GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2024-2025

Environmental Assessment (I002194)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Zdanowicz, Christian UPPSALO1 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
International Master of Science in Sustainable and Innovative Natural Resource Management	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Position of the course

The course introduces you to the environmental assessment cycle as an organising principle for identifying environmental issues, suggesting different ways to address the issues, and following up progress towards those issues. An introduction is given to assessment methodologies including cost-benefit analyses and environmental quality criteria, with a focus on water and energy issues. You conduct your own analysis of an issue related to environmental assessment and present it to your peers.

Contents

Basic theory of science and methodology. The environmental assessment cycle as an organising principle for identifying environmental issues, suggesting different ways to address the issues, and following up progress towards those issues. Introduction to assessment methodologies including cost-benefit analyses and environmental quality criteria. Examples related to water and energy will be used. Students will conduct their own analysis of an issue and present it to their peers.

Initial competences

A Bachelor's degree. 180 credits within the natural sciences, technology, the social sciences, jurisprudence or the historical/philosophical subject areas.
Proficiency in English equivalent to the Swedish upper secondary course English 6.

Final competences

1 After completion of the course, the student should be able to:
- describe the decision-making process with regard to environmental issues in the context of sustainable development

2 • apply the environmental assessment cycle approach in identifying and resolving environmental problems

3 • analyze the evaluation criteria used in environmental decisionmaking using available environmental data

4 • evaluate the suitability of different approaches to decision support that provide strategies for addressing environmental problems and related societal issues, with an analysis of advantages and disadvantages from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures. Project work. Literature studies.

Study material

None

References

The course literature consists of a collection of scientific articles that are made available at the beginning of the course

Course content-related study coaching

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Peer and/or self assessment, Presentation, Assignment

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

Oral assessment, Peer and/or self assessment, Presentation, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The course is graded based on the written and oral presentation of an individual project together with feedback that the student gives on the written assignments of other students.

Calculation of the examination mark