



Course unit English denomination	<b>Emerging issues on climate change mitigation, adaptation and GIScience</b>
SS	GEOG-01/A - GEOGRAFIA (M-GGR/01 – GEOGRAFIA)
Teacher in charge (if defined)	Massimo De Marchi Salvatore Pappalardo
Teaching Hours	24
Number of ECTS credits allocated	4
Course period	May-July 2026
Course delivery method	<input type="checkbox"/> In presence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remotely <input type="checkbox"/> Blended
Language of instruction	English
Mandatory attendance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (70 % minimum of presence) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Course unit contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- framing climate justice from multidisciplinary and multiscalar approaches, by considering intersectionality, theoretical debates, and practical implementations</li><li>- Phasing out of fossil fuels and “just transition”: from policies to land use management</li><li>- Urban ecology and climate justice in urbanized areas (mapping heat islands, soil sealing, green gentrification, urban green accessibility)</li><li>- Inclusive Nature-based solutions: urban riparian ecosystems and proximity agroecological farming to counter climate change.</li><li>- Citizens Science and “sensor things”: linking pixel to people in mapping landscapes and urban microclimates</li></ul>
Learning goals	Participants will acquire theoretical and methodological knowledge to independently move within the debate on climate justice and climate change, by contributing to public policies for mitigation and adaptation actions. Acquired knowledge will be essential for land management and for climate-resilient development paths at local, national, and international level. Dealing with emerging issues the course is designed to: acquire scientific knowledge on EU and international climate actions; to develop the ability, by adopting geographic information science, to analyse climate justice and just fossil fuel transition; to prepare researchers and professionals



	contributing to the implementation of climate policies; to stimulate the debate within civil society on Climate Justice, Just Fossil Fuel Transition, and EU Just Transition Policies.
Teaching methods	A participatory methodology will be used including seminars organized by the students, analysis of case studies, role play, interviews with actors in the sector, use of GIS and remote sensing for climate justice mapping mapping and ecosystem services. During the first lesson the teacher will deliver the list of texts that will be discussed during the course. The participants will be responsible for coordinating some seminars.
Course on transversal, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Available for PhD students from other courses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Prerequisites (not mandatory)	
Examination methods (in applicable)	Final assignment defined during the course.
Suggested readings	The Moodle platform will be updated with the readings
Additional information	



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Course unit English denomination      Empirical Approaches to Social Sciences

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SS                              **ECON-02, ECON-05**

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Teacher in charge  
(if defined)              Thomas Bassetti

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Teaching Hours              12

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Number of ECTS  
credits allocated              2

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Course period              October-December 2025

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Course delivery  
method                      ☐ In presence  
                                    ☐ Remotely  
                                    ☒ Blended

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Language of  
instruction                  English

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Mandatory attendance ☒ Yes (80% minimum of presence)  
                                    ☐ No

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Course unit contents      1. Introduction to quantitative research and social indicators  
                                    2. Survey data  
                                    3. Social indicators and policy indicators  
                                    4. Quantitative research techniques to identify drivers (I)  
                                    5. Quantitative research techniques to identify drivers (II)  
                                    6. Setting up your own research project

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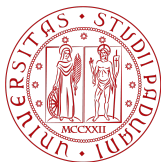
Learning goals              This course aims to improve understanding of methodological approaches in the social sciences. Students will learn to develop proficiency in quantitative research methods by:

- Understanding and applying quantitative research methods in the context of the social sciences.
- Gaining the ability to design, conduct, and critically evaluate empirical studies that utilize statistical and numerical data.
- Developing skills in using software and tools for data analysis and interpretation in social science research.

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Teaching methods              The lectures will include discussions, examples, and practical exercises.

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Course on transversal, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary skills ☒ Yes ☐ No

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Available for PhD students from other courses ☒ Yes ☐ No

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Prerequisites  
(not mandatory)

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Examination methods  
(if applicable) N.A.

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Suggested readings Stockemer, D., Stockemer, G., & Glaeser, J. (2019). Quantitative methods for the social sciences (Vol. 50, p. 185). Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

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Additional information The course materials will be distributed through the Moodle platform.

