Course Title	Environmental Policy and Governance				
Course Code	DLCLIMA505				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	MSc (Level 2)				
Year / Semester	1st / 1st				
Teacher's Name	Evangelia Karasmanaki				
ECTS	7.5	**Lectures / week**		**Laboratories/week**	
Course Purpose	Despite being utterly necessary, technological progress does not suffice to avoid the danger of ecological collapse. The effective solution of environmental problems has now been identified also with environmental policy-making since the latter is able to establish the wider context of environmental management and environmental protection. Driven by the pressure of socioeconomic environmental impacts, environmental policy has made over the last years great progress particularly in the European Union (EU). Having placed environmental policy at the centre of its policymaking, EU is described by many experts as the leader in environmental policy and sets increasingly ambitious objectives. This course delves into the development and formulation of environmental policy with a particular focus on European environmental policy, which serves as a prime example for many other countries. In specific, the policies implemented in critical sectors such as climate, energy, water resources and biodiversity are studied. Moreover, the course includes the analysis of strategic plans and action programs which are implemented in order to protect natural resources and to promote sustainable development models. In addition to these, the course analyzes the most significant international and European environmental agreements that have laid the foundations for environmental policy and have paved the way to environmental legislation. The course also provides an understanding of the crucial issue of geopolitics and environmental governance. In relation to the latter, the focus is on the understanding of the need to develop appropriate governance models as the main means to address environmental crises and long-term challenges effectively.				
Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to: • Describe the concept of environmental policy				

	• Acknowledge the importance of establishing common environmental policy to ensure environmental protection and address crucial environmental problems • Compare the roles of EU institutional bodies • Explain the institutional framework that defines the direction of environmental policy • Describe the basic principles that guide the design of environmental policy • Contradict the different frameworks in which the principles are applied • Explain the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Treaty of Maastricht and the Treaty of Amsterdam • Explain the contribution of the Treaties of Mastricht, Amsterdam and Lisbon to the formation of common environmental policy • Describe the framework of European Rules and Directives that concern environmental protection • Demonstrate examples of control mechanisms in place for monitoring the implementation of environmental legislation • Describe the areas of concern regarding the monitoring of the implementation of the legal environmental framework • Explain the process of transposing established environmental policies from the EU to the national level • Justify legislation as a means to implement environmental policy • Describe the tool of Environmental Implementation Review • Describe national control mechanisms • Justify the contribution of the right of petition to the application of EU environmental legislation • Recognize European Policy for the mitigation of water scarcity and floods • Justify member states' obligation to develop plans for the management of flood risks • Explain the contribution of the Solidarity Fund and the Civil Protection Mechanism to ensuring the provision of aid to member states affected by natural disasters • Develop arguments in favor of the designation of areas as protected areas • Recognize the important contribution of international conventions to biodiversity protection • Describe the international biodiversity protection framework • Acknowledge the effect of wider political conflicts on the signing of conventions on nature conservation • Categorize the different protection regimes for biodiversity protection • Classify the areas according to the criteria for the designation of areas as protected areas • Demonstrate examples of areas that have been designated as protected areas • Describe the targets and actions of EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 • Document the contribution of EU's Biodiversity Strategy to the expansion of the Natura 2000 network • Demonstrate examples of other implemented strategies that can be interconnected to the EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

	• Evaluate current environmental policies in terms of their contribution to the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goals • Defend the need to establish strategies for the mitigation of crucial environmental issues such as biodiversity loss • Describe the targets and the legal base of the international climate agreements • Demonstrate the difficulties and barriers to the achievements of the targets of climate agreements • Describe the basic policies of the European Union that aim to climate change adaptation • Document the leading role of the European Union in initiating the processes of signing international climate agreement • Describe the basic policies of the European Union aiming at the adaptation to the effects of climate change • Recognize the different levels in which the European Adaptation Strategy is implemented • Develop arguments in favor of establishing climate change adaptation policies • Acknowledge the action and response level that the mayors participating in the Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy must demonstrate • Demonstrate examples of cases where political geography has shaped foreign policy and international relations • Explain the determining role of the energy and natural resources sectors in the formation of the international political scene • Contradict the benefits of green transition to conventional energy production models • Explain the relationship between sustainable development and socio-economic prosperity • Describe the definition of sustainable development according to the Brundtland Report • Describe the economic, social and environmental components of sustainable development • Justify the influence of the Brundtland Report on developing the conceptual framework of sustainable development • Name the targets of EU's basic strategies, "Strategy for sustainable development" and "Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development • Associate the promotion of renewable energy sources to the UN Sustainable Development Goals • Describe the contribution of Directives and support mechanisms to the achievement of EU's renewable energy targets • Describe the new renewable energy targets of the European Union in response to the Green Deal • Contradict the White Paper on the Commission's reform to the relevant authoritative repots that followed • Describe areas of application for Directive 2001/77/EC, Biofuels Directive (2003/30/EC) and Directive 2009/28/EC • Name the leading role of the European Union in the establishment and implementation of innovative renewable energy policies • Formulate arguments in favor of restructuring the production model in energy transition areas through the creation of values in other sectors

