



INTRODUCTION

Course description: This course will explore different perspectives and techniques for mitigating environmental impacts of human activities. We will take a close look at the concept of landscape restoration, we will think about why and when restoration activities must be applied, we will learn the basics of restoration project planning, and we will analyze real cases.

- **Degree:** Double degree Biology + Environmental sciences
- **Module in the Degree Program:** Module IV. Land zoning and conservation.
- **ECTS:** 6
- **Year, semester:** 4th year, 2nd semester
- **Type of course:** required
- **Instructor:** Ana Villarroya
- **Language:** English and Spanish
- **Room, Schedule:** room 15, Wednesdays and Thursdays 14.00 to 16.00

LEARNING OUTCOMES (Competencies)

Basic competences

CB3. To be able to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within the field of study) to build opinions that show reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.

CB4. To be able to communicate information, ideas and answer questions to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

CB5. To develop the abilities to undertake future studies on an autonomous manner.

Generic competences

CG2. To think on an integrated way and to tackle problems from different points of view.

CG3. To have critical sense.

CG4. To work as part of a team.

CG5. To have a sense of responsibility towards the environment and the ecosystem.

CG6. To manage information.

Specific competences

CE14. To elaborate management plans for plant and animal populations (including threatened and endangered species).

CE32. To design sustainability indicators and calculate environmental footprint.

CE34. To know the principles and techniques of environmental restoration and rehabilitation.



SYLLABUS

- Fundamentals of Landscape Restoration
- About the landscape
 - Basic concepts: remembering EIA
 - Landscape assessment
 - Nature, landscape, and human wellbeing
- Introduction to landscape restoration
 - A general view
 - Ecological basics and restoration trajectories
 - Goals and perspectives on landscape restoration
- Land vocation
- The restoration project
 - Geomorphology
 - Soil
 - Revegetation
 - Fauna
 - Society
 - Follow-up

Project: critical study and elaboration of an executive summary of an actual restoration plan.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activities	Methodology	Correspondence to competences
Theoretical lectures - 0,96 ECTS (24h)	Lectures in the room. Student participation is highly encouraged and valued	CB3, CB5, CG2, CG3, CG5, CG6, CE14, CE32, CE34
Applied sessions - 0,56 ECTS (14h)	Practical sessions to apply theoretical knowledge to the course project	CB3, CB4, CB5, CG4, CG6, CE14, CE34
Assessment seminars - 0,16 ECTS (4h)	Public defense and self-assessment of the course final project. Experts from different affiliations may join some of the sessions	CB4, CG3, CG4
Field trips - 0,24 ECTS (6h)	Visits to restoration projects in nearby places	CG3, CG5, CE5



Course project - 1,72 ECTS (43h)	Individual and team work that applies the contents of the course	CB3, CB4, CB5, CG2, CG3, CG4, CG6, CE5, CE14, CE32
One-to-one tutorials - 0,2 ECTS (5h)	Personal interviews with the teachers to get help with personal learning and to solve questions	CG3, CG6
Personal study - 0,66 ECTS (16,5h)	Time dedicated to understand and assimilate concepts discussed in class	CB3, CB5, CG2, CG3, CG6, CE5, CE34
Environment and Landscapes Program - 1,5 ECTS (37,5h)	National and international trips to study restoration projects	CB3, CG2, CG3, CG4, CG5, CE5, CE34
Total dedication:	6 ECTS (150h)	

GRADING

REGULAR CALL (MAY)

The final grade will be calculated as the weighted average of the E&LP grade (trip to Wales) and the present course grade, as follows:

$$\text{Final grade} = (\text{E\&LP} \times 0.25) + (\text{LR} \times 0.75)$$

Criteria for calculating the LR course grade:

1. Students will work on a course project during the whole semester. It will include individual and teamwork, and a public defense at the end of the course. The grade of the project will represent 50% of the final grade of the course.
2. Individual assignments will represent 25% of the final grade. These exercises will be graded according to the quality of their writing (grammar, orthography), their relation to the reference text, and the depth and coherence of the student's answer to the question.
3. The final exam will represent 25% of the final grade.

Submitting all parts (project, individual assignments, and exam) is mandatory to pass the course.

A proactive attitude during the sessions may rise the final grade up to one point.



Universidad
de Navarra

SECOND CALL (JUNE)

Only the final exam can be repeated in June. In extraordinary cases, there might exist the possibility of a second attempt at some of the individual assignments.

OFFICE HOURS

Please ask for an appointment by email (avillarroya@unav.es)

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Textbooks

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Universidad de Navarra

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Papers

Bartholomew, D., et al. (2026). Open letter: The need for a site-based biodiversity standard measuring and certifying impacts from nature-based projects. *Plants People Planet*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppp3.70169>

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