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Course unit English denomination	<b>Frontiers in Inclusion and Psychological growth</b>
SS	M-PSI/04
Teacher in charge (if defined)	Laura Nota, Maria Cristina Ginevra
Teaching Hours	12
Number of ECTS credits allocated	2
Course period	Annual
Course delivery method	<input type="checkbox"/> In presence <input type="checkbox"/> Remotely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blended
Language of instruction	English
Mandatory attendance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (80% minimum of presence) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Course unit contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Construction of inclusive contexts</li><li>- Life and career design, career counseling for an inclusive future</li><li>- Gender Equity</li></ul>
Learning goals	<p>This course addresses the areas of inclusion, social sustainability and psychological growth, closely related to human rights issues. Specifically, it will be focused on: (a) <b>Construction of inclusive contexts</b>. Lectures aim to enhance ability to conceptually define inclusion, analyze it in the light of the latest reference models in the literature, and to identify the features of inclusive contexts. (b) <b>Life and career design, career counseling for an inclusive future</b>. Lectures aim to examine the most recent and accredited theoretical models and constructs into career guidance international literature, to support people in their future career planning and to guarantee their right to decent work. (c) <b>Gender Equity</b>. Lectures aim to examine the stereotypes and discrimination that underlie asymmetries between genders. Emphasis will be given to interventions for the empowerment and promotion of equity between genders and to enable psychological growth. (d) <b>Palliative care and quality of life</b>. This psychological research investigates palliative care as a therapy to increase the quality of life by significantly reducing unnecessary pain, especially for those with chronic degenerative diseases. It investigates how to guarantee the right not to suffer and access to this therapy in a universal and non-discriminatory manner.</p>



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	Special attention will be given to methodological aspects of the investigation of the above issues, including the use of theoretical aspects and psychometric applications; techniques for assessing psychological variables, psychological measurement instruments; research methodology in psychological field.
Teaching methods	During the lectures, discussions, exemplifications, and exercises will be realized. The participation of experts, researchers and scholars in the field of inclusion, social sustainability, and psychological growth will be guaranteed.
Course on transversal, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Available for PhD students from other courses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Prerequisites (not mandatory)	None
Examination methods (if applicable)	/
Suggested readings	Made available by the teacher in the moodle
Additional information	/

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Course unit English denomination	<b>Frontiers in Business &amp; Human Rights</b>
SSD	M-GGR/02 GEOGRAFIA ECONOMICO-POLITICA
Teacher in charge (if defined)	Prof. Alberto Lanzavecchia
Teaching Hours	12
Number of ECTS credits allocated	2
Course period	I and II Semesters (full year)
Course delivery method	<input type="checkbox"/> In presence <input type="checkbox"/> Remotely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blended
Language of instruction	English
Mandatory attendance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (80% minimum of presence) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Course unit contents	<p>This course explores emerging trends in Business and Human Rights, focusing on the intersection of economic models, technology, and human rights accountability. It is structured into two units:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Business and Human Rights Emerging Trends –</b> Analyzing the tensions between green economy and sustainable business, the role of war economies, and technology-driven solutions for corporate accountability.</li><li>2. <b>Open Source Investigations (OSINT) for Human Rights –</b> Introducing digital investigative methodologies for monitoring corporate and state compliance with human rights norms.</li></ol> <p><b>Course Structure</b></p> <p><b>Unit I: Business and Human Rights Emerging Trends</b></p> <p>This unit examines how businesses navigate the evolving landscape of human rights obligations, focusing on:</p>



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**1. Green Economy vs. Sustainable Business:**  
**analyzing the gap between corporate sustainability**  
**claims and real environmental and social impacts.**

- o ESG finance and corporate responsibility
- o Greenwashing and human rights risks

**2. The War Economy and Human Rights:**  
**investigating the role of businesses in conflict zones,**  
**including arms trade, resource extraction, and financial**  
**flows.**

- o The role of defense industries in ESG investments
- o Conflict financing and human rights violations

**3. Technology-Based Solutions and Corporate**  
**Accountability: exploring AI, blockchain, and digital**  
**traceability tools in corporate human rights due**  
**diligence.**

- o Risks and opportunities of tech-driven governance

## **Unit II: Open Source Investigations for Human Rights**

This unit introduces students to digital methods for investigating human rights abuses, drawing from open-source intelligence (OSINT) methodologies. Topics include:

**1. Introduction to Open-Source Intelligence**  
**(OSINT)**

- o Tools and methodologies for digital investigations
- o Ethical and legal considerations

