



DEGREE CURRICULUM  
**RURAL GEOGRAPHY**

Coordination: MODOL RATES, JOSEP RAMON

Academic year 2022-23

## Subject's general information

<b>Subject name</b>	RURAL GEOGRAPHY			
<b>Code</b>	101176			
<b>Semester</b>	1st Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
<b>Typology</b>	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Bachelor's Degree in Geography	3	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
<b>Course number of credits (ECTS)</b>	6			
<b>Type of activity, credits, and groups</b>	<b>Activity type</b>	PRACAMP	PRAULA	TEORIA
	<b>Number of credits</b>	1	1	4
	<b>Number of groups</b>	1	1	1
<b>Coordination</b>	MODOL RATES, JOSEP RAMON			
<b>Department</b>	GEOGRAPHY AND SOCIOLOGY			
<b>Teaching load distribution between lectures and independent student work</b>	Class attendance: 60 Autonomous work: 120			
<b>Important information on data processing</b>	Consult <a href="#">this link</a> for more information.			
<b>Language</b>	Catalan			
<b>Distribution of credits</b>	4 presencial / virtual 2 practices			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
MODOL RATES, JOSEP RAMON	josepramon.modol@udl.cat	6	

## Subject's extra information

The subject has been deployed in two areas:

- A more theoretical field in which knowledge of theoretical elements, legal references, elaboration processes and techniques that are used habitually in rural geography must be ensured, in accordance with the attached syllabus.
- A more practical field of introduction of the student to the analysis of the rural environment, based on the analysis of the variables and indicators characteristic of the agrarian systems and the rural environment of a territory.

Regarding the theoretical approach to the subject, three levels of understanding and study that appear in any of the areas of planning and that are included in the syllabus should be taken into account:

1. The theories and models that explain the organization and functioning of agrarian and rural systems.
2. The techniques of analysis, indicators, sources of information and tools generally coupled with the observation of the rural environment.
3. The administrative policies that directly affect the management of agrarian systems and rural development.

(Performed by translator)

## Learning objectives

01. Initiation to the techniques, regulations and institutional practices and documental bases used in agrarian geography and the specific practice of spatial planning.
02. Comprehension of the physical, economical and social aspects that characterise the rural space, with a special emphasis on the interrelations and remarkable features, from the knowledge and familiarization with the indicators analysis techniques and work methodologies.
03. Analyse and interpret the proposed texts about rural geography.

Learning outcomes considered:

Practice of territorial diagnosis activities aimed at planning

Critical knowledge of the statistical sources specific to the study of agriculture

Familiarization with geographic studies on activities aimed at local development in rural areas

Knowledge of the instruments for identifying territorial, rustic and urban property

Understanding of the physical, economic and social aspects that characterize rural space

Capture the potential of the natural environment in local development

Assess the contribution (direct and indirect) of agricultural production to the local economy

Identify local development potentials in relation to cultural and natural heritage

## Competences

CB2 Apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess the skills that are usually demonstrated through the elaboration and defense of arguments and the resolution of problems within their area of study.

CB3 Ability to gather and interpret relevant data (normally within their area of study) to make judgments that include a reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues

CB5 Know how to develop those learning skills necessary to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy

CG1 Assess the mechanisms of interaction of society with the environment

CG2 Identify the great conflicts and inequalities of human society

CG3 Characterize the spatial diversity of the territories

CE1 Manage and use the methods and techniques of analysis and interpretation of statistical sources

CE2 Know the fundamentals and the specific scientific terminology of each branch of Geography

CE3 Express geographic knowledge through thematic cartography

CE5 Learn to extract geographic information from existing resources on the internet

CE6 Acquire the skills and methodologies of the fieldwork of each branch of Geography

CE12 Recognize in the landscape the transformations generated by human uses in the historical evolution

CE15 Know, understand and interpret the territory, explain the diversity of places, regions and locations.

CT3 Acquire training in the use of new technologies and information and communication technologies

CT4 Acquire basic knowledge of entrepreneurship and professional environments.

## Subject contents

Block 1. THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL PRECISIONS ON rural geography and agrarian systems.

- 1.1. Conceptual precisions around the definition of rural. The physical and historical conditions and the approach through density. Complementary definitions and statistical and normative approach.
- 1.2. Rural space and agrarian space. The study of agrarian issues from geography. The study of the agrarian sector as a sectoral study. The field of study.

