

Group: IMTH

Degree: Master

Course: Environmental Impact Assessments

1. Credits: 3

2. Grade & Semester: Second year, first semester

3. Prerequisites: N/A

4. Course objectives:

The main objective of this course is to introduce students to the central concepts of environmental impact assessment. These concepts include understanding how laws work, interpreting graphs and tables as well as visual displays of information, prompting critical thinking and both quantitative and qualitative reasoning skills. To meet these objectives, the course will consist of lectures, small group and large group discussions, analyzing data and case material as well as generating ideas for improving the environmental assessment process.

5. Course description/outline:

This course explores the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and discusses what this law requires when conducting an assessment. The course considers the various components that go into creating an environmental impact statement, including the environmental, ecological and social contexts in which environmental assessments occur and examining their value and effectiveness in these contexts. Furthermore, this course specifically focuses on some of the NEPA's weaknesses and gaps, including greenhouse gas and climate change considerations, environmental health and justice issues, analysis of cumulative impacts, and visual presentation and communication of information. Students will learn to analyze and apply the ideas of environmental impact assessment through reading and discussions of creating green roadways.