COURSE DETAIL

PSYCHOBIOLOGY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Country
Italy

Host Institution
University of Padua

Program(s)
Psychology and Cognitive Science, Padua

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Psychology

UCEAP Course Number
129

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
PSYCHOBIOLOGY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

UCEAP Transcript Title
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UCEAP Quarter Units
7.00

UCEAP Semester Units
4.70

Course Description

This course is broken up into five modules. Module one: Environmental Neuroscience; Defining "environment" and "natural environment;" how the brain perceives and responds to different environments, methodological and conceptual limitations of neuroscience in studying the human–environment relationship. Module two: The Impact of Environment on Humans; the concept of the exposome and cumulative environmental exposure, effects of environmental factors on brain function and neural processes, how environmental conditions shape brain structure over time, special populations: environmental effects on infants, older adults, and individuals undergoing neurorehabilitation, the consequences of pollution and climate change on physical and mental health, psychophysiological responses to ecological crisis: eco-anxiety and related conditions. Module 3: The Human Impact on the Environment; psychosocial factors influencing pro-environmental behavior: social norms, diffusion of responsibility, stress, empathy, and perspective-taking, climate change and the limits of rational behavior: understanding cognitive and emotional barriers to action. Module 4: Environmental Sustainability and the Brain; neural correlates of sustainable behavior and reward processing, decision-making mechanisms in environmentally responsible choices, environmental activism: cognitive and emotional effects of engagement and advocacy. Module 5: Rethinking the Relationship: Environment as Subject, "plant blindness": cultural and perceptual neglect of plant life, plant cognition and behavior: emerging evidence of intelligent systems, bioethical and legal frameworks recognizing nature, ecosystems, and plants as subjects of rights.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
PSQ510890

Host Institution Course Title
PSYCHOBIOLOGY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Host Institution Course Details

https://unipd.coursecatalogue.cineca.it/af/2025?corso=PS2959&annoOrdinamento=20...

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Psychology

Host Institution Degree
First Cycle Degree in Psychological Science

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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