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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	AY501		SEMESTER	5th
COURSE TITLE	ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY			
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIV	/ITIES	WEEK	LY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Teaching Hours			4	5
COURSE TYPE	General background			
PREREQUISITE COURSES	None			
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and	Greek			
EXAMINATIONS				
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO	No			
ERASMUS STUDENTS	No			
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://eclass.uth.gr/courses/ENV U 140/			

#### (2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### **Learning outcomes**

The aim of the course is to introduce students to contemporary scientific approaches and developments regarding the bidirectional relationship between society and the environment so that they can understand environmental problems, considering that environmental problems are, to a significant extent, social issues. Students acquire knowledge and understanding of topics in the field of Environmental Sociology.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have acquired the necessary knowledge, skills and competence, and will be able to:

- Understand the different sociological theoretical approaches related to the environment, as well as the nature and characteristics of various environmental problems.
- Comprehend the main causes of environmental degradation and the factors that influence environmental behaviour.
- Analyse and manage aspects of the socio-economic impacts that arise from the changes and prospects of societal development in relation to the environment and cause contemporary environmental problems.
- Apply the proposed theories and concepts of Environmental Sociology.
- Delve into the latest trends that have already begun to diverge from those of the previous century and highlight the major socio-environmental challenges of the coming decades.

#### **General Competences**

- Adapting to new situations
- Decision-making
- Working independently
- Team work
- Working in an interdisciplinary environment
- Respect for the natural environment
- Criticism and self-criticism
- Production of free, creative and inductive thinking

#### (3) SYLLABUS

- Introduction to Environmental Sociology: basic concepts and theories.
- Contemporary theoretical approaches in Environmental Sociology.
- Social construction of environmental problems.
- The contribution of classical sociology.
- The New Ecological Paradigm.

- Social-structural factors of environmental behaviour.
- Social-psychological factors of environmental behaviour.
- The environmental movement: the role of values and norms.
- The environmental movement: resource mobilization theories.
- Theories of New Social Movements.
- Environmental Modernization.
- The Risk Society.
- Review of the taught material.

### (4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS – EVALUATION

DELIVERY	Face-to-face				
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	<ul> <li>Use of PowerPoint slides</li> <li>Accessing and utilizing resources from websites</li> <li>Communication with students via e-mail</li> <li>Use of asynchronous distance learning (e-class)</li> </ul>				
TEACHING METHODS	Activity	Semester workload			
	Lectures	25			
	Laboratory practice	30			
	Study and analysis of bibliography	45			
	Essay writing	25			
	Course total	125			
	(25 hours workload per credit)				
STUDENT PERFORMANCE	Students' performance is evaluated in the Greek language. The final				
EVALUATION	grade is determined by:  • A midterm exam (optional) that contributes 40% to the final				
	grade.				
	<ul> <li>A final written examination (at the end of the semester) that contributes 60% to the final grade, or 100% if there is no mid-term grade.</li> <li>Alternatively, instead of taking the midterm exam, students may choose to submit a semester project that contributes 40% to the final</li> </ul>				
	grade.				
	Final Grade = 60% Exam Grade + 40% Mid-term exam/Project Grade (optional)				

## (5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

• Botetzagias, I., Karamichas, G. (2008) Environmental Sociology. Athens: KRITIKI Publishing S.A. (in Greek)