Course Title	Restoration of degraded ecosystems				
Course Code	DLCLIMA509				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	MSc				
Year / Semester	1st year /2nd semester				
Teacher's Name	Dr Constantinos Kounnamas				
ECTS	7.5	**Lectures / week**		**Laboratories/week**	
Course Purpose	The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the topic of restoring degraded ecosystems within the context of new policies, utilizing relevant examples (case studies). The historical use of ecosystems and their resources has led to environmental degradation, resulting in a dramatic reduction in biodiversity and the services they provide. These uses are related, among other things, to energy issues, tourism, transportation, etc. To address this degradation, it is necessary to implement policies and comprehensive management programs. Policies related to these measures have recently been revised, leading to the decision for new strategies and legislation, with the flagship being the new directive/regulation, Nature Restoration Law. The desired goal of the legislation is to achieve long-term and sustainable recovery of biodiversity and nature, contribute to the EU's climate mitigation and adaptation goals, and respond to international commitments. In the context of this course, students will receive information about the legislation adopted for the protection and restoration of ecosystems and the tools produced or committed by Member States to create. Additionally, they will study examples (case studies) where measures have been applied for the restoration of areas in various types of ecosystems, also evaluating them in the light of new legislation and goals. Upon completion of the course, students will understand the importance of legislation for the protection and restoration of ecosystems and will be able to evaluate measures that could be implemented according to the study area and ecosystem type.				
Learning Outcomes	Students, upon successful completion of the course, will be able to: • Recognize the most important legislation related to the restoration and protection of ecosystems at the international, European, and national levels. • Describe the historical background related to the restoration and protection of ecosystems. • Define the parameters contributing to the degradation and restoration of areas. • Utilize tools (legislative, managerial) to achieve the restoration of areas.				

	• Recognize measures that can be used for the restoration of areas, depending on the type of ecosystem.		
Prerequisites	None	**Corequisites**	None
Course Content	The course introduces students to legislation related to the creation and management of protected areas, as well as the conservation of their biodiversity. They will examine the developments in relevant legislation concerning the European region, as well as the various tools available for the conservation and the restoration of degraded areas. In the course, they will study case studies aimed at understanding the interactions and synergies among the users of the areas, with the ultimate goal of achieving the protection and restoration of ecosystems.		
Teaching Methodology	The course is structure based on the principles of distance learning, good practices as well as the directions of the regulatory authority, and finally the Pedagogical Framework developed and employed by our University. Also, through the design and development of the Distance Learning courses, interaction, communication and collaboration are implemented in 3 levels: 1) between instructor-students, 2) among students, and 3) between students-content. The course is entirely taught online through the Moodle LMS platform. Required and additional readings (e.g. books, articles, websites, newsletters, open educational resources, case studies) in combination with lecture notes are available for students to use via the LMS. Additionally, a variety of appropriate educational material is available to students via the LMS platform such as narrated presentations, annotated presentations, interactive presentations and videos, interactive, learning scenarios, gamification activities, use of avatars and digital twins, podcasting documents, online quizzes and midterms). Numerous new and emergent technologies are employed such as communication tools (e.g. videoconferencing, audio conferencing and text conferencing), collaboration tools (e.g. discussion forums, blogs and wikis) and content development tools. Students are encouraged to interact with their peers and the instructor via the platform and various technological tools, aiming to become active members of the online learning community developed within the course. Finally, the use of various technological tools, is expected by the students in order to develop their own learning community. More information in regards to Distance Learning at Frederick University, the Pedagogical Framework that is developed and applied, as well as the Digital Toolbox employed, can be found in the following website: About Distance Learning - Frederick University		
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Assessment	Weekly Educational Activities (15%) Assignment 1 20% Assignment 2 15% Final Exam 50%
Language	Greek / English