

Society, Territory and Environment in Catalonia

Code: 104245 ECTS Credits: 6

2024/2025

Degree	Туре	Year
2503710 Geography, Environmental Management and Spatial Planning	ОВ	2

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

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Prerequisites

Students should have a basic minimum knowledge about the toponyms and location of the Catalan counties and regions in order to learn (and for learning to learn) about various aspects of Catalonia's society, territory and environment

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of this subject is to discuss different ways of understanding the relationship between human society, territory and environment in Catalonia through a variety of cartographic, textual and audio-visual interpretations. Through the observation and analysis of this geographical documentation, we propose to:

- develop scientific and constructive critical reasoning in relation to the territory of Catalonia;
- analyse some interrelations between the physical environment and human society in Catalonia;
- interpret some territorial distributions of people, activities and flows generated in Catalonia;
- assess the conditioning factors, impacts and environmental risks that derive from the relations between society and the environment in Catalonia;
- obtain a direct knowledge of some parts of Catalonia thanks to field trips;
- initiate and deepen the knowledge of some basic texts on the geography of Catalonia
- know some relevant maps and significant Earth observation images of the territory of Catalonia as well as audio-visual products.

For this subject, it is advisable to bear in mind the knowledge of all the compulsory subjects of the degree of Geography, Environment and Territorial Planning taken during the first academiic year and the first term of the second year.

Learning Outcomes

- 1. CM18 (Competence) Propose viable projects and actions that enhance social, economic and environmental benefits in a specific case.
- 2. KM26 (Knowledge) Relate regional dynamics of Catalonia in their wider territorial and environmental contexts.
- 3. KM28 (Knowledge) Report on the evolution of the human population in Catalonia: demo-geographic dynamics and structures, including migrations, genders, ages, classes, nationalities, and statuses.
- 4. SM22 (Skill) Analyse geographical dynamics (socio-demographic, geo-economic and environmental) at different territorial scales.
- 5. SM23 (Skill) Interpret the distribution of people and activities in the Catalan territory and the resulting flows.

Content

The main contents that will be tackled are the following:

- The geographical context of Catalonia. The territorial organization of Catalonia
- The physical and environmental framework: relief and hydrography, climate and landscape, natural risks, protected areas
- Human population evolution: demo-geographic dynamics and structures, including migration, gender, age, class, nationality and status
- Human settlements and the urban system
- Rural and semi-rural Catalonia: from the Mediterranean tradition and agro-industry to current innovations
- The industrialisation and re-industrialisation of Catalonia: territorial origins, changes and permanences
- Tourism and its impact on the territory
- Territorial and environmental conflicts, negotiations and pacts

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Face-to-face lectures, in the classroom or outdoor in campus areas	39	1.56	KM26, KM28, SM22, SM23
Field trips	8	0.32	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials as well as preparation of practical essays and reports of field visits and campus visits	25	1	KM26, SM22, SM23
Type: Autonomous			

Autonomous work	40	1.6	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22, SM23
Study	35	1.4	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22, SM23

In general, the contents of the subject will be developed through the following main activities:

- Follow-up of the topics tackled during the course
- Reading books, articles and other texts
- Practical exercises that, in a way or another, can become milestones for the writing up of an exploratory geographical essay on a place in Catalonia
- Fieldwork visits, campus visits and the corresponding reports
- Forums

This is a 100% on-site course and students must responsibly attend and participate in the classroom and other places indicated by the lecturers. In addition, students must weekly follow, read and study publications and news that are made available on Moodle as well as must proactively search additional documents that are relevant for the course

Along the course, the teachers will explain the protocol of measures and good practices for field trips.

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.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exercices and practical assignments	40 %	0	0	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22, SM23
Fieldwork report	20 %	0	0	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22
Written exam on site	40 %	3	0.12	CM18, KM26, KM28, SM22, SM23

The follow-up of the development of the course gives rise to the continuous evaluation. The lecturers will appreciate its normal and gradual use in three aspects. Firstly (1), for the ability of students to improve quality in carrying out the exercises proposed in the classes (students must correctly quote and cite all data and information sources). Secondly (2), for their participation in the exercises and fieldwork (this is a 100% on-site course). And thirdly (3), for the results of the written exams. In the three aspects, lecturers will appreciate the students' correct comunication and linguistic skills, see: https://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/

The student will have a 'not assessed' as a final grade if s/he hands 0% of course tasks or hands course tasks that correspond up to 1/3 of the total mark. In other words, if the student overcomes this threshold, s/he will be assessed and graded.

When evaluation activities take place, lecturers will inform students (via Moodle) of the possible procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.

Reassessment will be offered to those students who did a continuous and on-site course and failed the exams with at least a 4/10 mark. If that mark is not reached, students must repeat the written exam in the official re-assessment date. Only written exams can be re-assessed.

This subject does NOT incorporate single assessment.

Attention: In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity (e.g. copy or plagiarism), the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zeroas the final grade for thissubject.

Bibliography

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https://www.acm.cat/sites/default/files/publicacions/fitxers/acm_atles_mon_rural_2022_interactiu_0.pdf)

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http://cads.gencat.cat/web/.content/Documents/Informes/2018/180322_Informe-sistema-alimentari-de-Catalunya

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BURGUEÑO, Jesús (Ed.) (2021). La nova geografia de la Catalunya postcovid. Barcelona: Societat Catalana de Geografia.

DOMINGO, Andreu i BARCELÓ, Mercè (2022). Les mutacions socials de la Covid-19. Barcelona: Institut d'Estudis Catalans.

FOLCH, Ramon i altres (Coords.) (2019). *Natura, ús o abús.* Barcelona: Institució Catalana d'Història Natural. Vegeu: https://natura.llocs.iec.cat/

MAJORAL, Roser (Coord.) (2002). Cataluña: un análisis territorial. Barcelona: Ariel.

OBSERVATORI DEL PAISATGE (2022). *Catàlegs de paisatge*. Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya: http://www.catpaisatge.net/cat/catalegs.php

SOLÉ i SABARÍS, Lluís (Dir.) (1958). Geografia de Catalunya, Vol. 1. Barcelona: Ed. Aedos.

VILA, Marc-Aureli (1998). Catalunya: Rius i poblament. Barcelona: Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat.

VILA, Marc-Aureli (1980). Compendi de Geografia de Catalunya. Barcelona: Curial.

VILADECANS, Elisabet i MAGRE, Jaume (2023). *Geografia de la indústria i cohesió social.* Barcelona: Observatori de la Indústria.

The full bibliography of the subject will be introduced at the beginning of the second term.

See below links to some geographical journals that include a variety of articles on Catalonia and that students must consult and read along the term:

*Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica: https://dag.revista.uab.es/

*Treballs de la Societat Catalana de Geografia: https://raco.cat/index.php/TreballsSCGeografia/index

*Boletín de la Asociación Española de Geografía: https://bage.age-geografia.es/ojs//index.php/bage/index

Software

The usual computer programmes that will be used during this course will be Word, Excel and Power Point as well as the on-line platform Moodle. PDF is the main format for submission of digital documents. In addition, in some activities, social networks like X (Twitter) can be used too.

Language list

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	11	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	12	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed