

Academic year	2016-17
Subject	10588 - Environmental Policy Tools
Group	Group 1, 2S
Teaching guide	C
Language	English

Subject identification

Subject	10588 - Environmental Policy Tools
Credits	1.2 de presencials (30 hours) 2.8 de no presencials (70 hours) 4 de totals (100 hours).
Group	Group 1, 2S (Campus Extens)
Teaching period	Second semester
Teaching language	English

Professors

Lecturers	Horari d'atenció als alumnes					
	Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	Finish date	Office
Jenny Carolina De Freitas Fernandes jenny.defreitas@uib.es	09:20	10:50	Thursday	12/09/2016	31/05/2017	DB216 (cita previa por email)
Xavier Labandeira Villot	You need to book a date with the professor in order to attend a tutorial.					

Contextualisation

Today tourism is one of the biggest industries in the world, revitalizing geographical areas and contributing decisively to the economic growth of developed and non-developed countries. Besides this positive side of tourism development, much criticism has arisen due to the tourism industry's negative environmental impact. Today, more than ever, it becomes necessary to find a balance between tourism and the environment. Facing this challenge, it has been created the Master & PhD in Tourism and Environmental Economics. This postgraduate program combines studies in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics with studies in Tourism Economics. Only by combining both disciplines will students reach the knowledge that will allow them to answer the most important challenges that the tourism industry is facing. Students will be taught on economic and environmental theory as well as on the use of econometric and statistical instruments, thus preparing them to face the challenge of a necessary, new, global understanding of the tourism phenomena.

Environmental Policy Tools is included in Environmental Economics Module. Environmental issues are of great importance to tourism activities, as they are subject to the general regulatory constraints and also because the environment is a key factor for tourism output. Therefore, this course is devoted to study the design and effects of different environmental policy tools in this sector. We first recover the concept of externality and characterize it as an environmental problem with different causes and spatial scope, setting up links with previous courses on microeconomics and environmental valuation. We then define different alternatives to internalize such negative external effects: bargaining, conventional command and control approaches and market-based instruments. We specifically address the role of corrective mechanisms to correct tourism externalities and illustrate it for the case of Spain and other economies. The course also emphasizes the

empirical assessment of different policies, with a summary of effects and a discussion of methods to carry out this evaluation.

Requirements

There are no essential requirements more than demanded in order to be admitted at the MTEE

Recommendable

It is highly recommended to have good knowledge on the following subjects:

Environmental Economics

Methodologies of Environmental Valuation

Skills

Specific

- * To evaluate the consequences of tourism over the environment as long as the effect environmental policies have over the tourism economic activity..
- * To know arguments in favor and against different environmental policies and their consequences. To evaluate and to compare the different possibilities of environmental policies..
- * To do case studies about positive and negative experiences in environmental policies..

Generic

- * To organize the structure of a work process..
- * To be familiar with scientific texts. To search for and to classify documents and data bases..
- * To develop a synthetic and a knowledge integration capacity. To be able to form, to express and to defend concepts clearly, accepting criticism..

Content

Theme content

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Plan of the course and sources
 - 1.2. Environmental degradation as an externality
 - 1.3. Type of environmental problems and their scope
2. Regulating environmental degradation: foundations and design
 - 2.1. Bargaining and intervention
 - 2.2. Command and control approaches
 - 2.3. Market-based instruments: taxes
 - 2.4. Market-based instruments: permits
 - 2.5. Voluntary approaches to environmental regulation

- 2.6. Environmental regulation and the economy
- 3. Regulation in practice
 - 3.1. Applied instruments and their effects
 - 3.2. Green tax reforms
 - 3.3. Emission trading systems
- 4. Environmental regulation in the tourism sector
 - 4.1. Impacts of tourism sector
 - 4.2. Environmental costs of tourism
 - 4.3. Environmental Policies in Tourism
 - 4.4. Corrective Taxes in Tourism Sector

Teaching methodology

In-class work activities

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
ECTS tutorials	Tutorials	Medium group (M)	Personal assistance to students doubts related to class content and problem sets.	28
Assessment	Final exam	Small group (P)	A final written exam on course contents is needed to test good knowledge of the given lessons.	2

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Campus Extens platform.

Distance education work activities

Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self-study	Independent workload	Homework related to contents covered during lessons, mainly problem sets.	70

Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

Student learning assessment

If the average grade is a passing grade, then it will not be applied the concept of recoverable in any evaluation method.

Final exam

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Extended-response, discursive examinations (retrievable)
Description	A final written exam on course contents is needed to test good knowledge of the given lessons.
Assessment criteria	It comprises all the course content (classnotes, recommended readings, problem sets, etc.). The exam could either be a multiple test, a problem set, short answer questions or a combination of all of them. The duration will be at most 2 hours.

Final grade percentage: 100%

Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

Basic bibliography

- * Baumol, W. J. and Oates, W. E. (1988) 'The Theory of Environmental Policy'. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- * Bohm, P. and Russell, C. (1985) 'Comparative analysis of alternative policy instruments' In Kneese, A. y Sweeney, J. (ed) Handbook of Natural Resource and Energy Economics. North-Holland, Amsterdam.
- * Enders, A. (2011) 'Environmental Economics: Theory and policy'. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- * European Environment Agency (2000) 'Environmental Taxes: Recent Developments in Tools for Integration', Environmental Issues Series, 18
- * Labandeira, X., Labeaga, J. M. and Rodríguez, M. (2004) 'Green Tax Reforms in Spain', European Environment, Vol. 14, 5, pp. 290-299
- * Gago, A. and Labandeira, X. (1999) La Reforma Fiscal Verde. Teoría y Práctica de la Imposición Ambiental. Ed. Mundi Prensa, Madrid.
- * Gago, A., Labandeira, X., Picos, F. and Rodríguez, M. (2005) 'Taxing Tourism in Spain: Results and Recommendations', Nota di Lavoro, FEEM
- * Gago, A., Labandeira, X., Picos, F. and Rodríguez, M. (2007) 'Environmental Taxes in Spain: A Missed Opportunity', in Martínez-Vázquez, J. and Sanz, J. F. (eds) Fiscal Reform in Spain: Accomplishments and Challenges, Edward Elgar, Northampton (USA)
- * Smith, S. (2003) 'Ecotaxes: What Have We Learned, and How Far Should We Go' Les séminaires de l'Iddri, 8

Complementary bibliography



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Selected papers and resources for each subject will be posted in Campus Extens during the course.

