



IDENTIFYING DATA

Environmental impact evaluation

Subject	Environmental impact evaluation			
Code	V02G031V01414			
Study programme	Grado en Biología			
Descriptors	ECTS Credits	Choose	Year	Quadmester
	6	Optional	4th	1st
Teaching language	#EnglishFriendly Spanish Galician			
Department				
Coordinator	Olabarria Uzquiano, Celia			
Lecturers	Fernández Covelo, Emma Muñoz Sobrino, Castor Olabarria Uzquiano, Celia Velando Rodríguez, Alberto Luís			
E-mail	colabarria@uvigo.es			
Web				
General description	<p>The objective of this subject is developed each of the steps that compose the process of evaluation of environmental impact from different points of view: existing legislation, administrative procedure, and the different types of methodologies employed in the studies of environmental impact. Likewise, the student will learn the basic bases stop the realization of studies of environmental impact, #analyze critically diverse examples of studies and realizing a study of concrete environmental impact.</p> <p>English Friendly subject: International students may request from the teachers:</p> <p>a) resources and bibliographic references in English, b) tutoring sessions in English, c) exams and assessments in English</p>			
	<p>School calendar #http://bioloxia.uvigo.es/*gl/*docencia/schedules</p>			

Training and Learning Results

Code	
A2	Students should know how to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way. They also should have the competences that are usually proved through the elaboration and defence of arguments and the resolution of problems within their study field.
A4	Students should able to communicate information, ideas, issues and solutions to all audiences (specialist and unskilled audience).
B2	Manage scientific-technical information using diverse and reliable sources. Analyze data and documents and interpret them critically and rigorously, including considerations on their social relevance and in the professional field of Biology.
B6	Develop analysis and synthesis, critical reasoning and argumentation skills, applying them in Biology and other scientific-technical disciplines.
C1	Solve problems by applying the scientific method, the concepts and terminology specific to biology, mathematical models and statistical and computer tools.
C7	Sampling, characterising, cataloguing and managing natural and biological resources (populations, communities and ecosystems).
C8	Describe, assess and plan the physical environment, use bio-indicators and identify environmental problems. Provide solutions for the control, monitoring and restoration of ecosystems.
C9	Identify resources of biological origin and assess their efficient and sustainable use in order to obtain products of interest. Propose and implement improvements in production systems.
C12	Writing reports and technical dossiers, as well as directing and executing projects on topics related to biology and its applications.
C14	Advise, assess and supervise scientific-technical, ethical, legal and socio-economic aspects related to biology and its applications.

- C21 The ability to apply environmental analysis and diagnosis techniques and develop environmental impact studies. Propose measures for the prevention, protection and mitigation of negative effects on the environment and draw up reports.
- C23 Understanding the social projection of environmental problems at different levels of application (analysis, evaluation, management) and their repercussions on professional practice.
- D4 Collaborate and work in teams or multidisciplinary groups, promote negotiation skills and the ability to reach agreements.
- D5 Communicate effectively and appropriately, including the use of computer tools and English.

Expected results from this subject

Expected results from this subject	Training and Learning Results			
To know the administrative procedure of Environmental Impact Assessment as a technical instrument for environmental management.	A2 A4	B2	C7 C12 C14 C23	D4 D5
To identify, predict and assess in an integrated manner the impacts on ecosystems, their components, natural resources and the quality of human life in the execution of projects, works and installations, as well as their alternatives.	A2	B2	C7 C8 C9 C21 C23	D4
To identify the measures for the prevention, protection, correction and compensation of the negative effects on the environment of the execution of projects, works and installations.	A2	B2 B6	C1 C12 C14 C21	D5
Knowing the methods for monitoring environmental impacts and being able to assess the effectiveness of corrective measures of environmental impacts of projects, works and installations.	A2	B2 B6	C7 C21	D4 D5
Applying knowledge of Environmental Impact Assessment to identify, handle and analyze specimens and samples of biological origin.	A2 A4		C7	
Applying knowledge and techniques of Environmental Impact Assessment in different processes related to environmental management.	A4	B2 B6	C2 C5 C14 C21 C23	D3 D5
Applying knowledge and technology related to Environmental Impact Assessment in aspects related to the quality control of environmental impact studies, corrective measures projects and monitoring reports.	A2	B2	C9 C14 C23	D4
To obtain information, develop experiments and interpret results.	A2	B2 B6	C1 C9	D4
To understand the social projection of Environmental Impact Assessment and its repercussions on professional practice.	A4	B2	C23	D5
To know and use the concepts, terminology and scientific-technical instrumentation related to Environmental Impact Assessment.	A2	B2	C7 C8 C9 C21	D4 D5

