/Basic-Competences-In-Bachelors-Degree-Studies/>

Content

Theme content

MODULE I. INTRODUCTION TO RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

Unit 1. Introduction

Unit 2. Neoclassical economics as a foundation for resource and environmental economics

MODULE II. ECONOMIC VALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Unit 3. Market failures in environmental settings

Unit 4. The economic value of the environment

Unit 5. Efficiency, equity and ethics

Unit 6. An overview of economic valuation methods

Unit 7. The Contingent Valuation Method

Unit 8. The Travel Cost Method



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MODULE III. ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION-MAKING AND PLANNING

- Unit 9. What's Cost-Benefit Analysis'
- Unit 10. Future, risk and uncertainty in Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Unit 11. Sustainability and precaution in a risky world
- Unit 12. Environmental policy tools

Teaching methodology

In-class work activities

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
Theory classes	Theoretical classes	Large group (G)	Master classes to acquire knowledge about theoretical issues related to Environmental economics.	22.5
Practical classes	Discussion of case studies and readings	Large group (G)	To put into practice the acquired theoretical knowledge and apply it to specific situations, as well as to promote discussion among students, different case studies and/or academic journal articles will be analyzed. Some conferences and/or activities might also be held during the course to enrich the students' learning process.	18
Assessment	Final test	Large group (G)	A final test will be taken to assess students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt during the course and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class. It might also include some optional question/s relating to the conferences/ activities held during the course.	1.5
Assessment	Mid-term test 1	Large group (G)	A first mid-term test will be taken to assess the students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt during the first weeks of the course and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class.	1.5
Assessment	Mid-term test 2	Large group (G)	A second mid-term test will be taken to assess the students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt until the date of the test and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class.	1.5

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Campus Extens platform.

Distance education work activities





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Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self-study	Analysis of case studies and readings	Analysis of case studies and readings proposed by the teacher during the course.	40
Individual self-study	Study	Study of the theoretical issues learnt during the master classes.	65

Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

Student learning assessment

To pass the course, the student needs to get both a global, weighted grade of at least 5 over 10 AND at least 4 over 10 in the final test. However, there will be some optional questions in the final test which will give the chance to pass the course to the students who have got a global, weighted grade between 4.45 and 4.9 (over 10) (and at least 4 over 10 in the final test) provided they have attended ALL the conferences and participated in ALL the activities held during the course. In particular, if the students meeting the above-mentioned requirements decide to respond the optional questions and reason them out properly showing they have gained understanding of the concepts learnt during the course, they will be able to get up to 0.5 additional scores over the global, weighted grade of the course (thus getting 5 over 10).

On the other side, students should note that, according to UIB academic regulations, they will have the right to do a test on a different day from the official one ONLY in some specific cases. It is highly recommended that students read carefully the academic rules before asking for a change of a test date.

Final test

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (retrievable)
Description	A final test will be taken to assess students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt during the course and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class. It might also include some optional question/s relating to the conferences/activities held during the course.
Assessment criteria	A multiple-choice test will serve to assess the knowledge acquired by students during the course. It will include some true/false questions related to the readings discussed in class which will have to be reasoned out properly to be considered correct. It will also include some optional question/s related to the conferences and/or activities held during the academic semester.

Final grade percentage: 50%



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Mid-term test 1

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (non-retrievable)
Description	A first mid-term test will be taken to assess the students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt during the first weeks of the course and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class.
Assessment criteria	A first mid-term multiple-choice test will serve to assess the knowledge acquired by students during the first weeks of the course. It will also include some true/false questions related to the readings discussed in class during the first weeks of the course which will have to be reasoned out properly to be considered correct.

Final grade percentage: 20%

Mid-term test 2

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (non-retrievable)
Description	A second mid-term test will be taken to assess the students' understanding of both the concepts/issues learnt until the date of the test and the texts/academic journal papers discussed in class.
Assessment criteria	A second mid-term multiple-choice test will serve to assess the knowledge acquired by students until the date of the test. It will also include some true/false questions related to the readings discussed in class until the date of the test which will have to be reasoned out properly to be considered correct.

Final grade percentage: 30%

Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

Basic bibliography

Riera, Antoni (1997). La valoració econòmica del medi ambient. Palma: Materials didàctics - 39, UIB.
Azqueta, D. (1994). La valoración económica del medio ambiente. Madrid: McGraw-Hill.
Azqueta, D. (2002). Introducción a la economía ambiental. Madrid: McGraw-Hill.
Hanley, N., Shogren, J. & White, B. (2013). Introduction to environmental economics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Complementary bibliography

Cladera, M. et al. (2000). La valoració econòmica del medi ambient 2: El mètode de valoració contingent. Palma: Materials didàctics - 65, UIB.
Riera, Antoni (1999). La valoració econòmica del medi ambient 1: El mètode del cost del viatge. Palma: Materials didàctics - 64, UIB.
Azqueta, D. (1994). Valoración económica de la calidad ambiental. Madrid: McGraw-Hill.
Vatn, Arild (2005). Institutions and the environment. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

Other resources

Torres, C.M. & Hanley, N. (2016). Economic valuation of coastal and marine ecosystem services in the 21st century. An overview from a management perspective.