

**Corporate Social Responsibility**

Code: 43059  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313784 Interdisciplinary Studies in Environmental, Economic and Social Sustainability	OT	0	1

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

**Contact**

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**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: english (eng)

**Teachers**

Isabel Pont Castejón

**Prerequisites**

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

The course has two differentiated parts. One is an introduction to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of organisations including the environmental, social and governance dimensions of the organisation's activity. The other part is an introduction to European environmental law.

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

- Introduction to the main concepts and topics of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Introduction to the European environmental law.

**Competences**

- Analyse, summarise, organise and plan projects related to the environmental improvement of product, processes and services.
- Apply knowledge of environmental and ecological economics to the analysis and interpretation of environmental problem areas.
- Communicate and justify conclusions clearly and unambiguously to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously.
- Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
- Work in an international, multidisciplinary context.

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Analyse best practices in corporate social responsibility.

2. Communicate and justify conclusions clearly and unambiguously to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
3. Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously.
4. Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
5. Know the main concepts, regulations and international initiatives concerning the different dimensions of corporate social responsibility (economic, environmental, social, corporate governance).
6. Work in an international, multidisciplinary context.

## Content

The course is divided in two parts:

### Corporate Social Responsibility

- Introduction
- Perspectives on Corporate Social Responsibility
- Critiques of Corporate Social Responsibility
- Actors and Drivers
- Managing Corporate Social Responsibility

### 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

## Methodology

The teaching methodology and evaluation may undergo some changes depending on the restrictions on attendance imposed by the health authorities

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Exercise in class	4	0.16	1, 5, 4, 2, 3, 6
Lectures	33	1.32	5, 6
Type: Autonomous			
Reading articles, books and studying for each of the given lectures	90	3.6	1, 5, 4, 3
Short essay writing, which involves reading the necessary academic literature	20	0.8	1, 5, 4, 2, 3

## Assessment

The student will be evaluated separately for each of the two parts of the course based on:

- i) the knowledge obtained at the end of the course regarding the proposed academic literature and the other topics and aspects worked during the sessions;
- ii) his/her brief written submissions and his/her capacity for critical analysis, and
- iii) Active participation in the sessions.

Details:

One or two brief writings of 500-1000 words. The teacher will evaluate the writing according to her/his own criteria. The student could ask for details on his/her mark with the corresponding teacher.

The final exam covers most of the topics worked during the sessions. The space for the answers will be limited and these will have to demonstrate the understanding and mastery of the main concepts and ideas provided during the course. The corresponding teacher will assess them according to her/his own criteria. The student could ask for details on his/her grade with the corresponding teacher.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Final exam	50%	3	0.12	1, 5, 4, 2
Participation in class	25%	0	0	1, 5, 4, 2, 6
Short essay writings	25%	0	0	1, 5, 4, 2, 3

## Bibliography

### Bibliography - Corporate social responsibility

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

CRANE, A. et al. (2008) The Oxford Handbook of Corporate Social Responsibility, Oxford University Press Inc., New York

CRANE, A. and Matten, D. (2016) Business ethics: Managing corporate citizenship and sustainability in the age of globalization, Oxford University Press Inc., New York

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### Bibliography - European environmental law

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

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#### Bibliography- Environmental Law. Others

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THORNTON, James; GOODMAN, Martin, CLIENT EARTH 2017. Scribe Publications (May 11, 2017)

CAMPINS, M; CASADO, L; NIETO, J.E; PIGRAU, A; PONT, I; Environmental Law in Spain, Wolter Kluwers-kluwer Law International, The Netherlands, 2014

#### Webs

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

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

Council of Europe. Manual on human rights and the environment"; Council of Europe Publishing 2012, [http://www.echr.coe.int/LibraryDocs/DH\\_DEV\\_Manual\\_Environment\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.echr.coe.int/LibraryDocs/DH_DEV_Manual_Environment_Eng.pdf)

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)