Contents

Topic	
Block A. Conceptual and practical bases professional of the Evaluation of environmental impact (EIA)	1. Conceptual and objective bases of the evaluation of environmental impact (EIA). The paper of the EIA in the management of the natural resources: environmental strategic evaluation (ESE), environmental auditing (EA). General concepts: environment, impact, evaluation. Typology of the impacts. Typology of the evaluations. (2 hours) 2. The study of environmental impact (EIS).- Objective and structure. Organisational aspects of the EIS: group interdisciplinary, group leader, management of the EIS. The challenge of the EIS stop the scientific disciplines: recommendations with information limited, multidisciplinary, subjective assessment. Phases of the EIS. (2 hours)
Block B. Legislation and normative of EIA	3. Legislation and administrative procedure of the EIA.- History of the EIA. Legislation of reference: European directives, national legislation and legislation of the Galician Community. Projects that owe to be object of EIA. Agents involved: promoter, environmental organ, substantive organ, public opinion. Administrative procedure. Information and public participation. (1 hour)

Block C. Manufacture of studies of environmental Impact. Methods of identification, prediction and evaluation of impacts.

4. Phase 1 and 2 of the EIS.- Description of the project: antecedents, location, actions. Examination of alternatives technically viable. (2 hours)
5. Phases 3 and 4 of the EIS: environmental Inventory; identification and prediction of impacts.- The environmental inventory only requires to apply the already gained knowledges; relevant subjects for EIS. Scoping as a tool in the environmental inventory: lists of review, surveys, queries to experts. Methods of identification of impacts: matrices of Leopold interaction , of secondary effects, crossed; lists of simple and descriptive control; systems of flow charts; Battelle system; maps overlay. (2 hours)
6. Abiotic factors (floor and underground waters, superficial waters, geological processes, climate, noise and light).- Election of the relevant factors , calculation of abiotic environmental indexes, methodology of measurement of abiotic factors. Identification and prediction of impacts. (2 hours)
7. Biotic factors (flora and vegetation, fauna, ecological processes).- Election of the relevant factors , calculation of biotic environmental indexes , methodology of measurement of biotic factors. Identification and prediction of impacts. (2 hours)
8. Landscape factors (agricultural uses).- Election of the relevant factors, calculation of landscape environmental indexes, methodology of measurement of landscape factors. Identification and prediction of impacts. (2 hours)
9. Socioeconomic factors (historical, archaeological, employment, economic cost of the degradation).- Election of the relevant factors , calculation of socioeconomic environmental indexes, methodology of measurement of socioeconomic factors. Identification and prediction of impacts. (2 hours)
10. Phase 4 of the EIS (continuation): assessment of impacts.- Quantitative assessment, qualitative assessment. Uncertainty of the assessment. Integration of impacts (functions of transformation). (4 hours)
11. Phase 5 of the EIS.- Establishment of protective and corrective measures of the EIS.- Program of environmental surveillance. (1 hour)
13. Phase 7 of the EIS.- Document of synthesis. (1 hour)

Planning			
	Class hours	Hours outside the classroom	Total hours
Mentored work	0	26	26
Studies excursion	2.5	1.5	4
Laboratory practical	7.5	7.5	15
Lecturing	25	75	100
Problem and/or exercise solving	2	0	2
Essay	1	0	1
Systematic observation	1	0	1
Presentation	1	0	1

*The information in the planning table is for guidance only and does not take into account the heterogeneity of the students.

Methodologies	
	Description
Mentored work	The work consists in that the students in groups of reduced size (3-4) will carry out an environmental impact assessment study based on a real case study. This work includes the presentation of a written report and a brief oral defence (10 minutes) in front of the rest of students and lecturers.
Studies excursion	The field course will be around the lake at Campus Lagoas-Marcosende and in the Budiño Gandaras. Students will do a matrix to evaluate impacts
Laboratory practical	In the laboratory practices or classroom the students will carry out diverse activities: 1- comparative analysis of diverse environmental impact studies (aeolian parks, road, mines, marine aquiculture, etc.). 2- Building of an impact matrix. 3- Analysis of alternatives in studies of environmental impact assessment.
Lecturing	In the lecture, lecturer will expose the basic concepts of the subject and valid legislation, employing diverse teaching resources such as the electronic blackboard, power point presentation and critical analysis of texts.

