

## Responsabilitat Social Corporativa

2015/2016

Codi: 43059

Crèdits: 6

Titulació	Tipus	Curs	Semestre
4313784 Estudis Interdisciplinaris en Sostenibilitat Ambiental, Econòmica i Social	OT	0	1

### Professor de contacte

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### Equip docent

Isabel Pont Castejón

### Utilització de llengües

Llengua vehicular majoritària: anglès (eng)

### Prerequisits

To be developed

### Objectius

The course is an introduction to the social responsibility of organisations, mainly business organisations. The issues include the changing relation between business, society and public administrations; environmental, social and governance dimensions of the organisation's activity; and introduction to European environmental law; CSR international standards and tools for strategic management, management systems and external communication to the stakeholders groups.

At the end of the course the student is expected to have a good understanding of:

- An introduction to European environmental law.
- The basics of the concept and approaches of corporate social responsibility;
- The main international standards & tools for corporate social responsibility;

### Competències

- Analitzar, sintetitzar, organitzar i planificar projectes relacionats amb la millora ambiental de productes, processos i serveis.
- Aplicar els coneixements d'economia ambiental i ecològica a l'anàlisi i a la interpretació de problemàtiques ambientals.
- Que els estudiants sàpiguen comunicar les seves conclusions, així com els coneixements i les raons últimes que les fonamenten, a públics especialitzats i no especialitzats d'una manera clara i sense ambigüitats
- Que els estudiants siguin capaços d'integrar coneixements i enfrontar-se a la complexitat de formular judicis a partir d'una informació que, tot i ser incompleta o limitada, inclogui reflexions sobre les responsabilitats socials i ètiques vinculades a l'aplicació dels seus coneixements i judicis
- Que els estudiants tinguin les habilitats d'aprenentatge que els permetin continuar estudiant, en gran manera, amb treball autònom a autodirigit
- Treballar en un context internacional i multidisciplinari

## Resultats d'aprenentatge

1. Analitzar de les millors pràctiques corporatives de responsabilitat social corporativa.
2. Conèixer els principals conceptes, la regulació i iniciatives internacionals relacionats amb les diferents dimensions de la responsabilitat social corporativa (econòmica, ambiental, social i govern corporatiu).
3. Que els estudiants sàpiguen comunicar les seves conclusions, així com els coneixements i les raons últimes que les fonamenten, a públics especialitzats i no especialitzats d'una manera clara i sense ambigüitats
4. Que els estudiants siguin capaços d'integrar coneixements i enfrontar-se a la complexitat de formular judicis a partir d'una informació que, tot i ser incompleta o limitada, inclogui reflexions sobre les responsabilitats socials i ètiques vinculades a l'aplicació dels seus coneixements i judicis
5. Que els estudiants tinguin les habilitats d'aprenentatge que els permetin continuar estudiant, en gran manera, amb treball autònom a autodirigit
6. Treballar en un context internacional i multidisciplinari

## Continguts

The course is divided in two main parts (i) European environmental law and (ii) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) standards and tools.

### European environmental law

Beginning and development of European environmental law

European Union principles and legal basis for environmental law

Instruments and policies

The European Union actors on environmental law

The role of the European Union and the role of the states and local authorities

Harmonization, enforcement and implementation

Environmental protection and substantive environmental law

### Corporate Social Responsibility standards and tools.

European Union concept and directive on CSR

Other approaches to CSR

International standards/tools for CSR and their relationships

CSR accountability, transparency and communication: Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

## Metodologia

Lectures presenting the topic. Some lectures will require the discussion of academic literature that students must read in advance or will require individual or group writing exercise.

