



SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

PROGRAM: Natural Resources Economics

1. Course Code	NREC4904	
2. Course Title	RESEARCH PROJECT II	
3. Credits	3 CH, 12 CP, 6 ECTS	
4. Pre-requisite Course (s)		
5. Co-requisite Course (s)	-	
6. Equivalent Course (s)	-	
7. Course Category (Specify either as Elective or Requirement and appropriate level: College, Department, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> University Requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> University Elective
	<input type="checkbox"/> College Requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> College Elective
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> Department Elective
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):	
8. Course Owner	College: CAMS	Department:NRE
9. Course Type	Supervised Research Project	
10. Language of Instruction	English	

11. Course Description

In this one semester course, the student completes the project partially carried out in NREC4901. The student work in close collaboration with the same academic staff who suggests the subject area and the title. Assessment is continuous, including the evaluation of the final project report, oral presentation and viva

Objectives of the course

Objective 1: Demonstrate a thorough understanding of relevant literature in the selected topic area.

Objective 2: Analyze research data by employing suitable methodology.

Objective 3: Establish evidence that the research has resulted in the advancement of solutions to the problems in Oman.

Objective 4: Present conclusions related to policy and practice implications

Objective 5: To prepare the orally present and defend the final report.

Objective 6: To prepare a poster presentation

12. Teaching/Learning Strategies

This course is a continuation of NREC4901. The student meets the supervisor and formulates the semester work plan in week 1. Student spends a full semester for the completion the research project under the guidance of the same supervisor. Final project report is submitted to the examination committee in week 12 for evaluation. The second report presentation and oral examination is held in week 15.

After the work plan is introduced, a student is asked to

- Attend the seminars by the faculties
- Continue literature review

- c. Meet the supervisor regularly and discuss the progress
 - d. Finish the data analysis and prepare the results
 - e. Submit the final project report
 - f. Give an oral presentation in front of the examination committee
- Students improve their critical thinking, analytical skills and independent learning capabilities through this research based course.

13. Evaluation Methods

Each of the students working on a project will be assessed independently. The assessment components are divided as follows:

- 1) Supervisor Assessments [50 marks]
 - Preliminary presentation/viva
 - Midterm presentation/viva
 - Midterm report
 - Final presentation/viva
 - Final report
 - Project diary
- 2) Examiner Assessments of the final report [20 marks]
 - Final report
- 3) Supervisor and Examiner Assessments of the Presentation [15+15 marks]

There are 4 items of this part:

- i. Clarity of the presented material.
- ii. Understanding of the presented material.
- iii. Confidence in answering questions correctly
- iv. Presentation skills (time managements, addressing the audience)

The cut-off points for allocating grades of NREC 4902

PERCENTAGE	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	57	<57
GRADE	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F

14. Required Course Core Material

This course is different from the other courses the student will take as part of the BSc. Degree program. It is a research-based course; as such, study materials, which include an essential guide on the Social and Behavioural Sciences research, are provided as part of the course for students. However, the course coordinator will provide guidelines for the course research project.

This course is an essentially research-based and stand-alone. It is offered after completion of 90 credits. The pre-request courses are NREC 3106, NREC3220 and NREC4010/4104 Matching Course Objectives with the Program Outcomes and with SQU Graduate Attributes

SQU Graduate Attributes

A. SQU graduates should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. apply the knowledge and skills relevant to the specialization 2. communicate effectively and use information and communication technologies 3. critically analyze complex information and present it in simple legible manner 	B. SQU graduates possess <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. interpersonal communication skills and alignment with culture of international labour market to assist them in practical life and in living successfully 2. skills and motivation for independent learning and engagement in lifelong learning and research 3. work ethics and positive values, and enjoy intellectual independence and autonomy 4. teamwork skills and display potential leadership qualities 	C. SQU graduates should relish good citizenship qualities, conscious of their national identity and socially responsible, engage in community affairs and mindful of contemporary issues.
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#	Course Learning Objective	Relevant Program Outcome(s)	Applicable Attribute(s)
1.	Collect the required data for the analysis	<p>(A) a demonstrated depth of knowledge in the areas of Natural Resource Economics</p> <p>(B) the ability to analyse and interpret the results of surveys and other data collection methods commonly used in Natural Resource Economics.</p>	A1
2.	Data entry and process, and then analyse the entered data using appropriate statistical software (SPSS, STATA, E-VIEWS, R) and prepare the descriptive and the empirical results.	<p>(A) a demonstrated depth of knowledge in the areas of Natural Resource Economics</p> <p>(B) the ability to analyse and interpret the results of surveys and other data collection methods commonly used in Natural Resource Economics.</p> <p>(K) an ability to use computers and other tools in the practice of their profession.</p>	A3, A2, B3
3.	Prepare a comprehensive research report precisely documents the research projects activities in terms of methodology, conceptual framework, analytical framework and results tabulation, discussion and policy recommendations.	<p>(A) a demonstrated depth of knowledge in the areas of Natural Resource Economics</p> <p>(K) an ability to use computers and other</p>	A1, A2, B3