	• Explain the reasons that necessitate environmental governance as a response to the pressing and complex environmental problems • Defend the need to include all relevant stakeholder groups in environmental governance • Formulate arguments in favor of participatory decision-making • Demonstrate examples of good governance practices • Describe the areas of concern that ought to be taken into account in the design of environmental governance models		
Prerequisites		**Corequisites**	
Course Content	• Introduction to Environmental Policy. General principles and the EU Environmental Policy Framework. • EU's Environmental Policy: Evolution and Basic Principles • Implementation of environmental protection framework – Control mechanisms • Protection and Restoration of Water Resources • Biodiversity Protection Policies: Agreements and Designation of Protected Areas • Biodiversity Protection Policies: EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 • Policies for Climate Change Mitigation at EU and international level • Policies for Climate Change Mitigation • Geopolitics and Energy Security • Sustainable Development and Energy • Energy Policy: EU Energy Strategies and Targets • Environmental Governance and Environmental Governance Models		
Teaching Methodology	**Distance Learning.** The course will provide the theoretical background through synchronous and asynchronous communication methods. The set of learning activities is supported by an electronic communication and learning platform. The main learning activities of the course are as follows: 1. Study of the required course literature. 2. Presentations of content or main points or specific studies in various formats (PowerPoint, oral presentations, annotated presentations).		

	3. Formulation and resolution of questions in a specialized forum. 4. Questions, quizzes, exercises, position papers, and other self-assessments. 5. Preparation of course assignments. 6. Participation in six video conferences.
Bibliography	**Textbooks** • Jordan, A. & Gravey, V. (2021). Environmental Policy in the EU (*4th Edition*). Taylor and Francis. https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/edit/10.4324/9780429402333/environmental-policy-eu-andrew-jordan-viviane-gravey • Kelemen, R. D. (2013). Globalizing European union environmental policy. In Europe and the Management of Globalization (pp. 37-51). Routledge. **Scientific papers:** • Ahmad, M., Peng, T., Awan, A., & Ahmed, Z. (2023). Policy framework considering resource curse, renewable energy transition, and institutional issues: Fostering sustainable development and sustainable natural resource consumption practices. Resources Policy, 86, 104173. • Amblard, L., & Mann, C. (2021). Understanding collective action for the achievement of EU water policy objectives in agricultural landscapes: Insights from the Institutional Design Principles and Integrated Landscape Management approaches. Environmental Science & Policy, 125, 76-86. • Ang, B. W., Choong, W. L., & Ng, T. S. (2015). Energy security: Definitions, dimensions and indexes. Renewable and sustainable energy reviews, 42, 1077-1093. • Barth, C., & Bijsmans, P. (2018). The Maastricht Treaty and public debates about European integration: the emergence of a European public sphere?. Journal of Contemporary European Studies, 26(2), 215-231. • Benedetti, Y., Kapsalis, E., Morelli, F., & Kati, V. (2021). Sacred oak woods increase bird diversity and specialization: Links with the European Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Journal of Environmental Management, 294, 112982. • Blom-Hansen, J. (2005). Principals, agents, and the implementation of EU cohesion policy. Journal of European Public Policy, 12(4), 624-648. • Braungardt, S., Bürger, V., Zieger, J., & Bosselaar, L. (2019). How to include cooling in the EU Renewable Energy Directive? Strategies and policy implications. Energy Policy, 129, 260-267. • Burns, C., Eckersley, P., & Tobin, P. (2020). EU environmental policy in times of crisis. Journal of European Public Policy, 27(1), 1-19.

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Assessment	• The evaluation of the course includes activities of continuous/formative evaluation, self-evaluation (self-evaluation) and final evaluation (summative). Specifically, the assessment of this course includes the following: a final written exam, 2 assignments delivered during the semester, 2 dynamic online interaction activities,

	various weekly learning activities and self-assessment activities. The aim of the above educational activities and tasks is to consolidate the teaching material. From the above, the following are graded: • Final exam (50%) • 2 assignments (20% + 15% =35%) • 2 dynamic online interaction activities (7.5% + 7.5% = 15%) Assignments are assigned and delivered through the online platform. The final exam and all assignments are graded from 0 to 100. Assignments (except the final) are posted and delivered through the LMS of the University. Students have two weeks to complete and submit the dynamic interaction activities and five weeks to complete and submit the assignments. It is at the discretion of the instructor to decide whether to extend the delivery of the assignments.
Language	Greek / English