



**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
OF CYPRUS**

Course Code SAR 401	Course Name Sustainability & Resilience I	ECTS Credit 6
Pre-Requisite -	Course Type Compulsory	Language of Instruction English
Year of Study 4 th	Level of Course 7 th Semester	Mode of Delivery On Campus

Course Objectives:

Urban ecology is the scientific study of the relationship of living organisms with each other and with the environment within the urban context. The first basic concept in understanding the course is that of Sustainability - Sustainable development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Brundtland Report, World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). Sustainability today is a dynamic process based on three pillars, the economy, society, and the environment. The world is a center around which all functions revolve. The forces of the earth are centrifugal and balanced, satisfying the basic needs of the individual, ensuring not just feeding, but also balance, security, and socialization, creating balanced places. This balance is the Ecology. Ecology means respecting the limits of all elements so that they can be developed, rested, and re-developed. The ecosystem was created as a miracle of nature, as a net that involves living and inanimate beings, on earth, air, and water, in a unique way. Ecology as a balance has limits between what you want and need and what you want and need. The boundaries follow curved patterns. They move through a constant flow where they are arranged, changed, and evolved within an interaction process. In any disaster, the seed of each idea or form can be reborn (e.g. fire and deforestation; forests can be regenerated via natural or artificial ways, creating life). So, resilience and resilient cities are cities that can absorb, recover and prepare for future shocks (economic, environmental, social & institutional)

Learning Outcomes:

- Have proven knowledge and understanding of topics in the field of Urban Ecology and Resilience cities while supported by advanced textbooks, including views arising from modern developments.
- A framework for resilient cities, as well as sustainable growth. It provides a working definition of a resilient and sustainable city, the drivers of resilience and sustainable development to better identify what resilience looks like in an urban context, and the policy mechanisms that could be of benefit
- An overview of the indicators of sustainability and resilience, as well as policy actions taken by city governments, as well as their collaboration with national governments.
- Have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data to formulate judgments involving reflection on related social, scientific, or ethical issues.
- Experiences of case studies of cities in building their resilience and sustainability.
- Be able to communicate information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both specialized and non-specialized audiences

Teaching Methodology:

The course is based on illustrated lectures and oral and written exams. Students engage in critical discussions and group dialogue.

Course Content:

The main themes of this lesson are the study of sustainability and resilience through the growing body of literature and International Texts and Conventions. Lastly, it introduces to students national and international approaches (EU goals, resilience cities, etc.). This exploration will allow the students to grow familiar with the basic concepts of Sustainability and Resilience. Debates between the lecturer and the students will take place

Assessment Methods:

Participation, Midterm Exam, Project, Final Exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year
The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment: a further step towards an integrated assessment process.	Dendena, B. & Corsi, S		2015
“Social and Ecological Resilience: Are they related?”,	Adger W. N		2000