## Block 2. BASES OF PRODUCTION in agrarian spaces; Agriculture and Livestock.

- 2.1. Agricultural systems and farming systems. Characterization of cultivated plants. Growth and development. Production cycles and agronomic management of crops.
- 2.2. Climate and meteorological conditions. temperatures and light. Water: resources and needs. Climatic typologies and agricultural typologies. Control of the environment and meteorological accidents.
- 2.3. Agricultural soils and their dynamics. Formation of soils and humus. Texture and structure, porosity. The water in the soil and the water needs of plants. Chemical properties; acidity and salinity.
- 2.4. Agricultural practices and agrarian systems. Nutrients, fertilizers and amendments Cultural work. The irrigation. farming systems. Successions; rotations and alternations. Plant population and competition. Associated crops. cultivation techniques
- 2.5. Exploited animals. Growth and development. The biological cycle; reproduction and lactation. Heredity and animal selection. Sexes and biological and environmental control. Nutrients and food. Exploitation and livestock systems.
- 2.6. Agroecosystems and their services. agricultural pollution; contamination of the means, inputs and outputs originating from the contamination. The limits of scientific agriculture; agroecology. Alternative agriculture and environmental policies.

## Block 3. THE PRODUCTION UNIT AND THE AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES.

- 3.1. Company and agricultural exploitation. Valuation of business assets. Assets and liabilities and their composition. The interpretation of the balance.
- 3.2. The activity of the agricultural company. Agricultural production and income; total production and final production. Inputs and expenses. Subsidies and taxes. Evaluation of economic results; gross, net and cash-flow added value. The gross margin.
- 3.3. The agrarian structures and the factors of production. The remuneration of the factors of production. Agricultural labor and its typology. The unit of measure, UTA. Part-time farming. Productive orientation (OTE) and standard production volume (UDE).
- 3.4. Territoriality and parcelling. Emergence and development of the concept of land rent. Owners, tenants, sharecroppers. Land market and regulatory policies. The parcel concentration.
- 3.5. Agriculture in the industrialization process and the transformation of agrarian structures. Property and agrarian reform. Modernization and structure policy.
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## Block 4. AGRI-FOOD SYSTEM, food AND AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.

- 4.1. Agriculture within the agri-food system. Agri-food chains and processes of change. The formation of the commercial value of agri-food production. Major stages of agri-food development.
- 4.2. The agrarian transformation; agro-industrial branches and processes. Food distribution and demand. Structures of production and evolution. Concentration processes and product strategies. Laws of demand and food models.
- 4.3. The world market and the Community Agricultural Policy. Origin and general approach of the CAP. Market and structural policies. New perspectives of the CAP.

## Block 5. Alternative activities and rural development

- 5.1. From agrarian development to rural development. Rural development and theories of regional development. Endogenous development and activity clusters.
- 5.2. industry in rural areas. Relationship with agriculture. Industrial location factors. The production of energy in rural areas. Territorial organization of the industry.
- 5.3. The development of rural tourism. Characteristic activities and accommodation in rural areas. Mountain tourism. The second residence.
- 5.4. The social bases of rurality and the evolution of rural communities. Rural emigration and its repercussions. Adaptation or disintegration of the rural community. Urban networks basic fabric of rurality.
- 5.5. Rurality as the other face of the same urban society. Rural mobility. The urban sociability of rural communities. Presence of urban phenomena.
- 5.6. Territorial differences in rural development. Leader program. Policies for mountain areas

## Block 6. Agricultural landscapes and rural space planning.

- 6.1. large agrarian systems. The origin of agriculture. From plowing to traditional and scientific agriculture. The great world agrarian systems.
- 6.2. Cultural structures and landscapes. Great typologies of European cultural landscapes. Colonization in the formation of local landscapes.
- 6.3. Agriculture, city and market: a modeling. Transport costs, production costs and location of companies and productions. Von Thünen's theory; model development and validity.
- 6.4. Degree of anthropization and uses of space. The valuation of rural spaces. Characterization and classification of natural spaces. Agricultural land and its protection.

\* There will be a practical project to do for each of the thematic blocks.

## Methodology

activity	CODIFICATION / description / typology TPD	O*	G*	HP*	HNP*
<b>Lecture (M)</b>	See syllabus and timetable	01	1	40	25
<b>Seminars (S)</b>	S. Seminar rural reflections.	03		2	5
<b>Practicum (P)</b>	PA. Complete and comment on databases, charts, graphics and maps.	02		4	20
<b>Projects (T)</b>	(the classroom practices PA will be collected on a final dossier)				25
<b>Tutoring (Tut)</b>	Tut. Compulsory initial and final session and voluntary sessions for guiding in the course contents and classroom practices.	01, 02		2	5
<b>Others (AA)</b>	AA. Conclusions of the outings- fieldwork	01		10	20
<b>Evaluation (AV)</b>	See table on evaluation mechanisms		1	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>				60	100

O: Objective. G: number of groups involved in the activity. HP: hours of seminars and lectures. HNP: hours of independent student work.

