Introduction to Geography & Economics

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability **Speciality** - **Organizational unit** Faculty of Law and Administration **Study level** first cycle (joint degree programme) **Study form** full-time degree programme **Education profile** General academic **Mandatory** obligatory	**Education cycle** 2025/26 **Subject code** UJ.WPAJBSS.820.16351.25 **Lecture languages** english **Subject related to scientific research** Yes **Disciplines** Socio-economic geography and spatial, Economics and finance **ISCED classification** 0588 Interdisciplinary programmes involving broad field 05 **USOS code**

Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo
Lecturer	Ariane Dupont-Kieffer, Olena Havrylchyk

Period Semester 2	**Examination** exam **Activities and hours** Lecture with elements of a discussion class: 20	**Number of ECTS points** 4.0

Goals

C1	Acquiring the basics in economics and geography to be able to join the Paris 1 track.
C2	Acquiring the essential concepts and applications of economics and development studies.
C3	Acquiring the essential concepts and applications of physical, environmental and human geography and having a first fieldwork to introduce students to geographical data and geographical information acquisition, centralization (GIS). As a first holistic resolution of one environmental issue, fieldwork and territorial diagnosis will involve techniques and methods coming from both social and natural sciences (interviews, questionnaires, vegetation and faunistic distribution/relevés, thermal and hydric parameters).

Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge – Student knows and understands:			
W1	the concept of sustainability related to both disciplines and can describe the interconnections between different disciplinary approaches	JBS_K1_W01	written exam
W2	the key stages of the concept of sustainability	JBS_K1_W02	written exam
W3	the interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on economics and geography	JBS_K1_W06, JBS_K1_W07	written exam
Skills – Student can:			
U1	knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences – including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in English	JBS_K1_U02	written exam
U2	apply adequate methods and tools, including selected IT tools, to solve problems related to data collection, analysis, and management in the context of sustainability.	JBS_K1_U03	written exam
Social competences – Student is ready for:			
K1	to consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.	JBS_K1_K03	written exam
K2	to defend the importance of scientific data and methods as a basis for decision-making.	JBS_K1_K05	written exam

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Lecture with elements of a discussion class	20
problem analysis	30

preparation for the exam	30	
preparation for classes	15	
preparation of a multimedia presentation	15	
Student workload	**Hours** 110	**ECTS** 4.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Section 1: History of economic thought 1.1 • The 18-19 th century (1): Nature refers to natural resources • The 18-19 th century (2): Environmental degradation and the need to distinguish between renewable and non-renewable resources • The early 20th century (1): new concepts (eg: externalities), new questions and new methods (backcats/forecasting • The late 20th century (2): towards sustainable development • Sustainable development and Social Justice.	W1, W3, U1, K1
2.	Section 2: Key contemporary economic issues 1.2 • Economic perspective on the environment (limits to growth, negative externalities, public goods, etc) • Environmental policies and economics: the role of prices, taxation and norms • Green finance and monetary policy • Political economy of sustainable development • Climate change and migration	W1, W3, U1, K1
3.	Section 3: Introduction to geography 1.3 • Essential of geophysics: Climatology, hydrology, biogeography, soils, & geomorphology (ecosphere structure & functionment, uncertainties, Anthropocene) • Essential of human geography: Human settlements, transport, production & demographical aspects, globalization and metropolization • Essential of sustainable development as seen by geographers: Theoretical paradigms regarding Earth limits, cultural aspects of SDGs, geographical scales of regulatory aspects, methodological framework regarding geospatial indicators of SDGs	W2, W3, U1, U2, K2

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

text analysis, brainstorming, conversation lecture

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Lecture with elements of a discussion class	written exam	Active participation (during the local field work, by subgroup, students will have to present orally what entry of the socio-ecosystem they have chosen to quantify/qualify/describe and diagnose the environmental problem in its geographical/spatiotemporal context. Canvas/PPT.) (non-graded); written exam based on open questions (graded)

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. Core Econ Team (2024), The Economy 1.0, url : https://www.core-econ.org/project/core-the-economy/
2. Core Econ Team (2024), Economy, Society, and Public Policy, url : https://www.core-econ.org/project/core-espp/
3. CHRISTOPHERSON, R., BIRKELAND, Ginger H., BYRNE, Mary-Louise, et al. Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography (4th Canadian edition). 2009.
4. ELLIOTT, Jennifer. An introduction to sustainable development. Routledge, 2012.
5. JONES, Andrew. Human geography: The basics. Routledge, 2012.
6. PURVIS, Martin et GRAINGER, Alan. Exploring sustainable development: Geographical perspectives. Routledge, 2013.

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K03	The graduate can consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.
JBS_K1_K05	The graduate can defend the importance of scientific data and methods as a basis for decision-making.
JBS_K1_U02	The graduate can present and report knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences – including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in a foreign language at the CEFR B2 level.
JBS_K1_U03	The graduate can apply adequate methods and tools, including selected IT tools, to solve problems related to data collection, analysis, and management in the context of sustainability.
JBS_K1_W01	The graduate can describe the concept of sustainability and recognize the differences in relevant definitions, models and approaches.
JBS_K1_W02	The graduate can explain the axiological background of sustainability and summarize key stages of development of the concept.
JBS_K1_W06	The graduate can describe interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on disciplines included in the selected specialisation track (law and politics; chemistry and physics; chemistry and biology; economics and geography; economics, management and engineering; humanities).
JBS_K1_W07	The graduate can apply the theory and methodology of disciplines included in the selected specialisation track to sustainability-related problems, taking into consideration practical limitations such as protection of intellectual property.