EWM508 – Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA)

COURSE PARTICULARS

Course Code: EWM 508  
Course Title: Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA)  
No. of Units: 2  
Course Duration: Two hour of theory and three hours of practical’s per week for 14 weeks.  
Status: Compulsory  
Course Email Address: ewm508@gmail.com  
Prerequisite: NIL

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

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and

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an exploratory; an up-grade of the earlier low level course “Landuse Planning” designed primarily for students in wildlife conservation, ecotourism development and other ecological environment-base allied disciplines. However, it also meets the need of students in other fields, as a course that provides hands-on training in the use of natural resources for sustainable development. As a practical course, the focus is to impart useful skills on the students in order to enhance their knowledge and to understand the impacts that development projects could have on the sustainability of natural resources and the ecological environment as a whole.
In addition, it takes care of how biodiversity is considered in an EIA investigation and report production process.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this course are to make the student to know the specific goals of EIA which are:

- identifies the sources of impacts from the project activities and recognizes the environmental components which are critical to the change or the impacts;
- predicts the likely environmental impacts of projects on the identified environmental components either using quantitative, qualitative, semi-quantitative, or hybrid methods;
- finds ways to reduce unacceptable impacts and enhance the positive contributions of the project by recommending mitigation measures or by exploring a change in the capacity, technology, or design or even by evaluating alternative sites;
- Presents to decision makers and other concerned agencies the results of impact identification, prediction, and assessment with options of suggested measures of mitigation and monitoring.

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

(Knowledge based)

Know the relationship between “Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA) and “Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS)”, essential steps in EIA investigation and reports production processes. Work independently to provide a framework for the comprehensive consideration of the problems of the human environment. The framework required to focus the attention of governments and public opinion on the importance and urgency of the question on how best to attain sustainable development without degrading the natural resources base of the environment. This cover:

- Planning and management of human settlements for environmental quality;
- Environmental aspects of natural resources management;
- Identification and control of pollutants and nuisances of broad international significance;
- Educational, informational, social, and cultural aspects of environmental issues;
- Development and environment;
- International organizational implications of action proposals.
(Skills) use the skills acquired from the course to:

- Carry out practical field investigation for environmental impacts assessment
- Produce EIA report
- Defend the report before established EIA-Review panel for its approval

**GRADING SYSTEM FOR THE COURSE**

This course will be graded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test(s)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**Attendance:** It is expected that every student will be in class for lectures and also participate in all practical exercises. Attendance records will be kept and used to determine each person’s qualification to sit for the final examination. In case of illness or other unavoidable cause of absence, the student must communicate as soon as possible with any of the instructors, indicating the reason for the absence.

**Academic Integrity:** Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances are prohibited. You are not allowed to make copies of another person’s work and submit it as your own; that is plagiarism. All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Management for appropriate sanctions in accordance with the guidelines for handling students’ misconduct as spelt out in the Students’ Handbook.

**Assignments and Group Work:** Students are expected to submit assignments as scheduled. Failure to submit an assignment as at when due will earn you zero for that assignment. Only under extenuating circumstances, for which a student has notified any of the instructors in advance, will late submission of assignments be permitted.

**Code of Conduct in Lecture Rooms and Laboratories:** Students should turn off their cell phones during lectures. Students are prohibited from engaging in other activities (such as texting, watching videos, etc.) during lectures. Food and drinks are not permitted in the laboratories.

**READING LIST**
4. UNEP, (1992), Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA) the African concept. By: The Centre for social and Economic Research on the Global Environment (CSERGE) and University of East Anglia, United Kingdom. 73p.


**Legend**
1- Available in the University Library
2- Available in Departmental/School Libraries
3- Available on the Internet.
4- Available as Personal Collection
5- Available in local bookshops.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction, History and the basic concepts of the course.</td>
<td>During this first class, the expectation of the students from the course will also be documented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Essential steps in EIA and biodiversity consideration in EIA investigation and report production process.</td>
<td>Practical exercise will involve organizing the students to carry out field investigation and data collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Essential steps in EIA and biodiversity consideration in EIA investigation and report production process in the different types of ecosystems and for different types of development project.</td>
<td>Practical exercise will involve organizing the students to carry out field investigation and data collection for different types of development project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Essential steps in EIA and biodiversity consideration in EIA investigation and report production process in the different types of ecosystems and for different types of development project.</td>
<td>Practical exercise will involve organizing the students to carry out field investigation and data collection for different types of development project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Use the different status of the development project to determine whether such project require to carryout EIA or Environmental Audit (EA)</td>
<td>Practical exercise will involve organizing the students to carry out field investigation and data collection for different types of development project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>The process will continue by using the status of different development project to determine whether such project require to carryout EIA or Environmental Audit (EA)</td>
<td>Students will be divided into groups and each group will be made to write EIA report of the different types of development project of which they collect data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>The process will continue by using the statuses of different development project to determine whether such project require to carryout EIA or Environmental Audit (EA). Different types of projects will be used in order to give students proper understanding of the processes required for the different development project concern.</td>
<td>Students will be divided into groups and each group will be made to write EIA report of the different types of development project of which they collect data in rotation for all types of development projects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>The EIA review process will be thought to the students still using the statuses of different development project to determine what and what is most important for different development project.</td>
<td>Students will be divided into groups and each group will be made to constitute themselves into EIA review panel to review one another’s EIA-reports while the Lecturer will be the Chairman of the review-panel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>REVISION</td>
<td>This is the week preceding the final examination. At this time, evaluation will be done to assess how far the students’ expectations for the course have been met.</td>
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