**2. Case Studies in Corporate and Human Rights**  
**Violations**

- o Investigating environmental crimes and supply chain abuses
  - o War crimes and corporate complicity in conflicts
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### 3. Practical Applications: Digital Forensics & Human Rights Advocacy

- o Verification techniques (geolocation, satellite imagery)
  - o Advocacy and litigation strategies
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Learning goals	<p>Learning goals are aligned with developing a deep understanding of both methodological approaches in social sciences and critical contemporary issues - like people and planet exploitation for economic profits, and the intersection with human rights.</p> <p>In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand contemporary debates in business and human rights.</li><li>• Critically assess the implications of economic models on human rights.</li><li>• Develop skills in open-source investigations for human rights accountability</li></ul>
Teaching methods	<p>The course equips students with both theoretical insights and practical tools to address human rights challenges in global business practices.</p> <p><b>Instructors:</b></p> <p>Experts from academia, investigative journalism, and human rights organizations.</p>
Course on transversal, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Available for PhD students from other courses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Prerequisites (not mandatory)	none
Examination methods (in applicable)	The course combines lectures, hands-on workshops, and case study analyses. Assessment is based on a research project where

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students apply the acquired methodologies to a real-world human rights issue.

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Suggested readings

1. Rockström, J., Gupta, J., Qin, D. et al. Safe and just Earth system boundaries. *Nature* 619, 102–111 (2023).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06083-8>

2. Zwanenburg, M. The Use of OSINT for Military Operations Abroad under International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law, *Chinese Journal of International Law*, 23 (3), 403 – 442 (2024). DOI: 10.1093/chinesejil/jmae027

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Additional information

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Course unit English denomination	<b>Bibliographical research, Reference management and Academic Publishing</b>
SS	Course on transversal skills
Teacher in charge (if defined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elisa Rubino,</li><li>• Michele Visentin</li><li>• Michela Zorzi</li></ul>
Teaching Hours	6
Number of ECTS credits allocated	1
Course period	I semester
Course delivery method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In presence <input type="checkbox"/> Remotely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blended
Language of instruction	English
Mandatory attendance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (80% minimum of presence) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Course unit contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zotero: how to use free and open-source reference management software, to support collecting, organizing, annotating, citing, and sharing research.</li><li>• Library 101 (workshop) teaches about library services and research methodology for writing thesis</li><li>• Academic Publishing and UniPD's research data archive</li></ul>
Learning goals	<p>Master Zotero for Research Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to efficiently use Zotero to collect, organize, annotate, and cite research sources.</li><li>• Skills in sharing and collaborating on research projects using Zotero features.</li></ul> <p>Utilize Library Services for Thesis Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding of key library resources and services available to support advanced research.</li><li>• Proficiency in research methodologies taught through practical exercises in the Library 101 workshop, enhancing the ability to locate and use academic sources for writing a thesis.</li></ul> <p>Improved Thesis Research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to integrate effective research management and library tools into the thesis writing process for better organization, source tracking, and academic integrity.</li></ul>



	<p>Academic Publishing and UniPD's Research Data Archive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gain knowledge of key bibliometric indicators and develop the ability to interpret and apply bibliometric metrics in the context of one's own research.</li><li>• Understand the academic publishing process and the various options available.</li><li>• Gain familiarity with Open Access principles and their implications for research dissemination.</li><li>• Learn to efficiently deposit, manage, and retrieve one's research works in PRA/IRIS.</li><li>• Learn the procedures for depositing and preserving PhD theses in the institutional repository</li></ul>	
Teaching methods	<p>This 6-hour course employs a hands-on, interactive approach to teaching, blending practical instruction with real-time demonstrations. Students actively engage with tools like Zotero and participate in problem-solving tasks during the Library 101 workshop, applying their newly acquired skills directly to their thesis projects. The course also provides detailed examples of the doctoral thesis deposit process and illustrates the benefits of open access principles for research dissemination. This comprehensive methodology ensures that students can immediately implement what they learn, enhancing their research and academic publishing capabilities.</p>	
Course on transversal, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Available for PhD students from other courses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Prerequisites (not mandatory)		
Examination methods (if applicable)	n.a.	
Suggested readings	<p>Library 101 - for social sciences international students (Moodle course)</p> <p><a href="https://elearning.unipd.it/sba/course/view.php?id=45">https://elearning.unipd.it/sba/course/view.php?id=45</a></p>	
Additional information		