

Ecología Política

Código: 42406
Créditos ECTS: 6

Titulación	Tipo	Curso	Semestre
4313784 Estudios Interdisciplinarios en Sostenibilidad Ambiental, Económica y Social	OT	0	1

Contacto

Nombre: Georgios Kallis

Correo electrónico: Georgios.Kallis@uab.cat

Equipo docente

Isabelle Michele Sophie Anguelovski

Sergio Villamayor Tomás

Uso de idiomas

Lengua vehicular mayoritaria: inglés (eng)

Prerequisitos

If not native English speaker: valid IELTS (with a minimum score of 6.5) or TOEFL (minimum 550 paper based, 213 computer based, 79 web-based) score report or a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English or Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English.

The students must hold an undergraduate degree with relevance to environmental or urban studies. Preferably with previous training in a social science (i.e., business, sociology, political science, economics)

Objetivos y contextualización

In this course we will explore the interdisciplinary field of Political Ecology. Political Ecology is a theoretical and methodological approach for the study of socio-ecological systems that focuses on conflict, power and the uneven distribution of environmental costs and benefits. This course will familiarize you with core concepts used by political ecologists at ICTA and teach you how to apply these concepts to your empirical material. We will introduce you to a profoundly new, critical way of looking at and understanding environmental problems, politics and policies.

By the end of this course you should be able to conduct, if you wish, a political ecology research project on your own. In addition, you will learn how to read and analyze social science, and you will improve your writing and argumentative skills.

Competencias

- Aplicar los conocimientos de economía ambiental y ecológica al análisis e interpretación de problemáticas ambientales.
- Comunicar oralmente y por escrito en inglés.
- Que los estudiantes posean las habilidades de aprendizaje que les permitan continuar estudiando de un modo que habrá de ser en gran medida autodirigido o autónomo.

- Que los estudiantes sean capaces de integrar conocimientos y enfrentarse a la complejidad de formular juicios a partir de una información que, siendo incompleta o limitada, incluya reflexiones sobre las responsabilidades sociales y éticas vinculadas a la aplicación de sus conocimientos y juicios.
- Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar los conocimientos adquiridos y su capacidad de resolución de problemas en entornos nuevos o poco conocidos dentro de contextos más amplios (o multidisciplinares) relacionados con su área de estudio.
- Trabajar en un contexto internacional y multidisciplinar.

Resultados de aprendizaje

1. Comunicar oralmente y por escrito en inglés.
2. Conocer las diferencias en el acercamiento a los problemas ambientales por parte de la ecología política.
3. Desarrollar una visión integradora de la relación economía, política y sistemas biofísicos.
4. Que los estudiantes posean las habilidades de aprendizaje que les permitan continuar estudiando de un modo que habrá de ser en gran medida autodirigido o autónomo.
5. Que los estudiantes sean capaces de integrar conocimientos y enfrentarse a la complejidad de formular juicios a partir de una información que, siendo incompleta o limitada, incluya reflexiones sobre las responsabilidades sociales y éticas vinculadas a la aplicación de sus conocimientos y juicios.
6. Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar los conocimientos adquiridos y su capacidad de resolución de problemas en entornos nuevos o poco conocidos dentro de contextos más amplios (o multidisciplinares) relacionados con su área de estudio.
7. Trabajar en un contexto internacional y multidisciplinar.

Contenido

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21/10

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Demaria, F., 2010. Shipbreaking at Alang-Sosiya (India): an ecological distribution conflict. *Ecological Economics*, 70(2): 250-260.

Week 3 - The social construction of nature (Giorgos Kallis)

4/11

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PART II - POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF THE COMMONS

Week 4 - Political ecology and the commons 1.0: from Hardin to Ostrom (Sergio Villamayor)

11/11

Hardin, G. (1968). The tragedy of the commons. *Science*, 162(3859), 1243-1248.

Ostrom, E. 1990. *Governing The Commons*. Cambridge University Press, New York.

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Week 5 - Political ecology and the commons 2.0: power, values and justice (Sergio Villamayor)

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Singh, N. M. (2013). The affective labor of growing forests and the becoming of environmental subjects: Rethinking environmentality in Odisha, India. *Geoforum*, 47, 189-198.

PART III - URBAN POLITICAL ECOLOGY

For the next four sessions, please choose 2 (compulsory) readings out of the 3 articles listed for each session.

