COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	ENVIRONMENT, GEOGRAPHY AND APPLIED ECONOMICS		
DEPARTMENT	GEOGRAPHY		
LEVEL OF COURSE	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	GEO202	**SEMESTER**	6ο, 8ο
COURSE TITLE	MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL DISASTERS		
STRUCTURE OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES		**TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK**	**NUMBER OF CREDITS ALLOCATED (ECTS)**
		3	5
TYPE OF COURSE	Specialized general knowledge, Skills Development		
PREREQUISITES	-		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION	ENGLISH		
COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES		
(URL)	https://geo.hua.gr/en/courses/management-of-natural-disasters/		

2. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes
The course aims to develop an integrated socio-ecological understanding of disaster risk and of the ways in which it is shaped and changes across space and time. Students are introduced to the main physical, social, and institutional dimensions of disasters, as well as to key approaches to disaster prevention, management, and risk reduction. Attention is given to the role of climate change in shaping current and future risks, and to the links between climate change adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction. Through a combination of theoretical and applied approaches, the course seeks to connect key concepts and theoretical frameworks with the analysis of real-world problems and places. Upon successful completion of the course, students are expected to be able to: • explain how physical processes, exposure, and social, spatial, and institutional factors interact in shaping and differentiating disaster risk; • identify the main characteristics of selected natural and human-induced hazards; • identify the main institutions and actors involved in disaster risk management and reduction, and understand their roles and responsibilities;

- distinguish between and assess key approaches to prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery;
- understand how climate change modifies current and future risks and how climate change adaptation is connected to Disaster Risk Reduction;
- apply the key concepts and approaches of the course to the analysis of real-world places and cases.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

When disasters are discussed, they are often equated with the event that triggers them, such as an earthquake, flood, wildfire, or landslide. However, these events do not, in themselves, lead to disasters. Disaster risk is shaped through the interaction of hazards with the exposure of people, infrastructure, and activities, as well as with the social, economic, institutional, spatial, and environmental conditions that influence vulnerability and capacities for coping and adaptation.

The aim of the course is to develop an understanding of disaster risk as a complex physical, social, and spatial phenomenon, and to explore the factors that shape vulnerability, coping capacities, and the resilience of different places and social groups. The course examines key approaches to disaster prevention, risk reduction, and disaster risk management, as well as the emerging challenges and adaptation needs associated with climate change.

Indicative course topics include:

- key concepts and approaches in disaster risk analysis and management;
- natural and human-induced hazards and their spatial dimensions;
- exposure, vulnerability, coping capacity, and resilience;
- flood hazards and flood risk management;
- earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, droughts, heatwaves, and other selected hazards;
- disaster risk management and governance, including relevant institutions, actors, and levels of decision-making;
- social vulnerability, inequalities, and justice-related issues in the production and management of risk;
- climate change, mitigation and adaptation, and their links with Disaster Risk Reduction;
- applications and case studies from Greece and other parts of the world.

4. TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

TYPE OF LECTURES	Face-to-face, In the classroom
ICT USE	Use of electronic media in lectures and use of the internet (e-class).

<table>
<tr><td>TEACHING STRUCTURE</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>Activity</th><th>Semester workload</th></tr>
<tr><td>Lectures</td><td>26</td></tr>
<tr><td>Seminars/ case studies</td><td>13</td></tr>
<tr><td>Study and analysis of scientific literature</td><td>26</td></tr>
<tr><td>Preparation of assignment and presentation</td><td>60</td></tr>
<tr><td>Course total</td><td>125</td></tr>
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<tr><td>ASSESSMENT METHODS</td><td>Language of assessment: Greek (English upon request)

Individual assignment and presentation: 100%

The assignment aims to assess students’ ability to apply the concepts and approaches introduced in the course, identify and make appropriate use of relevant scientific literature, analyse and synthesise information, and formulate well-supported arguments.

Detailed assessment criteria, assignment specifications, and relevant guidelines are communicated at the beginning of the semester and made available through e-class.</td></tr>
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5. RECOMMENDED READING

Selected literature

- Σαπουντζάκη, Κ., & Δανδουλάκη, Μ. (2016). Κίνδυνοι και καταστροφές. Αθήνα: Αποθετήριο Κάλλιπος.
- Καυκαλάς, Γ., Βιτοπούλου, Α., & Γεμεντζή, Γ. (2016). Βιώσιμες πόλεις. Αθήνα: Αποθετήριο Κάλλιπος.

Relevant Journals

- International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disasters
- International Journal of Disaster Risk Science
- Climate and Development

Additional bibliography and course materials will be made available through e-class throughout the semester.