

## Socioeconomic Dimension of Fisheries (C004245)

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

**Credits 3.0** **Study time 84 h**

### Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) English Gent

### Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Pita, Cristina FAR001 lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

| International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources | crdts | offering |
|--|-------|----------|
|  | 3     | A        |

### Teaching languages

English

### Keywords

Fisheries, Resources, Socioeconomics, Governance, Human dimension

### Position of the course

This course is part of the 2nd semester of the Master in Aquaculture and Fisheries of the University of Algarve. It is required for the fisheries specialization students and an option for students from other Masters.

### Contents

The syllabus of this course is reviewed every year, depending on the evolution of the situation of socioeconomics of fisheries management:

- 1 The situation of the world fisheries resources
- 2 The socioeconomics dimension of fisheries in the world
- 3 The socioeconomics dimension of fisheries in Europe
- 4 The importance of small-scale fisheries
- 5 Importance of including the social dimension in fisheries management
- 6 Governance of fisheries and participation in the decision-making process
- 7 Gender dimension (women) in fisheries
- 8 Access rights in fisheries
- 9 The human dimension of marine protected areas.
- 10 Fisheries trade, seafood consumption, the sustainable seafood movement, labelling and certification
- 11 Marketing tool and initiatives to add-value to fishery products
- 12 Collecting and analysing socioeconomic fisheries data

The course is organized in 3 units:

- The first unit (THE SOCIOECONOMIC DIMENSION OF FISHERIES) includes themes 1 to 5 and its objective is to expose students to social, economic and cultural aspects of the fishing activity, and other activities related to fisheries.
- The second unit (MAJOR CHALLENGES FOR THE HUMAN DIMENSION OF FISHERIES) covers themes 6 to 11 and is dedicated to reviewing relevant current topics of importance to the fishing industry, namely to the European fishing industry (but also global fishing industry) where these topics are identified as the major social and economic challenges faced by the industry.
- The third unit (SOCIOECONOMIC DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS), includes theme 12 and explores in detail the collection and analysis of socioeconomic information related to fisheries (and other information related to the human dimension of fisheries), namely the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data.

**Initial competences**

Basic knowledge of fisheries

**Final competences**

- 1 Expose the students to the problems associated with social and economic aspects of fisheries and management of living marine resources.
- 2 Stress the importance of a multidisciplinary approach and including the socioeconomic dimension of fisheries in management and conservation.
- 3 Understand socioeconomic data collection and analysis, its use and importance.

**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**

Lecture

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Each class includes a presentation and associated study cases, for 1,5 hours. Part of the time is intentionally allocated to debating ideas and students are encouraged to share experiences. A list of readings (2-3 per unit) and in some cases lectures available on-line are used as a complement to the class debate.

**Study material**

None

**References**

To be defined in each year, consisting of scientific articles and material available online.

**Course content-related study coaching**

There is no individual coaching foreseen for students having problems, although there will be regular office hours for students to meet the professor on a one to one basis.

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Assignment

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

**Extra information on the examination methods**

The evaluation of the course is done through a report and presentation, where students will collect and analyse socioeconomic data on a topic of their choice (from the themes discussed in classes, or other relevant themes) and requiring an in-depth reading of the list of papers that constitute the bibliography of the course.

**Calculation of the examination mark**