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UNIVERSITY OF THESSALY

School of Technology – Department of Environmental Sciences Undergraduate Programme in Environmental Sciences



COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	School of Technology			
ACADEMIC UNIT	Department of Environmental Sciences			
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate			
COURSE CODE	AAY301		SEMESTER	3rd
COURSE TITLE	WORKSHOP: GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES			
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES		WEEK	LY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Teaching Hours			4	3
COURSE TYPE	Skills development			
PREREQUISITE COURSES	None			
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and	English			
EXAMINATIONS				
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO	Yes			
ERASMUS STUDENTS	163			
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://eclass.uth.gr/courses/ENV U 188/			

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

The course aims to:

- Promote a broad understanding of the important environmental problems facing the modern world, as they are presented in the EU and UN studies and reports.
- Familiarize students with the English register used to discuss global environmental issues and challenges, environmental policies decided upon and actions taken, both at vocabulary and discourse level.
- Provide students with opportunities to further practise comprehension skills, such as skimming and scanning, when dealing with longer texts in their subject area in English.
- Engage students in discussions and presentations in English, in order for them to practise the key environmental science vocabulary.
- Enable students to develop receptive skills (reading and listening) and activate productive skills (writing and speaking) in the subject area of environmental sciences in English.
- Develop students' academic skills in English and foster their learning skills, aiming at autonomous and creative learning.
- Equip students with the required knowledge and fluency in English to participate in the Erasmus+ mobility programme.

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the important environmental problems facing the modern world, as they are presented in the EU and UN studies and reports.
- Analyse, comprehend and process longer scientific texts in the field of environmental studies in English.
- Articulate in English the interconnected and interdisciplinary nature of environmental science.
- Describe the ambitious and coherent environmental policies and legislation applied by EU bodies and international organizations such as the UN, using the proper English vocabulary and register.
- Communicate complex environmental information in English, both in oral and written language.
- Engage in sustainability-related projects and/or pursue professional careers and advanced studies in an English-speaking context in the future.

General Competences

- Adapting to new situations
- Team work
- Working in an international environment
- Working in an interdisciplinary environment
- Respect for the natural environment
- Critical thinking

Production of free, creative and inductive thinking

(3) SYLLABUS

The module will deal with the global perspective of the following topics in terms of challenges and policies:

- Environmental science and environmental scientists
- The atmosphere and climate change
- Computers in environmental science
- Energy resources and ecological footprint
- Soil as a resource, and soil and land management
- · Recycling waste
- Ecosystems and pollution
- Preserving biodiversity
- · Agriculture and the future of farming
- Sustainability through EU and UN sustainable development goals
- The European Green Deal
- Literature review guidelines
- Improving coherence, cohesion and unity in an academic text.

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS – EVALUATION

DELIVERY	Face-to-face			
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	 Use of PowerPoint slides Communication with students via e-mail Use of asynchronous distance learning (e-class) 			
TEACHING METHODS	Activity Lectures	Semester workload 35		
	Laboratory practice	20		
	Essay writing	20		
	Course total (25 hours workload per credit)	75		
STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION	Students' performance is evaluated in the English language. The final grade is determined by: • A written exam (at the end of the semester) that contributes 100% to the final grade, applying one or more of the following evaluation methods: comprehension questions, open-ended questions, multiple-choice questions, matching questions, short-			
	answer questions, problem-solving, etc. Final Grade = 100% Exam Grade			

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Falkner, Robert (Ed) (2013) *The Handbook of Global Climate and Environment Policy* [electronic resource]. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. HEAL-Link Wiley e-books. ISBN: 9781118326213.
- Lee, R., Matheson, R. & Chrimes, John (2019) *English for Agribusiness & Agriculture, Environmental Science & Biomedical Science*. Nicosia: Broken Hill Publishers Ltd. ISBN: 9789925575824.
- The European environment state and outlook 2020: knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe, 2020, https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer/2020
- UNESCO Environmental Sustainability Report, 2022, https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000383996