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CATÓLICA PORTO BUSINESS SCHOOL

PORTO

Specialization offered by the Portuguese Catholic University (Porto):

Sustainable Management of Mediterranean Forests: an Institutional Economics Approach

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Why this specialization?

1) Course contents

- A particular focus..
- Key concepts
- Key issues
- Courses offered

2) Thesis topics favoured

3) Other reasons to come to Porto...

Why this specialization? A particular focus...

Fundamental mistake of forest management

- To manage forests **IS NOT**, first of all, to manage **trees**, forest stands, or forest landscapes
- To manage forests **IS**, first of all, to manage **people**, who own, value and use those trees, forest stands, or forest landscapes, to sustain their livelihoods

Why this specialization? Key concepts

Types of **THINGS** people value

- Typology of goods/services on appropriateness (combined exclusion and rivalry):
- Private, free access, club, and public goods

Why this specialization? Key concepts

Types of **VALUES** people give to things:

- Use and Exchange Value, but also
- Option
- Existence
- Bequest
- Moral
- Etc.

Why this specialization? Key concepts

- **VALUE** people attach to actions, intentions and personality traits (**MORAL VALUES**) as the **internal regulators** of human **BEHAVIOURS**

Why this specialization? Key concepts

SOCIAL NORMS (or **INSTITUTIONS**) as the external regulators of human behaviours:

- Genesis of social norms: cooperation, coordination, conflict resolution
- Rights (human, property, etc.)
- Social capital



Why this specialization? Mediterranean forests profile

Awareness of institutions needed to approach Mediterranean forests because:

- Several externalities likely to be present
- Land use conflicts (agricultural/forest, urban/forest uses)
- Multifunctional systems
- Other stakeholders values besides use and exchange values often the most relevant
- Diversity of institutional settings

Why this specialization? Key concepts

HUMAN SOCIETIES and GOVERNANCE:

- Concept of human society
- Concepts of governance (weak vs. good governance)
- Agency theory approach to policy formulation and implementation (resources availability, individual and group rationality, incentive compatibility)

Courses offered

- 
- i. Foundations of Social Economics**
 - ii. Economics and Management of Social Economy Organizations**
 - iii. Sustainable Development**
 - iv. Governance of Mediterranean Forests**
 - v. Research Methods (quantitative, qualitative)**

Why this specialization? Key issues/thesis topics

Why forest land expand or decrease in the long run?

- Long run trends in forest and other land uses depend very much on the values people give to forests and on the dynamics of human societies
- Do public policies (national forest policies, EU policies, etc.) play a major role in these trends?

Forest land uses and market dynamics

- Some forest use values also have an exchange value, but others don't (carbon sequestration, biodiversity, landscape quality, etc.)
- In Mediterranean forest non market use values are very important
- How to find a “monetary valuation” and an institutional setting for “internalization” of those non market use values?

Conflicting or “multifunctional” uses of forest resources?

- Ecosystem services view and modelling
- Agro-pastoral uses vs. “productive forest” uses
- “Productive forest” uses vs. “urban” or “conservation” uses
- What institutions for conflict resolution?

Why this specialization? Key issues/thesis topics

Forest property **rights**

- Very wide diversity of forest property rights regimes
- Are these regimes changing? In what direction?
- Forest landownership fragmentation: Is it possible to cope with small scale forest ownership in order to improve forest management? What role of forest owners' and local development organizations?

Forest **risks**

- The high risks of forest fires in Mediterranean forests
- Do these risks have mainly a “natural” origin or not?
- Institutional and organizational arrangements for forest fire prevention and extinction

Public **policies**

- Forest policy failures and the fundamental mistake of forest management
- Agency based approach to forest policy formulation and implementation (resource availability, individual and group rationality and incentive compatibility)

Suggestions for general dissertation topics

Long run trends in forest and non forest land uses across Mediterranean countries

Non market use values of Mediterranean forests

Conflicting or “multifunctional” uses of forest resources

Economics of forest ecosystem services supply

Suggestions for dissertation topics

Forest property rights

Modes of forest owners' and users' collective organization

Forest fires

Public policies

School of Economics and Management

Why study Economics and Management at Católica Porto?

The School of Economics and Management is recognized as a leading Management and Economics School in Portugal. Come and discover what we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you soon!



"Everywhere I go, the people are always so friendly, especially at the University. I'm really happy and proud to have chosen Porto as the city where I would spend 4 months. If I were to suggest a place to follow the Erasmus Programme ...it would always be in Porto."

Aloisia Lalli - ITALY
(Incoming Student)

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Why Porto?

Porto - The best place to travel to in Europe!

Porto was elected, by the European citizens, the Best European Destination 2014, winning the title ahead of 19 big European cities.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHJaSZjJI-E>



After meeting Porto, you will find it hard to leave.

Catholic University of Portugal



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Hope to see you soon!

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