uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Introduction to environmental impact assessment

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 14-06-2022

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department Coordinating teacher: NICOLINI ALESSI, ESTEBAN ALBERTO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 3.0

Year: 1 Semester: 2

OBJECTIVES

- Knowledge of the principles of biodiversity, environmental justice and sustainability and capacity of application of the principles of prevention and precaution in the context of the environmental impact assessment.
- ¿ Comprehension of the interactions between the steps of the administrative process, planning and documentation in the environmental impact assessment.
- ¿ Capacity to understand and apply the methods based on identification and evaluation of alternatives, factor weighting, impact identification and impact evaluation.
- ¿ Comprehension of the potential of the geographic information systems (GIS) and acquisition of collaborative methods in the context of the environmental impact assessment.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

- -Introduction to the concepts of environment, environmental quality, ecosystems and spatial and temporal heterogeneity.
- -Legal and institutional framework of the environmental impact evaluation: the National Environmental Policy Act. The European and international regulations.
- -Screening and scoping mechanisms. Identification of alternatives and baseline definition.
- -Initial evaluation and specific studies: soil use, draining, geomorphologic aspects.
- -Introduction of the techniques of prediction, evaluation, mitigation and improvement.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- Class participation
- Individual or group presentations
- Individual or group work done during the course
- discussions
- Final report

% end-of-term-examination:	40
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals):	60

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Glasson et al. Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment, Routledge, 2012
- Lawerence, David Environmental Impact Assessment. Practical Solutions to Recurrent Problems., Wiley, 2003

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beattie, R. Everything you already know about EIA, but don¿t often admit, . Environmental Impact Assessment Review 15.. 1995
- Calow, P. Handbook of environmental risk assessment and management, Blackwell Science., 1997
- Canter, L. and Ross, W State of practice of cumulative effects assessment and management: the good, the bad and the ugly, Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal 28 (4), 261;8., 2010
- Cooper, L.M. and Sheate W Cumulative effects assessment: A review of UK environmental impact statements, Environmental Impact Assessment Review 22 (2002) 415¿439., 2002
- Morgan, Richard K Environmental impact assessment: the state of the art, Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal Vol. 30, No. 1, March 2012, 5¿14., 2012