



Course Syllabus

Ecology, Environment and Social Responsibility

August – December 2015

9th Semester

Lecturer

Bruno Portillo Seminario, MSc.

I. General Features of the course

Course : **Ecology, Environment and Social Responsibility** Code : **04543**
Requires : Filosofía y Ética, Economía General Semestre : 2015-2
Crédits : 3 Semester: IX
Language : English

II. Summary

This course aims to raise awareness and prepare students for social responsibility as active and voluntary contribution of companies towards improving social, economic and environmental conditions, in order to optimize their competitive position and value. This course deals with the analysis of the company's relationship with society and social responsibility that derives from it, which has increased over time due to the strong relationship between the business and social environment in the that develop.

III. Objectives

The course of Ecology, Environment and Responsibility aims to develop the students' analytical skills, provide basic knowledge and strategic skills regarding the interrelation between the environment, society, and economic and organizational performance. In particular it aims to strengthen the students' cognitive resources and analytical experience by informing on the historical biophysical processes of local and global ecologies tracking major changes in humanity up to the contemporary global environmental crisis; presenting and recreating the current debates and projects to solve problems and take opportunities confronting socio-environmental changes; and explaining and exercising corporate social responsibility strategies for innovative and sustainable competitiveness.

IV. Learnings results

After completing the course the student:

- Will have acquired basic knowledge and concepts related to global ecology in a historical setting and multiple perspective: the individual, business, society and the supporting environment.
- Will have up-to-date knowledge on the main environmental problems and changes (from global to local), and the debates, conflicts and opportunities around them.
- Will be informed about the relationship between ecology and corporate social responsibility (CSR) from different CSR strategies for sustainable organizational environmental performance, efficient and beneficial to the market.
- Be able to propose, discuss, and analyze corporate social responsibility strategies for sustainable organizational environmental performance, efficient and beneficial in the market

V. Methodology

The course will be lectured in English with a very minor portion of reading material in Spanish related to local issues not available in best quality in English.

Throughout the course the lecturer will give presentations and present audiovisual material. The student will complete readings on the topic of the unit. The Virtual Classroom will be used for communication, coordination and as a work delivery tool.

The scheduled tests will consist on reading controls and control examinations related to the lecturer's presentations, readings and / or videos. The control examinations will consist of a knowledge test and an exercise of application and / or thematic analysis.

Class participation will account for participatory dynamics as in group class exercises based on questions of analysis, and sound intervention in class in short oral quizzes and motivating questions or comments. Negative participation will discount the participation grade.

A final Integrative Applied Assignment will be instructed and will involve research of a case of an strategy of corporate social and environmental responsibility. Its grading will be at three stages of development and its presentation.

VI. Evaluation

The evaluation system is permanent and comprehensive. The course grade is obtained by averaging the continuous evaluation component (PEP= 40%), the midterm (EP=30%) and final exam (EF=30%).

The average of the continuous evaluation component results from the of 3 tests, 4 reading controls a research work and class participation.

The weights within the continuous evaluation are described in the following table:

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION AVERAGE 50%		
Evaluation type	Description	Weight %
Reading controls	4 reading controls	20
Practical tests (PC)	3 PC The best graded two stand	20 20
Integral applied work	1 research document and class presentation	30
Class participation	Performance in participatory dynamics and quizzes grades.	10

The final average grade (PF) is obtained through the following method:

$$PF = (0,30 \times EP) + (0,40 \times PEP) + (0,30 \times EF)$$

Where:

- PF** = Final average grade
- EP** = Midterm exam
- PEP** = Continuous Evaluation Average
- EF** = Final Exam

VII. Scheduled Contents

Weeks Sessions	Contents	Activities
1 August 24, 29	Introduction: Course Presentation Environmental Awareness and Environmental Education UNIT 1: Environmental History and Ecological Thought: 1.1 History of Socio Ecological Systems	Thematic video
2 September 31, 5	UNIT 1: Environmental History and Ecological Thought: 1.1 History of Socio Ecological Systems 1.2 History of Ecological Ideas	Participatory dynamics: Discussion
3 September 7, 12	UNIT 1: Environmental History and Ecological Thought. 1.2 History of Ecological Ideas	Reading Control 1 Integral Applicative Assignment (IAA) instructions
4 September 14, 19	UNIT 2: Global environmental change 2.1: Climate change: policies and business.	Thematic video or visit.
5 September 21, 26	UNIT 2: Global environmental change 2.1: Climate change: policies and business. 2.2 Non-climate global environmental change	PC 1
6 September 28 October 03	UNIT 2: Global environmental change 2.2 Non-climate global environmental change	Case Analysis
7 October 5, 10	UNIT 2: Global environmental change 2.2 Non-climate global environmental change	IAA Project outline presentation. Thematic video
8 October 12-17	MID TERM EXAMS	
9 October 19, 24	UNIT 3: Sustainable development concepts and tools. 3.1 Development and Sustainability	IAA 40% draft presentation and workshop
10 October 26, 31	UNIT 3: Sustainable development concepts and tools. 3.2 Sustainable Development.	Reading Control 3
11 November 2, 7	UNIT 3: Sustainable development concepts and tools. 3.3 Ecosystem Services 3.4 Valuation 3.5 Footprints.	PC 2
12 November 9, 14	Unit 4. Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility 4.1 Introduction and definitions.	PC feedback IAA 80% draft
13 November 16, 21	Unit 4: Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility. 4.2 Consumers and Markets	Reading Control 4:
14 November 23, 28	Unit 4: Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility. 4.3 Strategies and tools	PC3
15 November 30, December 5	Unit 4: Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility. 4.4 Alternatives of economic organization.	IAA paper deadline and presentations
16 December 7-12	FINAL EXAMS	

VIII. Bibliography

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IX. Lecturer

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