

COURSE: **Environmental and Forest Economics and Policy**

TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY: **Characterizing**

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COURSE LANGUAGE: **Italian**

ECTS: : 12 (10 frontal lectures; 2 practice)	n. of hours: 80 hours lectures 32 hours practice	Campus: Potenza School: SAFE Program: Forest and Environmental Sciences	Semester: I & II
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EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course aims to provide the student with specific knowledge of the economic and decision-making in the forest field. The course deals with economic issues, both general and applied to the forestry and agricultural sector. It aims to provide knowledge and analytical skills in relation to forestry and forest management decisions. The course starts with the theoretical aspects of the economy and continues with the study of the economic phenomena occurring both in the private and public sector. Special space and attention is devoted to both practical lessons, exercises and case study solutions as well as to the study and understanding of forest policy and certification procedure.

The main objective is to provide tools for economic calculation, evaluation of investments and knowledge of past and current policies. In this context, the competences to be transmitted concern:

- ❖ **Knowledge and understanding:** Acquire basic knowledge of the principal methodologies needed to analyze and interpret the behavior of the entrepreneur (private and public) and address their activities.
- ❖ **Applying knowledge and understanding:** develop ability to apply knowledge and understanding of the topics covered in teaching as a demonstration of the acquisition of a professional approach to the problem. Appropriate capacity and competence to design and support arguments on forest resource issues as well as for solving problems and controversies.
- ❖ **Making judgements:** develop theoretical-practical knowledge in order to consolidate the ability to collect and interpret synthetic and/or analytical data useful to determine autonomous economic and environmental judgments, including reflection on current global strategies, European trends on environmental, agricultural and forestry issue and related scientific themes.
- ❖ **Communication skills:** the developed communication skills will allow to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to specialists and non-specialist stakeholders, including through the use of mathematical and computer tools (equations, charts and tables)
- ❖ **Learning skills:** develop skills to collect and functionally organize the notions acquired during the course. These abilities are essential to undertake subsequent studies with a high degree of autonomy.

PREREQUIREMENTS

- no prerequisites

SYLLABUS

Lessons

The production factors, supply and demand for forest products, elasticity, financial calculation, interest, discount rate, annuities, periodicity. General characteristics of agro-forestry firm budget, description and analysis of the budget components. The agro-forestry firm planning in the medium and long term; fixed and variable costs.

The research of the rotation age: approaches, objectives and analysis of main quantitative methods used in the evaluation. Investment analysis in the long term: theoretical principles, benefits, costs and evaluation criteria. The forest products market. Production, trade, import and export flows. The organization of the processing of timber firm in Italy. The main systems of voluntary certification of forest-wood based system. The processes of certification and the advantages of this process within the wood industry (wood-furnishings, wood-energy, etc.). The international, national and local forest policies: principles, contents and evolution in the field agro-forestry.



Practices

Data analysis for the calculating of demand and supply functions; elasticity and financial calculation; depreciation; economic and financial rotation calculation

TEACHING METHODS

80 hours of lessons and 32 hours of laboratory.

EVALUATION METHODS

The objective of the examination is to verify the level of achievement of the educational objectives. The exam consists of an oral test to assess the ability to connect and compare different aspects treated during the course; to pass the test it is necessary to carry out an exercise and provide correct answers to at least 2 questions on the 3 formulated. The questions are chosen to include all the macro areas of the course.

Intermediate tests: upon specific request of the students at the beginning of the course, 2 tests can be carried out which include 2/3 of the course. The exemptions are composed of both multiple choice questions, open questions and exercises.

TEXTBOOKS AND ON-LINE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

- Teaching material distributed in classroom and available on-line
- Merlo M., (1992). Elementi di Economia ed estimo Forestale-ambientale. Patron editore, Padova;
- Bernetti I., Romano S., (2007). Economia delle risorse forestali. Liguori editore, Napoli;
- Pettenella D., (2009). Le nuove sfide per il settore forestale. Mercato, energie, ambiente e politiche. Ed. Tellus, Roma (chapter 3, 4 e 8).

INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS

- in the office at planned days/hours (usually on Monday at 12-00-13.00) in a professor room
- Via e-mail

EXAMINATION SESSIONS

Please, refer to this web page: <http://docenti.unibas.it/site/home/docente/appelli.html?m=003037>

EVALUATION BOARD

- Mario Cozzi
- Gennaro Ventura
- Severino Romano
- Mauro viccaro

SEMINARS BY EXTERNAL EXPERTS YES
