

COURSE SYLLABUS

Academic year 2013-2014

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Degree:	Geography and History
Double Degree:	
Course:	Coastal Geography
Module:	Geography
Department:	Geography, History and Philosophy
Term:	1
Total Credits:	6
Year:	4
Type of Course:	Optional
Course Language:	English

Teaching model:	C1	
a. General/background:		50 %
b. Theory-into-practice/developmental knowledge-building		50%
c. Guided Academic Activities:		

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2. COURSE COORDINATOR

Name:	Dr. Fatima Navas
Faculty:	Humanities
Department:	Geography, History and Philosophy
Academic Area:	Physical Geography
Position:	Senior Lecturer
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3. ACADEMIC CONTEXT

3.1. Course Description and Objectives

The main objective of this course in Coastal Geography is to identify and appreciate the elements that make up and interplay in coastal environments as well as the nature of the relationships between them in the form of natural and human processes. The emphasis will be placed on the understanding of the natural environment which supports, with its resources, the various degrees of anthropogenic activities.

The goal is to understand the functioning of the main drivers in the natural environment including analysis of waves, tides and aeolian factors, which are responsible for coastal processes.

A further objective of the course is to recognise and understand the complex processes involved in the management of coastal and marine environments and to introduce some of the instruments that are used worldwide for the management of coastal land and sea resources.

In this course students will utilise data sources and methods for study and research in coastal geography.

3.2. Contribution to the Training Plan

In the context of the Geography and History programme, coastal geography provides a focused spatial approach to issues that concur in highly dynamic and stressed natural and socioeconomic environments. There is an emphasis on the role of physical dynamics and the analysis of the relationships of the use of the natural resources in a sustainable way.

3.3. Recommendations or Prerequisites

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4. COMPETENCES

4.1 Degree Competences Developed during this Course

1. Development of linguistic competence in Spanish and in English.
2. Capacity to deal with complex systems.
3. Scientific and rigorous data management.
5. Team work, respect for diversity and collaborative spirit.
6. Autonomous and creative thinking and work practices.
7. Information search and management in an autonomous and rigorous context.
8. Awareness of plagiarism and copyrights.
9. Application of democratic and egalitarian work ethics.
10. Environmental and Social justice awareness.

4.2. Module Competences Developed during this Course

19. Knowledge of working methods in Geography.
20. Use of Geographic information as a tool for territorial and spatial planning.
21. Develop relationships to manage spatial information in complex systems.
22. Present findings of study in Geography with clarity.
23. Introduce the main research methods in Geography.

4.3. Course-specific Competences

20. Use of Geographic information as a tool for territorial and spatial planning.
23. Introduce the main research methods in Geography.

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5. COURSE CONTENT (COURSE TOPICS)

The contents are delivered in three main parts. These are:

- (i) The Physical Environments of the Coast
- (ii) Coastal Processes
- (iii) Coastal Management

6. METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCES

This course is taught through a blend of classroom lectures and seminars, field and laboratory work and an on-line virtual classroom containing a wealth of tools and resources.

7. ASSESSMENT

Theory and practical assessments: 80%
Attendance and participation: 20%

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8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

CARTER, R.W.G. (ed.), 1990. Coastal environment: An introduction to the physical, ecological and cultural systems of coastlines. Ed. Academic Press.

CICIN-SAIN, B. y KNECHT, R.W., 1998. Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management: Concepts and Practices. Washington, DC: Island Press.

DAVIS, R.A., 1978. Coastal Sedimentary Environments. Springer Verlag, 420 pp.

KOMAR, P.D. 1998. Beach processes and sedimentation. 2nd edition. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc. Pages 183-196 and 208-263.

NORDSTROM, K., PSUTY, N. y CARTER, R.W.G., 1991. Coastal dunes: form and process. Ed. John Wiley & Sons. London.

REINECK, H.E. y SINGH, I.B., 1973. Depositional Sedimentary Environments. Springer Verlag, 439 pp.

SUNAMURA, T., 1992. Geomorphology of rocky coast. Ed. John Wiley & Sons. London.