Week 9 A political ecology of urban environmental justice: The origins and evolution of activism around environmental equity (Isabelle Anguelovski)

16/12

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Anguelovski I. (2013) Beyond a livable and green neighborhood: Asserting control, sovereignty, and transgression in the Casc Antic of Barcelona. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 37: 1012-1034.

Week 10 - EJ and its relation to racial and colonial capitalism: Articulations of racial capitalism, and the unevenness it perpetuates within urban nature (Isabelle Anguelovski)

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NOTE: The first part of this session will be a field trip to the Pou de la Figuera in Sant Pere/Santa Caterina. Meeting point 10am in front of the main entrance of the Palau de la Música on C/ Sant Pere mes alt (Metro Pl. Catalunya o Urquinaona).

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Anguelovski I. (2015) Alternative food provision conflicts in cities: Contesting food privilege, injustice, and whiteness in Jamaica Plain, Boston. *Geoforum* 58: 184-194.

Week 11 - Critical Urban Health and Environmental Justice (Helen Cole and Margarita Triguero)

13/1

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Hertzman, C., & Boyce, T. (2010). How experience gets under the skin to create gradients in developmental health. *Annual Review of Public Health*. 31: 329-47.

(Optional) [Mitchell R](#), [Popham F](#). (2008) Effect of exposure to natural environment on health inequalities: an observational population study. [Lancet](#). 372(9650):1655-60.

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Metodología

Classes will follow a seminar format with a combination of teaching by the instructor and discussion in class of assigned readings. For each class we will read and discuss two articles. Typically one of them will be more theoretical, presenting the main concept to be discussed in this class, and the second will include a case-study, applying the concept in an environmental problem or conflict.

All students are expected to have read these articles in advance and write short commentaries (see assignments). In each class a critical discussion of the key ideas of the articles will take place under the facilitation of the instructor. This might also include discussion in small groups, games, use of audiovisual material (movies, lectures by famous political ecologists, videos, etc).

Actividades

Título	Horas	ECTS	Resultados de aprendizaje
Tipo: Dirigidas			
Work in large groups	6	0,24	1, 2, 3, 7
Work in small groups	30	1,2	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Tipo: Autónomas			
At home assignments	19	0,76	7
Readings	25	1	2, 3
Self-study	61	2,44	5, 6, 4

Evaluación

1. Weekly homework

Each week you will have to write a 250 words essay, answering to a question related to the readings for that week. You should hand in the assignment to the teacher at the beginning of each class. The assignment will be graded (1-10) and returned in the next class with comments. If you want to discuss your assignments or our evaluation you can ask for an appointment with the teacher.

The grade of the assignments will not be taken into account in your final grade, unless it is higher than the grade of your final exam, in which case it will count for 50% of your overall grade. The weekly assignments will help you recognize weaknesses and improve your writing, given that the final exam will consist of questions with the same style as the weekly assignments. In case you miss a class, you are sick, etc, you have to inform us in advance and then deliver the essay the following week or later as agreed with the teacher (it won't be graded though).

Failure to deliver the essay completely will have an impact on your overall final grade, half a point taken out of your final grade for each essay left undelivered.

Auditors have also to write the weekly assignment but are exempt from the final essay and exam.

2. Participation in class

Participation in class is encouraged, though it won't be evaluated or graded. Different people have different communication styles, some like to talk a lot, others less. We encourage discussion and participation with our teaching style, and we will try to encourage as many of you to speak up and position yourself with respect to the readings and the discussion. We run the discussions assuming you have done the readings, and you should be able to talk about the readings if and when prompted by the teacher.

3. Exam

This will take place on the 27th of January 2020 and will count for 100% of your final grade if it is higher than the average of your essays, or 50% if your essay average is higher. The material under examination will consist of all the articles read and discussed during the semester. The style of the questions will be similar to those handed in the weekly homework, i.e. short questions which you will have 250 words to answer. The exam will be "take-home", and you will be expected to use whatever resources you wish to answer the questions. It will be sent by email to all of you at 9 a.m the day of the exam and should be handed in by email by 6 p.m. the same day. The exams will be graded anonymously.

Actividades de evaluación

Título	Peso	Horas	ECTS	Resultados de aprendizaje
Assignments	50%	6	0,24	1, 5, 6, 7
Examen final	50%	3	0,12	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 4

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