## Activitats formatives

Títol	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
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Tipus: Dirigides

Exercise in class	4	0,16
Lectures	33	1,32
<b>Tipus: Autònomes</b>		
Reading articles, books and studying for each of the given lectures	90	3,6
Short essay writing, which involves reading the necessary literature to write the essays	20	0,8

## Avaluació

Students will be assessed on the basis of a) the knowledge they have gained throughout the course regarding the proposed literature and the different aspects reviewed in class; b) their writing and critical thinking abilities, and c) their participation in class. In particular, they will be assessed based on:

1. Attendance to the sessions will contribute toward 10% of the final mark.

2. Participation in class contribute toward 10% of the final mark.

3. Two written essays, 500-1000words essay corresponding. Each one will contribute toward 10% of the mark (20% of the total mark). The correspondent teacher will assess the essay following his/her own marking criteria, with marks falling between 0 (for very bad) and 10 points (for very good essays). Students will have the right to discuss the essay and the mark with the correspondent teacher.

4. A final exam that will contribute toward 60% of the final mark. It will last 2 hours and cover most aspects of the course in no more than 10 questions. Students will have limited space to answer each of these questions and will have to proof that they have understood and master key concepts and ideas introduced during the course. The contributing teachers will evaluate the exam, and each question will be marked between 0 and 1 point. Students will have the right to discuss the essay andthe mark with the correspondent teacher and may complain to the MSc coordinator if unsatisfied with the final outcome.

- Each student will have to qualify in each of the evaluation part 3 and 4 and can only skip doing part 3 if it is adequately justified. An student who fails to pass as a result of a poor exam may be given an opportunity to re-take it before the final overall mark is officially delivered to UAB, but only if she/he has shown proof of progressive learning in the other evaluation parts.

## Activitats d'avaluació

Títol	Pes	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
Class attendance	10%	0	0	2, 6
Final exam	60%	3	0,12	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
Participation in class	10%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
2 short essay writings	20%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

## Bibliografia

### Bibliography - Part Corporate social responsibility

BENN, SUZANNE and BOLTON DIANNE (2011) Key concepts in corporate social responsibility, SAGE, Los Angeles (Calif.)

EUROPEAN UNION (2011) Corporate social responsibility: national public policies in the European Union / European Commission. Directorate-General for Employment and Social Affairs, Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, ISBN 9789279197208

HABISCH, ANDRÉ et al. (2005), Corporate social responsibility across Europe, Springer Berlin, Heidelberg (electronic format)

HOPKINS, MICHAEL (2007), Corporate social responsibility and international development: is business the solution?, Earthscan, London

OKPARA, JOHN O. and IDOWU, SAMUEL O. (2013) Corporate social responsibility: challenges, opportunities and strategies for 21st century leaders, Springer Berlin, Heidelberg

### **Bibliography - Part European environmental law**

Jan H. JANS; Hans H.B. Vedder European Environmental Law, Europa law Publishing (Fourth Edition) 2012

DE SADELEER Nicolas. EU environmental law and the internal market. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014

MACRORY (2014), Regulation, Enforcement and Governance of Environmental Law, 2nd edition Hart Publishing, Oxford

MACRORY et al. (2004), Principles of European Environmental Law. Europa Law Publishing.

KISS, A., SHELTON, D., International Environmental Law, 3<sup>a</sup> ed., Ardsley, NY Transnational, 2004

BIRNIE, P.W.-BOYLE, A.E., REDGWELL, C., International Law and Environment, 3a ed. Oxford University Press, 2009.

BROWN WEISS, E. (Edited), Environmental Challenge and International Law, The United Nations University Press, 1992

CAMPINS, M; CASADO, L; NIETO, J.E; PIGRAU, A; PONT, I; Environmental Law in Spain, Wolter Kluwers-kluwer Law International, The Netherlands, 2011

### **Webs**

PNUMA (United Nations Program for Environment <http://www.pnuma.org>)

European Court of Human rights <http://hudoc.echr.coe.int/>

Official website European Union [http://europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/index_en.htm)

Training Package on Principles of EU Environmental Law  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/legal/law/principles.htm>

Official Journal of the European Union <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/oj/direct-access.html?locale=en>

Summaries of the European environmental legislation  
[http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/environment.html?root\\_default=SUM\\_1\\_CODED%3D20&locale=en](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/environment.html?root_default=SUM_1_CODED%3D20&locale=en)

European Commission (Environment) : [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm)

European Environment Agency <http://www.eea.europa.eu>