

COURSE: Economics of quality for sustainable development

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2016/2017

TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY: Characterizing

TEACHER: Prof.ssa Antonella P. Vastola

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Language: English

ECTS: 6 (5 lessons; 1 tutorials/practice)	n. of hours: (lessons and tutorial practice) 40 lessons 16 tutorial practise/ technical visits	Campus: Potenza School: SAFE Program: LM 70 - EDAMUS "Sustainable Management of Food Quality"	Semester: Second
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EDUCATIONAL GOALS

The aim of the course is providing to the future food technologists the analytical skills and management tools for the economic assessment of agricultural and food products in order to reach a sustainable development and growth path.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the students will be able:

- to analyze the fundamental aspects of the quality of an agro-food product;
- to combine the previous ones with the safety concept in order to obtain a competitive product;
- to analyze sustainable and responsible consumption and production patterns;
- to made a critical and effective analysis of appropriate worldwide case studies.

PRE-REQUIREMENTS

A basic knowledge concerning agro-food economics.

SYLLABUS

Introduction to economics of quality (8h lecture + 2h tutorial practise)

- Economic and market conditions that require the protection of agro-food quality.
- Definitions and analysis of the market failures that make necessary to protect the quality by public institutions.

Economics of quality: tools (10h lecture + 4h tutorial practise)

- Quality certification systems: mandatory and voluntary
- Ex ante tools versus ex post tools
- Outside/Inside the company in a private or a public contest
- Collective brands
- Case studies

Sustainable development: concepts and application to agro-food sector (10 h lecture + 6h tutorial practise)

- What is sustainability?
- Which are the elements of sustainability?
- Sustainable Development: which definitions?
- Sustainability Economic Indices
- UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO): types of sustainability
- Sustainable Agro-Food Systems
- Case studies (i.e. land grabbing; land sharing; crowdsourcing)

Sustainable Agriculture: case studies (6h lecture + 2h tutorial practise)

- Organic Farming
- Biodynamic Farming
- Biological Pest Management
- Permaculture
- Reduced Tillage Farming

Sustainable consumption patterns (6h lecture + 2h tutorial practise)

- Environmental Sustainability
- Carbon Footprint
- Ecological Footprint
- Water Footprint and its sustainable consumption
- Sustainable consumption patterns: the dietary
- Sustainable behaviours: the food waste reduction

Practises

During the course classroom tutorials and technical visits will be done in order to acquire the ability to analyse different case studies.

TEACHING METHODS

Theoretical lessons and classroom tutorials: 40 hours. Tutorials and technical visits: 16 hours.

EVALUATION METHODS

The final exam will verify the achievement of the expected learning outcomes. It will be based, at individual level, on a written presentation (word file) and an oral discussion (power point file) of a project work (previously agreed with the responsible of the course). The final grade is given by the average of the two scores obtained from the evaluation of both proofs. If one of the two trials is insufficient or if the total score is less than 18, the student must repeat the exam.

TEXTBOOKS AND ON-LINE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

During the course the teaching material will be distributed. This material is sufficient to overcome the examination only if coupled to class attendance and professional visits.

INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS

During the first lecture, the structure and organization of the course and the evaluation procedure will be presented. The teaching material (slide print-outs, exercises, further hand outs) will be made available to students using a cloud storage system (Dropbox or Google Drive) or made available on a pen drive. The outcome of examinations will be made available at the end of the exam's session.

The lecturer will be available for receiving students (SAFE, 4th floor, building 2A, Macchia Romana Campus) least 2 h a week (on Tuesdays and Wednesdays). The students can also communicate with the lecturer by e-mail.

EXAMINATION SESSIONS (FORECAST)¹

09/02/2017, 08/03/2017, 05/04/2017, 10/05/2017, 14/06/2017, 12/07/2017, 20/09/2017, 11/10/2017, 15/11/2017, 13/12/2017, 24/01/2018.

SEMINARS BY EXTERNAL EXPERTS YES NO

FURTHER INFORMATION

Exam's committee: prof.ssa Antonella Vastola, prof. Mario Cozzi, dott.ssa Gabriella Nicastro

¹ Subject to possible changes: check the web site of the Teacher or the Department/School for updates.



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