GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2024-2025

Environmental Impact Assessment (C002499)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	independent work
			lecture
			seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Degraer, Steven	WE11	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Geology	3	A
Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management	3	A
Exchange programme in Geology (master's level)	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

Final 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 feed back loops.
7 The student should be able to critically consider any coastal or marine project EIA in relation to the generic EIA process.

Conditions for credit contract

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

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Study material

None

References

• Glasson, J., R. Therivel and A. Chadwick (2005). Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment. 3rd Edition. The Natural and Built Environment Series, Oxford Brookes University.

Course content-related study coaching

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Interpretation and presentation of the interviews (i.e. independent group work).

Calculation of the examination mark