

Corporate Social Responsibility

Code: 43059
ECTS Credits: 6

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

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Other comments on languages

Teaching sessions can be in Catalan or in English. The students can use Catalan, Spanish or English for answering the exam and others deliverables

Teachers

Isabel Pont Castejón

Prerequisites

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course aims to introduce students to key topics of sustainability in the field of organizations (mainly companies): Corporate social responsibility (CSR), climate change, circular economy, European Green Deal, 8th 2030 environmental action program of the European Union.

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:

European environmental and sustainability law

Beginnings and development of European Union environmental law and legal basis

Instruments and policies. The European Green Deal. The 8th 2030 Environmental Action Program

Main actors in the European Union. The role of the European Union, the States, the Autonomous Communities and Local Administrations

Harmonization, execution and implementation. Approach to some sectorial elements (climate change, circular economy ..)

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Adaptation to climate change and to circular economy

- Introduction. CSR and the organisation's strategy
- CSR tools & Tools for sustainable production and consumption
- Sustainability reporting: The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standard
- Environmental, social and governance (ESG) information for investors

European environmental law

- Beginning and development of the environmental law of the European Union: principles and legal basis
- Instruments and policies. The European Green Deal. The 8th Environmental Action Programme 2030
- Main actors in the European Union. The role of the European Union, the States, the Autonomous Communities and Local Administrations
- Harmonization, execution and implementation. Let's approach some sectorial elements as climate change, circular economy ..

Methodology

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

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

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 for each part of the course. 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/ Responsabilitat Social Corporativa/ Responsabilidad Social Corporativa

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YIN, R.K. Case study research and applications: Design and methods. Sage publications, 2018

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Kingston, Suzanne; Heyvaert Veerle; Čavoški, Aleksandra - European Environmental Law, Cambridge University Press 2017

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-KRAMER, Ludwig Environmental Justice and European Union Law, Croatian Yearbook of European Law and Policy 16, December 2020,

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348484000_Environmental_Justice_and_European_Union_Law

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https://www.academia.edu/37547219/Philippe_Sands_Principles_of_Int_Environmental_Law

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

-VAN CARLSTER, Geert, EU Environmental Law, Elgar European Law series, 2017

Webgraphy of a general nature useful for our course/Webgrafia de caire general especialment útil per aquest curs/Webgrafia de carácter general útil para nuestro curso

Generalitat de Catalunya, Environment, Business and sustainable production,
https://mediambient.gencat.cat/ca/05_ambits_dactuacio/empresa_i_produccio_sostenible/

Official website European Union 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 and climate change legislation
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/20.html>

European Commission (Environment) : https://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm

EU Environmental Law Training Package. https://ec.europa.eu/environment/legal/law/training_package.htm
<https://ieep.eu/understanding-the-eu/manual-of-european-environmental-policy>

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

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

IEEP (Institut for European Environmental Policy) <https://ieep.eu/>

EEB (European Environmental Bureau) <https://eeb.org>

Software

No