UCLouvain

Fundamentals of geographic and environmental modelling

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits

lgeo2130

2019

30.0 h + 30.0 h

Q2

Teacher(s)	Deleersnijder Eric ;Remacle Jean-François (compensates Deleersnijder Eric) ;Vanwambeke Sophie ;				
Language :	English				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Aims	 Identify and characterize a model and understand the mathematics of a process-based model; Translate a physical, environmental and/or spatial process into mathematical language; Grasp all steps of a modelling process, from the statement of a question to the validation of results; Start engaging with professionals of environmental modelling and management in various settings. Contribution to the acquisition and evaluation of the following learning outcomes of the programme in geography (general and climatology): AA 1.1, AA 1.2, AA 1.4, AA 1.6, and particularly AA.1.7 and AA 1.8 AA 3.3, AA 3.4 AA 4.1, AA 4.2 AA 5.5 AA 6.1, 6.2 Most importantly, these learning outcomes are central to this course: 				
	• AA 4.3, AA 4.4, AA 4.5 The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".				
Evaluation methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Homeworks and practical reports; written exam.				
Teaching methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Classroom lectures and practical sessions, involving active learning methods. All lectures are in English. The course material and practical notes are in English and French.				
Content	 The course includes two parts. The first half focuses on differential models. The second half looks into spatial modelling and modelling practice. The course starts by a general introduction on modelling. The following topics are dealt with: How to model? The various steps of modelling; Typology of models; Differential models: linear ordinary differential problems (e.g. first order decay); Differential models: non-linear ordinary differential problems (e.g. population modelling, prey-predator populations, epidemiological model); Differential models: space-time dependency; Spatial models: making space explicit, self-organising systems (e.g. epidemic diffusion, erosion processes); Spatial models: interacting, spatially-explicit objects: agent-based models (e.g. land use change) 				
Inline resources	Slides, lecture notes and additional reading material on Moodle (https://moodleucl.uclouvain.be/?lang=en)				
Other infos	Prerequisites LGEO1342 - Geographical Information Systems (or similar); LGEO1341 - Statistical modelling (or similar); Mathematics (or similar)				

Faculty or entity in	GEOG
charge	

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims	
Master [120] in Chemistry and Bioindustries	BIRC2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Geography : General	GEOG2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Agricultural Bioengineering	BIRA2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Environmental Bioengineering	BIRE2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Agriculture and Bio-industries	SAIV2M	5		٩	
Master [60] in Geography : General	GEOG2M1	5		٩	
Master [120] in Forests and Natural Areas Engineering	BIRF2M	5		٩	