

Rural Sociology [630]

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES		
ACADEMIC UNIT	DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate [Major Elective]		
COURSE CODE	630	SEMESTER	6 th
COURSE TITLE	RURAL SOCIOLOGY		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS (ECTS)
Lectures		4	4
Total		4	4
Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	General Knowledge		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	-		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	Greek		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS:	-		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL):			

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes
The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described. Consult Appendix A • Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area • Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B • Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes The aim of this course is to provide students with both theoretical and methodological training (through the description of empirical research examples) to understand the transformation of rural areas and the social behavior of the rural population. The course analyzes the specific characteristics of rural society and examines the type, pace, and extent of changes occurring in the rural social environment as a result of the influences of urbanization, industry, and other sectors of the economy within a globalized context. This is achieved by introducing different theoretical approaches to understanding the social transformation of contemporary rural areas, integrating the discussion of family farming into the broader discourse on globalization, and examining the effects of globalization on the functioning of family farms. The course also seeks to link this discussion with the development of agribusiness and the “system” it constitutes, incorporating local production into an internationalized system of food production and distribution. Consequently, a cross-sectoral approach to both rural production and rural areas is necessary, providing a more holistic perspective on these issues. The course is highly interdisciplinary and contributes to a comprehensive understanding of rural space and the “new rurality” that is emerging. The approach includes both theoretical and empirical elements, drawing on both international and national experience. The course is part of the program “Open Academic Courses – Development and Distribution of Digital Educational Content by Universities and Technological Educational Institutes (TEIs).” Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to: • Analyze rural areas and agriculture as a productive activity from a holistic and interdisciplinary perspective. • Identify and apply theoretical and methodological approaches relevant to the study of rural areas. • Present, explain, and illustrate international examples of both rural transformation and the concept of “rurality.” • Collaborate with fellow students and the instructor on coursework related to the course content and gain experience in preparing bibliographic presentations.

General Competences	
Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?	
Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology	Project planning and management
Adapting to new situations	Respect for difference and multiculturalism
Decision-making	Respect for the natural environment
Working independently	Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues
Team work	Criticism and self-criticism
Working in an international environment	Production of free, creative and inductive thinking
Working in an interdisciplinary environment	
Production of new research ideas	Others...
	
• Creative and inductive thinking • Adaptation to new situations • Respect for diversity and multiculturalism	

(3) SYLLABUS

1. Introduction to the field of Rural Sociology.
2. The historical development of the discipline and its emerging research directions.
3. Rural community, social groups, and the process of social and economic transformation within the community.
4. Rural family, farm holdings, and family farming.
5. Employment, multiple occupations, and labor relations in rural areas. Social change and social structure in the rural context.
6. Agriculture and the agri-food issue.
7. Globalization, new rurality, and the future of rural areas.

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

TEACHING METHOD <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i>	In-person, face-to-face sessions held in the lecture hall	
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i>	Use of general-purpose software for slide presentations and communication with students. Posting of lectures on the University's website.	
TEACHING METHODS <i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i> <i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i> <i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i>	Activity	Semester workload
	Lectures	52
	Autonomous study	48
	Course total (25 h of workload per ECTS)	100
STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION <i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i> <i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i> <i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i>	I. The language of assessment is Greek. II. The grade for the theoretical component is determined 100% by a final written examination consisting of multiple-choice questions.	

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

EUDOXUS

G. Dautopoulos, L. Kazakopoulos, M. Kousi (2007), *Rural Sociology*, Zygos, Thessaloniki, Eudoxus book code: 1732.

Additional Bibliography

1. Lecture Notes: Ch. Kasimis (2006), *Rural Sociology*, posted on Eclass.
2. E. Zakopoulou, Ch. Kasimis, L. Louloudis (eds.) (2008), *Rurality, Society, and Space*, Plethron, Athens.
3. A. G. Papadopoulos (ed.) (2004), *Development in a Multifunctional Countryside*, Gutenberg, Athens.
4. Th. Anthopoulou & A. Moisidis (eds.) (2001), *From Rural Space to Countryside: Transformations and Contemporary Data of the Rural World in Greece*, Gutenberg, Athens.
5. Ch. Kasimis, S. Zografakis (2013), "The Countryside, Agriculture, and the Crisis," *International and European Policy*, Issue 2, November–December 2012, January–February 2013, pp. 17–31, Papazisis, Athens.