

Economy and Environment

Study programme	YUFE Joint Bachelor in Urban Sustainability Studies
Academic year	2026/2027
Curriculum component	First year
Year and semester	1st year, semester 2
Course type	Compulsory
ECTS credits	3
Contact hours (L+S+E)	15 + 0 + 15
Language of instruction	English

Contact

Course coordinator

Saša Čegar, Phd, Full Professor
sasa.cegar@efri.uniri.hr

Teaching assistant/associate

Nika Stipetić-Kalinić, Assistant
nika.stipetic.kalinic@efri.uniri.hr

Prerequisites

No requirements.

Course objectives

The aim of the course is to familiarise students with the basic economic and environmental aspects of the interaction between the economy and the environment, and to explain why economic activities cause negative environmental changes. The course also aims to help students understand the importance of sustainable development as a fundamental framework for future economic progress.

Learning outcomes

- Grasp the complex relationship between the economy and the environment by applying basic economic principles and natural laws.
- Relate the causes and consequences of negative environmental changes to the concept of sustainable development.

Course content

- The concept and components of the environment
- Interdependence of the economy and the environment
- Economic functions of the environment
- Economic
- classification of environmental goods and services

- The concept of environmental externalities
- The concept of environmental value
- Causes and consequences of environmental pollution and degradation
- The relationship between economic growth and environmental quality
- Limits to economic growth
- Definitions, dimensions, and monitoring of sustainable development
- The concept of weak and strong sustainability
- Sustainable development of the enterprise
- The material balance principle and the IPAT identity
- Environmental Kuznets curve
- Eco-efficiency.

Teaching and learning methods

lectures and practical classes.

Assessment and grading

two midterm based on which students can earn up to 50% of the final grade, two tests, based on which students can earn up to 20% of the final grade, a final exam, based on which students can earn up to 30% of the final grade.

Grading scale

Grade	Percentage
5 (A)	90-100%
4 (B)	75-89.9%
3 (C)	60-74.9%
2 (D)	50-59.9%
1 (F)	0-49.9%