Personalized assistance	
Methodologies	Description

Lecturing	Lectures will be supported with teaching material presented in power point, scientific articles in Spanish and English that will be discussed in the classroom and legal texts.
Mentored work	An environmental impact assessment study based on a case study will be done. The case study will be chosen at the beginning of the course.
Studies excursion	An impact matrix based on a real practical case will be done.
Laboratory practical	A critical analysis of an environmental impact statement will be done. Moreover, qualitative and quantitative environmental impact matrices will be done using real practical cases. Students will use these data to choose between different alternatives and to calculate and assess the final impact.

Assessment

Description	Qualification	Training and Learning Results													
Problem and/or exercise solving	The acquired knowledge in lectures will be evaluated using a short answer tests that include questions of critical reasoning and the resolution of problems and cases. Numerical final qualification of 0 to 10 according to valid legislation (RD 1125/2003 of 5 of September, BOE 18 of September).	35	A2	B2	C1	B6	C12								
Essay	The written report will be evaluated. The written report (4 points, 40% of the final note) will be evaluated in three phases: first draft (5%), second draft (10%) and final report (25%).	40	A4	B2	C1	D4	B6	C7	D5	C8	C9	C12	C14	C21	C23
Systematic observation	The attendance and active participation of students in theoretical classes, demonstrations and seminars will be taken into account. The exercises proposed by the teachers will also be taken into account. Attendance at demonstrations is compulsory and students must attend at least 90% of the demonstrations and seminars so that this methodology can be evaluated.	5		B2	C1	D5	C7	C12							
Presentation	The oral presentation will be evaluated (2 points, 20%). The oral defence of the written report will be done during 10 minutes in presence of the rest of the students and of the teaching staff of the subject. After the oral defence, there will be a turn of questions of 5 minutes.	20	A2	B2	C1	D4	A4	B6	C8	D5	C21				

Other comments on the Evaluation

In order to pass the subject, the student must pass each of the parts independently, and for this they must obtain a score of at least half the value of each one of them. If the student fails any of the parts, the final grade is divided by 2. For the July call, the pass will be kept in each of the parts considered in the evaluation system (theory and essay). Once the course is finished, in the case of failing in the two available calls, enrolling in the new course requires repeating everything.

The qualification of **Not presented** is considered when the student body does not appear for the theory exam and/or does not participate in some of the phases of the essay (delivery of reports and/or oral presentation of the essay).

Assistance to laboratory demonstrations and field trip:

In the case of unjustified absences to these sessions, there will be no right to recover these methodologies in the second opportunity (July call).

Exam dates:

The official dates of the exams, updated and approved by the Xunta de Facultade, can be consulted at <http://bioloxia.uvigo.es/es/docencia/examenes>

Students who take this subject are required to show responsible and honest conduct. Any form of fraud (copying and/or plagiarism) intended to falsify the level of knowledge or skill reached by a student in any type of test, report or work designed for this purpose is considered inadmissible. This willful conduct will be penalized with the firmness and rigor established by current regulations and may lead to the suspension of the subject for an entire course. An internal record of these actions will be kept, therefore, in the event of recidivism, the rectory is requested to open a disciplinary file.

Sources of information

Basic Bibliography

- Aguiló Alonso, M. et al., **Guía para la elaboración de estudios del medio físico: contenido y metodología.**, 4ª reimpr, Ministerio de Medio Ambiente,, 2000
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- Treweek, J., **Ecological impact assessment**, John Wiley & Sons, 2009
- Bautista, L.M., García, J.T., Calmaestra, R.G., Palacín, C., Martín, C.A., Morales, M.B., Bonal, R., **Effect of weekend road traffic on the use of space by raptors**, Conservation Biology, 2004
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- Hawkins, A.D., Pembroke, A.E., Popper, A.N., **Information gaps in understanding the effects of noise on fishes and invertebrates**, 25, Review in Fish Biology and Fisheries, 2015
- ## Complementary Bibliography
- Glasson, J.; Therivel, R.; Chadwick, A., **Introduction to environmental impact assessment.**, 2ª ed, Spon Press, 1999
- García Ureta, A., **Comentarios sobre la ley 21/2013, de evaluación ambiental**, 194, Revista de Administración Pública, 2014
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- Bailey, H., Brookes, K.L., Thompson, P.M., **Assessing environmental impacts of offshore wind farms: lessons learned and recommendations for the future**, 10, Aquatic Biosystems, 2014
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Recommendations

Subjects that continue the syllabus

Drafting and execution of projects/V02G030V01801

Subjects that are recommended to be taken simultaneously

Environmental analysis and diagnosis/V02G030V01902

Pollution/V02G030V01906

Management and Conservation of spaces/V02G030V01910

Subjects that it is recommended to have taken before

Ecology I/V02G030V01501

Ecology II/V02G030V01601

