Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2015-2016

Environmental Impact Assessment (C002499)

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 1)  
English  
self-reliant study activities  
20.0 h  
seminar  
6.25 h  
lecture  
7.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Degraer, Steven WE11 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management  
3 A

Master of Science in Aquaculture  
3 A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Position of the course

Contents

This course focuses on the principles and procedures of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in the coastal and marine environment. While the course starts with introducing the origin and development of EIA in a worldwide context, the main focus is on the present day EIA process, starting from the early stages of a project EIA, through the impact prediction, evaluation, mitigation and public participation to the monitoring and auditing stages. Next to a theoretical introduction to EIA, the EIA process is illustrated through various coastal and marine examples (i.e. plenary), as well as through student interviews with real world stakeholders, marine managers and policy makers and consultants, united within selected EIA case studies (i.e. independent group work). The main findings of these interviews are communicated and discussed in plenary.

Initial competences

1. The student should be able to learn to work in a team.
2. The student should be able to analyse and synthesis the learning material.
3. The student should be able to present and transfer the acquired knowledge.
4. The student should be able to report in various ways.
5. The student should know about the need and benefits of a proper EIA and/or Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
6. The student should be appropriately aware of the generic EIA process, including all different steps to be taken and possible feedback loops.
7. The student should be able to critically consider any coastal or marine project EIA in relation to the generic EIA process.

Final competences

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

(Approved)
Conditions for exam contract
   This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
   Lecture, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Learning materials and price
   Course notes, provided by the lecturer (either in printed form, electronic form on VUB-Pointcarre Portfoliosystem or at the Oceans & Lakessecretariat): A syllabus containing e.g. all the slides shown is provided, extra documentation is also provided.
   Course notes by VUB-press: NA

References

Course content-related study coaching

Evaluation methods
   end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
   Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
   Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
   not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
   Interpretation and presentation of the interviews (i.e. independent group work).

Calculation of the examination mark

(Approved)