



UNIVERSIDAD
DE GRANADA



CENTRO DE
LENGUAS
MODERNAS

CURSOS DE LENGUA Y CULTURA EN
INGLÉS

GEOGRAPHY

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN: APPROACHING LOCAL
SELF-SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: APPROACHING LOCAL SELF-SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This survey course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive approach to local self-sustainable practices, models and cultures in the Mediterranean region. Through revising bibliographic references and local case studies, students will understand the basics of traditional and innovative local self-sustainable projects in the Mediterranean context. Students will also identify and compare the community practices and local governance in the Mediterranean region, contrasting the city and rural landscape configurations in the Mediterranean region, especially those related to the local self-sustainable development. They also will identify and explain in situ the processes and resistances that are influencing the local sustainability of Granada and its surroundings.

CONTENTS

THEORETICAL SYLLABUS:

- Unit 1. The Mediterranean region: Enhancing the long-term identity of places in order to care for the human environment.
- Unit 2. Introduction to the Mediterranean environmental conflicts: Complexity, environmental limits and the new development-related poverties.
- Unit 3. Identity, territory and sustainability in the Mediterranean
- Unit 4. From sustainability to "sustainabilities". Understanding the



CONTENTS

concepts of: Demand Management, Eco-efficiency, Self-sufficiency, Ecological Footprint, Precaution and Biomimesis.

- Unit 5. New community practices in the Mediterranean: local administration and governing the environment.
- Unit 6. Urban milieu and sustainability in the Mediterranean region.
- Unit 7. From the metropolis to the Mediterranean city of villages: boundaries and environmental re-qualification.
- Unit 8. The territorial ecosystem: the producers of the landscape and the environment in the Mediterranean region.

ACTIVITIES:

They will deepen and apply the theoretical contents shown in the lectures. They will due to be delivered at the end of the class.

Seminars and projects

- The new city-rural alliance: analysing case studies in the Mediterranean.
- The local project in the Mediterranean: group presentation.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course offers the students the opportunity:

- To get a global approach of complexity of Spanish territory.
- To understand main environmental, historical, economical, demographic and cultural processes that shape current Spanish reality.
- To analyze Spanish territory from a regional proposal based on environmental and cultural criteria.
- To know singularity and distinctive features of each Spanish region.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment criteria are as follow:

1. Exam (40%). Midterm (20%) –that keep mark for the final exam– and



ASSESSMENT

- Final exam (20% in case of passing the first exam). Multiple choice: 25 questions of 4 possible answers.
2. Group paper and class presentation (30%): Considering Mediterranean case studies and the contents/references given in the course, you need to produce a presentation and a paper of 1.500 to 2.000 words (excluding the list of references).
 3. Activities and participation (30%). This assignment includes readings and short essays about papers, texts and presentations given in the course. In addition, assistance to fieldworks with their respective assignments:
 - A report about Granada coast environmental problems: one-day long (10%)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required Text

- D'Alisa, G; Demaria, F; Kallis, G (eds.) (2015): Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era. New York: Routledge.

Additional References

- Benoit, G & Comeau, A (eds.) (2005): A Sustainable Future for the Mediterranean. New York: Taylor & Francis.
- Blondel, J.; Aronson, J.; Bodiou, J-Y & Boeuf, G. (2010): The Mediterranean Region: Biological Diversity in Space and Time. OUP Oxford
- Hughes, D (2005): The Mediterranean: An Environmental History (Nature and Human Societies). Santa Barbara (CA): Abc-Clio.
- Joanna, P; Francese, D & Passaro, A (eds.) (2012): Sustainable Mediterranean Construction. Milan: Ricerche di tecnologia dell'architettura, Francoangeli.
- King, R.; Proudfoot, L. & Smith, B. (eds.) (2013): The Mediterranean: Environment and Society. London-New York: Routledge.
- Latouche, S (2009): Farewell to Growth. Cambridge-Malden: Polity Press.
- Magnaghi, A (2005): The urban village: a charter for democracy and local self-sustainable development. New York: Zed Books
- McNeil, J R (1992): The Mountains of the Mediterranean World: An Environmental History. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Muñoz, F. (2003): "Lock living: Urban sprawl in Mediterranean cities",



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Cities, Vol. 20 (6), pp. 381-385.

- Romero, J. & Melo, C. (2015): "Spanish Mediterranean Huertas: theory and reality in the planning and management of peri-urban agriculture and cultural landscapes", *WIT Transactions on Ecology and The Environment*, Vol. 193, pp. 585-595.
- Sachs, W (ed.) (2010): *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power*. New York-London: Zed Books.