## Development plan

The subject follows the thematic order of the contents (hour and a half by theme with the corresponding work time).

For each topic of the subject, the previously exposed methodology is developed.

The participation of the student will be emphasized and the student's participation in the reflections and comments of each subject will be valued especially.

## Evaluation

evaluation mechanisms	codification / description-criteria / typology TPD	comments	O
<b>Attendance and participation (As)</b>		It is an inseparable part of the workshops and works of the course	
<b>Evaluation (TA) (Examen)</b>	Written test	Evaluation of the acquisition of the contents from the lectures and seminar texts	0
<b>Report (In) / Projecc (T)</b>	T1 Summary project of the fieldwork outings (in AA) T-In Practices reports completed in a final dossier. In2 Reports from the seminars and oral presentation	Evaluation of the interpretation of the territorial reality presented. Evaluation of the exercises and graphic-map interpretations. Evaluation of the retention of the main ideas and its presentation.	0 0 0
<b>Others (A)</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

O: Objective. %: percentage on the final grade.

Students who combine their degree with a full time job have the right to ask for alternative assessment within 5 days after the beginning of the semester. For information, please send an e-mail to [academic@lletres.udl.cat](mailto:academic@lletres.udl.cat) or ask for information at the Faculty's secretary (Secretaria de la Facultat de Lletres).

Exam date: January 12, 2023, 16h.

Retrieval date: February 2, 2023, 16h.

## Bibliography

### Basic compulsory bibliography:

- Dossier of the course with the basic information related to the lectures (fotocopy unit or virtual campus).

### Bibliographic selection:

ALDOMÀ, I. (1999); La crisi de la Catalunya rural. Lleida: Pagès editors, Lleida.

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ALDOMÀ I.; MÒDOL J.; GUERRERO M. (2019) La contribució dels patrimonis agraris al desenvolupament de la ruralitat. Una primera aplicació pràctica a les Garrigues. Lleida: Fundació del Món Rural.(disponible en línia)

ALDOMÀ, I.; MÒDOL, J.R. (2021); Nous índexs de relleu generacional en el món rural. Solsona: Comunitat CO Rural - Coworking, PECT BCN Smart Rural i Associació d'Iniciatives Rurals de Catalunya (disponible en línia)

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AMOUDRY, Jean-Paul (2003); L'avenir de la montagne : un développement équilibré dans un environnement préservé . Paris: Sénat Français (Rapport d'information 15, disponible en línia).

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ARNASON, A.; SHUCKSMITH, M.; VERGUNST, J. (edit.) (2009). Comparing rural development : continuity and change in the countryside of Western Europe. Farnham : Ashgate.

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BELLO, Walden (2012); Food Wars. Crisis alimentaria y políticas de ajuste estructural. Barcelona: Virus editorial.

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## **Selecció digital**

[https://cercatol.udl.cat/discovery/search?vid=34CSUC\\_UDL:UDL](https://cercatol.udl.cat/discovery/search?vid=34CSUC_UDL:UDL) (Servei de Biblioteca i documentació de la UdL: ampli llistat de recursos per treballar sobre agricultura. Adreça de fet a les bases de dades, organismes, revistes i altres recursos, alguns dels quals s'esmenten a continuació).

<http://www.fao.org> (Food and Agriculture Organization)

<http://www.wri.org> (World Resources Institute)

<http://www.wto.org> (World Trade Organization, Organisation Mondiale du Commerce)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/agriculture-and-rural-development> (Direction generale de l'Agriculture de l'UE)

<http://www.igc.org.uk> (International Grain Council, Conseil International des Cereales)

<http://www.agriculture.gouv.fr> (Ministere de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire)

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/> (National Agricultural Library, États-Unis)

<http://bibliotecas.csic.es/es/recursos-de-informacion> (CSIC, recursos electrònics generals)

<https://cepes.org.pe/> (Centro peruano de estudios sociales)

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<https://ruralcat.gencat.cat/> (portal d'informació agrària promogut pel Departament d'Agricultura, Alimentació i Acció Rural, Generalitat de Catalunya).

<https://www.desenvolupamentrural.cat/> (Associació d'Inicatives Rurals de Catalunya)