

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	ENVIRONMENT, GEOGRAPHY AND APPLIED ECONOMICS		
DEPARTMENT	GEOGRAPHY		
LEVEL OF COURSE	Undergraduate		
COURSE CODE	ΓΦ2700	SEMESTER	6th or 8th
COURSE TITLE	SPECIAL TOPICS IN ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY		
STRUCTURE OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES		TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK	NUMBER OF CREDITS ALLOCATED (ECTS)
Lectures and Laboratory Classes		3	5
TYPE OF COURSE	Optional		
PREREQUISITES	-		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION	GREEK		
COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	NO		
(URL)			

2. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

Describe the objectives of the course as well as the expected learning outcomes

The STEG course is an extension of the compulsory course *Economic Geography* taught during the 3rd semester. It focuses on the various effects of the recent Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) applications on (i) the location requirements, the spatial configuration and the survival of businesses and (ii) local development. After the implementation of the course students should be able:

- to identify and interpret the current crucial factors that determine the location requirements of processing, services and retail-trade firms;
- to support the view that the widely accepted notion about the automatic diffusion of the ICTs proved to be wrong since it was characterized by technological determinism and ageographical approach;
- to comprehend the impact of the various ICTs, mainly internet based, applications in the formation of novel location and spatial configuration patterns of economic activities;
- to recognize the impact of these changes on economic competition, as well as, the sustainability and the developmental trajectory of the wider area and the welfare of its inhabitants;
- to understand that the various ICTs applications have intensified existing and have

motivated a set of new economic, social and geographical inequalities.

3. COURSE CONTENTS

The course is divided in two parts. The first, contains a number of lectures while the second, and more extensive one, is primarily based on the active participation of the students.

Part one contains lectures and a number of concise Case Studies. Lectures revolve around the global geography of internet, the globalization debate and the features of the "new economy". These developments are made more clear by tailor-made concise Case Studies.

Part two, focuses on more specific subjects raised at students' essays. During the academic year 2017-18 the essays were focusing on ICTs applications on the agri-food sector configuration and dynamics. Essays were focusing on large firms (e.g. The effects of e-shopping on the spatial configuration of a big grocery retail chain), small independent firms (e.g. internet based promotion of a small winery based on an island) and localities (e.g. opportunities for the development of culinary tourism in a small island) from Greece and abroad (e.g. Community Supported Agriculture in Wales).

4. TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

TYPE OF LECTURES	In class lectures Laboratory Lectures and Practice		
ICT USE	ICT use, Internet use and e-class		
TEACHING STRUCTURE	Activity	Hours per semester	
	Lectures	18	
	Laboratory	6	
	Weekly assignments	15	
	Project	35	
	Studying	55	
	TOTAL	129	
ASSESSMENT METHODS	<p>Assessment Language: Greek</p> <p>Assessment Methods Students can choose between two equivalent alternatives as follows: Final written exam (100%), or Oral presentation and written submission of essay (100%)</p> <p>The assessment criteria are notified to students at the beginning of the semester</p>		

5. RECOMMENDED READING

- Σκορδύλη, Σ. (2017) *Σημειώσεις Γεωγραφίας Παγκοσμιοποιημένων Παραγωγικών Δικτύων*
- Beck, U. (2000) *Τι είναι παγκοσμιοποίηση*; Αθήνα: Καστανιώτης.
- Dicken, P. (2007) *Global Shift: Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy*, London: Sage Publications, 5th edition.
- Friedman, T. (2008) *Hot, Flat and Crowded*, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Ghemawat, P. (2007) “Why the world isn’t Flat”, *Foreign Policy*, 159, pp.54-60.
- Held, D. (2008) *Για ένα παγκόσμιο κοινωνικό συμβόλαιο*, Αθήνα: Επίκεντρο.
- Held, D. and McGrew A. (2004), *Παγκοσμιοποίηση / Αντι-Παγκοσμιοποίηση*, Αθήνα: Πολύτροπον.
- Herod, A. (2009) *Geographies of Globalization*, London: Wiley- Blackwell.
- Hirst, P. and Thompson, G (2000) *Η Παγκοσμιοποίηση σε Αμφισβήτηση*, Αθήνα: Παπαζήσης.
- Kaplinski, R. (2006) *Globalization, Poverty and Inequality*, London: Polity.