

**Environment and Society**

Code: 102805  
ECTS Credits: 9

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501915 Environmental Sciences	FB	1	1

**Contact**

Name: Angel Cebollada Frontera  
Email: Angel.Cebollada@uab.cat

**Use of languages**

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
Some groups entirely in English: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Other comments on languages**

Llengua vehicular Grup 2

**Teachers**

Josep Gili Prat  
Josep Espluga Trenc  
Xavier Delclòs Alió  
Mario Padial Iglesias  
Guillem Sala Lorda  
Pau Avellaneda Garcia  
Joan Cristian Padró García

**Prerequisites**

Not established.

(in the case of the English group: knowledge of english, level of "Cambridge First Certificate")

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

This subject is taught by professors of the area of Social Sciences (Sociology and Geography).

The main goal is to provide an adequate knowledge of the main tools and concepts for the study of the environm

Specifically, the following dimensions will be addressed:

- a) history and recent evolution of environmental social movements
- b) the main geographical and social dimensions of the global world
- c) analysis of the main world demographic dynamics
- d) study the agricultural impacts and relation agriculture - hunger
- e) urban dynamics and environmental consequences

## **Skills**

- Adequately convey information verbally, written and graphic, including the use of new communication and information technologies.
- Analyze and use information critically.
- Collect, analyze and represent data and observations, both qualitative and quantitative, using secure adequate classroom, field and laboratory techniques
- Demonstrate adequate knowledge and use the tools and concepts of the most relevant social science environment.
- Demonstrate concern for quality and praxis.
- Demonstrate initiative and adapt to new situations and problems.
- Quickly apply the knowledge and skills in the various fields involved in environmental issues, providing innovative proposals.
- Teaming developing personal values regarding social skills and teamwork.
- Work autonomously

## **Learning outcomes**

1. Adequately convey information verbally, written and graphic, including the use of new communication and information technologies.
2. Analyze and use information critically.
3. Demonstrate concern for quality and praxis.
4. Demonstrate initiative and adapt to new situations and problems.
5. Describe the history and recent developments of the movements \* ambientalistas.
6. Describe the main geographical and sociological dimensions of the global world.
7. Distinguish major global industry dynamics.
8. Distinguish the major world agricultural dynamics.
9. Identify the areas where you have to apply sociological processes in the environmental surroundings and to value properly and originally.
10. Identify the main characteristics of the urban environment.
11. Identify the major global demographic dynamics.
12. Observe, recognize, analyze, measure and properly and safely represent geographic and sociological processes.
13. Teaming developing personal values regarding social skills and teamwork.
14. Work autonomously

## **Content**

### **1 Relationships between environment and society**

Nature and culture.

Environment and social theories.

Discussion about realism and constructivism in the definition of environmental problems

The theories of the 'risk society' in the age of globalization

### **2 The social perception of environmental risks**

Definition

Science and policy roles in the definition of environmental risks

Information and communication of environmental risks.

### **3 Social responses to environmental risks**

Social movements

Socio-environmental conflicts and citizen participation.

Sustainability and public policies

The debate about the precautionary principle

### **4 Globalization and inequality**

World system

Globalization: main features

Changes in the location of economic and industrial activities

Conceptualization and measurement of global inequality: GDP and HDI

### **5 Development**

Definition and discussion of the concept

Rostow theory of modernization and alternative proposals

External debt and ecological debt

Environmental criticism and the proposal of degrowth

### **6 World population**

Demographic transition and demographic explosion

World population structure. The contrasts between countries: growth, mortality and fertility

The debate resources / population

### **7 Agriculture and food**

Agrarian systems

World food production and trade

Hunger and Green Revolution

Agroecology

## **8 Cities**

Urbanization of the world population

Urban sprawl: social and environmental problems

The city in the Global South: social and environmental problems

## **Methodology**

### **1. Theoretical classes**

Exposition of main concepts and theoretical.

### **2. Seminars**

Sociology: Seminars will consist of the discussion, exposition and debate of a series of readings selected on envi

Geography seminars activities :

a) conferences on relevant environmental issues,

b) exhibition of videos and debated,

c) discussion about readings.

### **3. Practices (Laboratory and fieldtrip)**

Sociology: fieldtrip to visit a place and analyze a social-environmental conflict: actors, resources, evolution of the conflict.

Geography. GIS lab. Cartographic representation of the social, physical and environmental phenomenas. The software will be ArcGis and MiraMon.

#### 4. Tutorials

Will be individual and / or group tutorials.

#### 5. Campus Virtual

Graphic information, informations and intructions will be available in the Campus Virtual.

### Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
<b>Type: Directed</b>			
Fieldtrip	5	0.2	2, 9, 12
Lab	10	0.4	4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1, 14, 13
Seminars	20	0.8	2, 4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1, 14, 13
Theorical lectures	40	1.6	2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 13
<b>Type: Supervised</b>			
Tutorials	21	0.84	4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14
<b>Type: Autonomous</b>			
Lab activities	26	1.04	4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 13

Problems	56	2.24	4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 13
Report (seminars)	26	1.04	2, 4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 13
Study	21	0.84	4, 3, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 13

## Evaluation

Evaluation will consist of:

- a) Theoretical lectures. Written exams (50% of the total score: 20% first partial, 30% second partial). Geography le:
- b) Seminars (40% of the total note: 15% social issues, 25% geography issues). Active participation in sessions v
- c) Laboratory (10% of the total note, 5% social, 5% geography). Participation will be valued at each session of the

## Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Exams	50	0	0	5, 6, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11
Lab	10	0	0	2, 4, 3, 14, 13
Seminars	40	0	0	12, 1

## Bibliography

At the beginning of the course, English bibliography will be given