

1. OVERVIEW

Subject Area	ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
Degree	BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN LAW AND DOUBLE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
School/Faculty	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Year	FOURTH
ECTS	6 ECTS
Type	OPTIONAL
Language(s)	SPANISH
Delivery Mode	ON CAMPUS
Semester	FIRST

2. INTRODUCTION

The primary objective of this subject area is to introduce students to the modern-day concept of the environment through the study of domestic, European and international law.

Another objective is to introduce forms of prevention (environmental impact assessment, environmental auditing of companies, eco-labels, government subsidies, etc.), control (pollution prevention and control permits, environmental inspections), law enforcement (administrative and criminal sanctions), and liability for damages.

Finally, the subject area has the clear objective of training future legal experts to ensure they have the required skills to be leaders in an area of law that has offered more and more career prospects in recent years.

3. SKILLS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Basic skills (CB, by the acronym in Spanish):

- CB1. Students have demonstrated possession and understanding of knowledge in a study area that builds on general secondary education, and is typically at a level that, while supported by advanced textbooks, also includes aspects that involve knowledge from the forefront of their field of study.
- CB2. Students can apply their knowledge to their work professionally and possess the necessary skills, usually demonstrated by forming and defending opinions, as well as resolving problems within their study area.
- CB3. Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant information (usually within their study area) to form opinions which include reflecting on relevant social, scientific or ethical matters.
- CB4. Students can communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

- CB5. Students have developed the learning skills necessary to undertake further study in a much more independent manner.

Cross-curricular skills (CT, as per the Spanish acronym):

- CT04 - Communication skills: Students should be able to effectively express concepts and ideas, as well as possess clear and concise written communication skills and effective public speaking skills.
- CT06: Flexibility: Students should be able to adapt and work in different and varied situations with different people. This involves assessing and understanding different positions and adapting their own approach according to the situation.
- CT07. Awareness of ethical values: Ability to think and act in line with universal principles based on the value of a person, contributing to their development and involving commitment to certain social values.

Specific skills (CE, as per the Spanish acronym):

- CE01: Know and understand the components, structure, resources, interpretation and application of the legal system, and interpret the sources and fundamental legal concepts of the different legal systems.
- CE06: Deliver a convincing legal argument with regard to a theoretical question related to one of the different areas of law.
- CE12: Understand the importance of human rights as values that underpin international society and the legal framework on which they are based.

Learning outcomes (RA, as per the Spanish acronym):

- RA1: Understanding of environmental law principles and their specific nature compared to the rest of the national legal system, as well as their close relationship with domestic and European economic policy.
- RA2: Understanding of the concept of sustainable development in the legal/economic sphere.
- RA3: Students take active part in discussions, demonstrating knowledge, understanding and interlinking of the fundamental principles of the subject.
- RA4: Submission and presentation of research papers that address legal problems using a range of knowledge and solutions founded in law.

The following table shows how the skills developed in the course match up with the intended learning outcomes:

Skills	Learning outcomes
CE01, CE06	RA1: Understanding of environmental law principles and their specific nature compared to the rest of the national legal system, as well as their close relationship with domestic and European economic policy.
CE01, CE12	RA2: Understanding of the concept of sustainable development in the legal/economic sphere.

CE01, CE12	RA3: Students take active part in discussions, demonstrating knowledge, understanding and interlinking of the fundamental principles of the subject.
CE01, CE06, CE12	RA4: Submission and presentation of research papers that address legal problems using a range of knowledge and solutions founded in law.

4. CONTENTS

The subject area is divided into the following units:

Unit 1: The environment: conceptual background.

Unit 2: General domestic and EU environmental law.

Unit 3: Brief overview of special environmental law.

Unit 4: The structure and organisation of the government in the environmental sphere.

Unit 5: Environmental public action systems.

Unit 6: Liability in environmental matters: administrative and criminal.

Unit 7: Economics, law and the environment.

Unit 8: Environmental law and economic policy.

Unit 9: Sustainable development.

Unit 10: Sustainable development strategies.

5. TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS

The types of teaching/learning methods are as follows:

- Mock scenarios.
- Case studies using real-life scenarios in which students can get involved and develop their skills based on the subject area content.
- Cooperative learning, involving all students in the classroom, in order to make learning the material more social and dynamic.
- Problem-based learning, which will allow students not only to interact with their classmates based on the cooperative learning described, but also to acquire skills to face situations in working life in which they have to apply Environmental Law.
- Lectures.

6. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The types of learning activities, plus the amount of time spent on each activity, are as follows:

On-campus:

Learning activity	Number of hours
Lectures	30 h
Build knowledge of comparative law	12.5 h
Autonomous learning	17.5 h
Theory/practical knowledge tests	5 h
Academic tutorials	17.5 h
Solve practical case studies that relate to a certain branch of law (real and fictional)	42.5 h
Overview of the professional activities a legal expert may carry out	25 h
TOTAL	150 h

7. ASSESSMENT

The assessment methods, plus their weighting in the final grade for the course, are as follows:

On-campus:

Assessment system	Weighting
Guided individual papers/essays and reports	20%
Spoken presentations	25%
Portfolio/practical exercises	25%
Knowledge test	30%

On the Virtual Campus, when you open the subject area, you can see all the details of your assessment activities, including the deadlines and assessment procedures for each activity.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Derecho Ambiental, Torres López, M.A y Arana, E, Tecnos, Madrid, 3 ed, 2018.
- Tratado de Derecho Medio Ambiental, ORTEGA ÁLVAREZ, Luis y ALONSO G^a, Consuelo, Tirant Lo Blanch, 2013.
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- www.uicn.org
- www.ramsar.org.
- www.unep.org/. Programa de Naciones Unidas sobre el medio ambiente y el desarrollo.
- www.europarc.org/international/europarc.html Muy interesante web de las federaciones de parques internacionales europeos.
- www.cites.es/citesapp/Portada.htm La página oficial de la autoridad española del Convenio CITES.
- www.cica.es, Revista electrónica de Derecho ambiental, con artículos y estudios de interés por materias.
- www.derechoambiental.net/ otra buena página de noticias de Derecho ambiental, en general.
- www.fundacion-biodiversidad.es, acceso a información general en materia de biodiversidad.
- www.carm.es/siga/mnatural/legisla/indilegs.htm, con fuentes de Derecho ambiental

9. PLAGIARISM RULES

In line with the disciplinary rules for students of Universidad Europea:

- Plagiarism of all or part of any kind of intellectual work is considered a serious offence.
- Any student who commits the serious offence of plagiarism or cheating to pass an assessment test shall be disqualified from the corresponding exam(s), with the offence and reason for disqualification appearing on their academic record.