COURSE DISCRIPTION

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	ENVIRONMENT, GEOGRAPHY AND APPLIED ECONOMICS		
DEPARTMENT	GEOGRAPHY		
LEVEL OF COURSE	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE		**SEMESTER**	6th
COURSE TITLE	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT		

STRUCTURE OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES	**TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK**	**NUMBER OF CREDITS ALLOCATED (ECTS)**
Lectures and Laboratory Classes	3	5

TYPE OF COURSE	COMPULSORY
PREREQUISITES	-
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION	GREEK ENGLISH/FRENCH (upon request)
COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES
(URL)	

2. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

Describe the objectives of the course as well as the expected learning outcomes

The objective of this course is the enhanced understanding of the process of environmental impact assessment, aiming at the more complete protection of the natural environment and human society, which depends deeply on it for its well-being. The multidisciplinary nature of the environmental impact assessment methods is embedded within Geography due to the deep interdisciplinary nature of the field. Within this course the students will be able to understand the conceptual and operational framework of this methodology, through lectures but also practical work and exercises.

Upon the completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. describe the process of environmental impact assessment
2. differentiate and explain basic concepts of environmental impact assessment
3. describe the basic parameter types that need to be taken into account for a complete assessment
4. integrate information and parameters in order to analyze the structure and content of such assessment for at least two studied systems
5. combine various parameters in order to design an environmental impact assessment
6. evaluate the results of different studies for at least two different management objectives.

General skills

Search, analysis and synthesis of data and information with the use of relevant technology

Decision making
Group work
Work in an interdisciplinary environment
Design and management of projects
Respecting nature
Criticism and self-reflection
Free, creative and inductive thinking

3. COURSE CONTENTS

1. Content of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (EU Directives, local policies)
2. The process of Environmental Impact Assessment (basic steps and examples)
3. Projects and activities that are most commonly assessed
4. Environmental parameters that are used for EIA (e.g., soil, climate, landscape, geomorphology)
5. Social parameters that are used for EIA (e.g., land use, built environment, historical and cultural environment)
6. Methods for the inclusion and recording of impacts (e.g., matrix, lookup tables, mapping, expert judgement, Battelle method)
7. Presentation of EIAs across different ecosystems and scales
8. Use of EIA within the decision-making process

Exercises

1. Analysis and exploration of EIAs
2. Analysis and use of of environmental parameters
3. Analysis and use social-ecological parameters
4. Interdisciplinary integration of the social and ecological information for a complete EIA
5. Analysis of policy objectives for their interpretation and use for selected cases
6. Critical analysis of EIA results

4. TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

TYPE OF LECTURES	Face to face • in the lecture class • during exercises
ICT USE	Use of online lecturing facilities, use of e-class platform and freeware use for practical exercises.
TEACHING STRUCTURE	

Activity	***Hours per semester***
Lectures	26
Exercises	14
Group project	30
Studying – personal work	55
TOTAL	***125***

ASSESSMENT METHODS	Assessment language: Greek (English upon request) Assessment methods 1. Written theoretical exam (30%) 2. Group project report (70%) The assessment process and methods are explained in detail to the students at the beginning of the semester.

5. RECOMMENDED READING

-Suggested books (in Greek):

Δ. Βαγιωνά. Μελέτες Περιβαλλοντικών Επιπτώσεων, Θεωρία και εφαρμογές. Εκδόσεις ΔΙΣΙΓΜΑ, 2021.

Γ. Μπάλιας. Η Εκτίμηση Περιβαλλοντικών Επιπτώσεων στην Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση, Εκδόσεις Παπαζήσης, 2018.

- Relevant scientific journals:

Environmental Impact Assessment Review
Journal of Cleaner Production
Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal