**COURSE SCENARIO**

***Environmental Transformation: Nature in the city or City in nature***

**PART 1. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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| **SUBJECT/TOPIC** | *Environmental Transformation: Nature in the city or City in nature**………..* |
| **MODE (online, face-to-face, blended)** | *The course can be delivered in all forms, as the content is flexible and allows attendance, online and blended form of interaction.* |
| **LEVEL (master, bachelor)** | *Bachelor and master* |
| **PREREQUISITES (courses to be taken before, if applicable)** | *The idea for this course is to be interdisciplinary and allow interested students to enroll, thus it provides fundamental knowledge and there are no prerequisites* |
| **SUMMARY / ANNOTATION OF THE CONTENT** | *The urban environment is often seen as the antithesis of environmental initiatives. The focus of this course is on the potential of the urban environment with the participation of every community member. The modern everyday life of technological continuous boom, global crises and uncertainties, climate change and the need for a conscious use of resources pose increasing challenges to keeping the individual balance and well-being. This leads to a rethinking of the concept, not only towards a search for the dimensions of sustainable management and environmental protection, but to a certain shift in attitudes towards considering the relationship with nature. The concept of urban life and addressing the relationship with nature is part of environmental education. The course describes the possibilities of building an ecological perspective on individual and community level by re-creating and rethinking the opportunities also provided by the urban environment.*  |
| **THE AIMS OF THE COURSE** | *15 classes are included, which aim to provoke reflection and build a new understanding of the possibilities of the urban environment and the meaningful use of resources. The knowledge presented, combined with the disclosure of information that provokes curiosity and at the same time, in addition to knowledge, builds soft skills and competence to interact with the environment and the community. The topics follow a logical coherence and provide information on the functions, roles, types and historical development of cities, reaching the challenges facing modern cities. This is followed by transition to the question of the relationship with nature, the place of Nature in the city or City in nature and the projections related to urban Planning. This line is logically continued in Urban Nature and Ecosystem Services: Embracing Nature in the Cityscape and the increasingly relevant topic of Green Cities and Ways to Promote Biodiversity in Urban Areas: Urban Protected Areas. Personalizing and Making Sense of One's Own Participation by Considering Urban Nature and Human Health and Opportunities for Participation in Sustainable Urban Living: Integrating Nature into Daily Life, Urban Gardening and Urban Farming, Urban Beekeeping. Sustainability and the possibilities of the urban environment are also considered in the perspective of Nature-Based Recreation: Nurturing Health and Well-being in Urban Residents, Birds in the city, Parks. A focus is the opportunity for every resident to become a part of and agent for Green Spaces as Community Catalysts.*  |
| **LEARNING OUTCOMES** | *After completion of the course the students* *will have knowledge about urban planning practices, urban evolution and new opportunities for smart and ecologically-friendly cities**have the skills to identify opportunities for activation and inclusion of environmental issues in their daily life with involvement of families, children, students and the community awareness**will have the competences to build activities, campaigns and initiatives aimed at different target groups in order to preserve and conserve the natural heritage in urban environments and to increase resources* |
| **STUDY AND ASSESSMENT METHODS** | *All classes promote personal involvement and thus allow ongoing assessment based on the discussions, suggestions and feedback. In the end students are expected to make a brief presentation, targeting the broad audience and suggesting key messages (describing organization of a campaign) promoting city eco life and personal contribution awareness. All presentations are shared, discussed and form a specific “multiplier” as they can be shared / uploaded in social media.* |
| **BIBLIOGRAPHY** | 1. *McHarg, Ian L. Design With Nature. New York, J. Wiley, 1992.*
2. *Cities in the 21st Century. Germany: Taylor & Francis, 2016.*
3. *Cities and Nature. A Handbook for Renewal. 2006. McFarland, Incorporated, Publishers ISBN:9780786422142, 0786422149*
4. *Nature and Cities. The Ecological Imperative in Urban Design and Planning.2016. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. ISBN:9781558443501, 1558443509*
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6. *Nature Based Strategies for Urban and Building Sustainability. Netherlands: Elsevier Science, 2018.*
7. *Urbanization, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Challenges and Opportunities: A Global Assessment. Germany: Springer Netherlands, 2013.*
8. *Esmail, Blal Adem., Cortinovis, Chiara., Zardo, Linda., Geneletti, Davide. Planning for Ecosystem Services in Cities. Germany: Springer International Publishing, 2019.*
9. *Greening Cities: Forms and Functions. Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore, 2017.*
10. *Maller, Cecily. Healthy Urban Environments: More-than-Human Theories. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis, 2018.*
11. *Where Do Cities Come From and Where Are They Going To? Modelling Past and Present Agglomerations to Understand Urban Ways of Life. N.p.: Frontiers Media SA, 2021.*
12. *Timothy Beatley* ***The Bird-Friendly City.*** *Creating Safe Urban Habitats. 272 pages. Island Press. 2020. ISBN: 9781642830477*
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