		tools in the practice of their profession.	
4.	Present research findings orally to a specialized audience, using appropriate visual support.	(G) the ability to communicate effectively in English orally and in writing and to various audiences;	B1
5.	Present a progoma; report in writing using an appropriate scientific format and language.	(A) a demonstrated depth of knowledge in the areas of Natural Resource Economics. (G) the ability to communicate effectively in English orally and in writing and to various audiences (H2) an ability to link Natural Resource Economics and other disciplines in the context of a sustainable exploitation of the natural resources both nationally and internationally.	A1, A2, B1, C
6.	Construct written work which is logically and professionally presented under supervision with professionalism, planning, diligence and ethics. .	(A) a demonstrated depth of knowledge in the areas of Natural Resource Economics. (F) the attitudes of their professions necessary to promote an ethical professional behavior in the use of the natural resources	A1, B3, B4, C

16. Student Responsibilities

It is the student's responsibility to know and comply with all University Academic Regulations relevant to participation in this course. These regulations specifically include the Attendance and Student Academic Misconduct policies.

For attendance, it is the student's responsibility to be punctual and to attend all classes.

Students are expected to perform their work with honesty and avoid any academic misconduct, which is defined as the use of any dishonest or deceitful means to gain some academic advantage or benefit. This can take many forms, including but not limited to, the following: copying, plagiarism, collusion and forging documents. For full details please refer to the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

Additionally, this course requires that you:

It is the responsibility of the student to keep records of ALL activities related to the research project in a comprehensive manners. This documentation will be used to support the student evaluation in the course.

It is the student's responsibilities to adhere with the following:

1) Registration

- a. Obtain the approval of the academic advisor to register in the project course, then register NREC4901 with the assigned section according to the supervisor's names.
- b. Attendance in the seminars by the faculties at the department

2) Progress through the Semester

- a. Maintain regular meetings with the project Supervisor throughout the semester for 2-3 hours per week to discuss what they have done since their last meeting, and to obtain guidance for the work to follow. These hours are treated as normal contact hours.
- b. Submit a preliminary outline of the project to the Project Supervisor by the end of week 4 of the first semester. This outline should consist of at most 2 pages, describing the project and its target results.
- c. Complete the necessary literature search for references used in the project or data collection required for the project

3) Completion of the project Progress Report of part 2 (NREC 4902)

- a. Submit a Progress Report of the project to the project supervisor and examiner by the end of Week 13.
- b. Sit an oral exam on Week 14 as scheduled by the FYP committee. Each of the students working on a project will be examined for about 20 minutes on the submitted project progress report.

4) Extensions

If requested by the project Supervisor, only a one-week delay in the submission date is acceptable. Late submission of the progress report of the project due to valid reasons is possible but students must obtain the approval of their Supervisor and the Project Committee. Without the approval, submissions later than Week 13 for NREC4902 will be subjected to a 10-point reduction for every week the report is late. If the report is still not submitted by the end of the final exam period (Week 17 of the first semester), the students will be assigned grade F

Tentative Schedule			
Week	Lecture/Topic	Topic/Material to be covered	Assessment
1	Introduction	Introduction to the project and development of work plan	
2	First seminar	How to write the literature review	
3	weekly meeting	Literature review and discussion with the supervisor	
4	weekly meeting	Supervisor monitoring the work progress and the project diary	
5	weekly meeting	Evaluation of student's performance	Preliminary presentation/Viva + diary 5%
6	weekly meeting	Supervisor monitoring the work progress and the project diary	
7	Second seminar	Choosing an appropriate research methodology	
8	weekly meeting	Discussion with supervisor on mid-term presentation	
9	weekly meeting	Preparation of mid-term presentation	
10	weekly meeting	Evaluation of student's performance	Mid-term presentation/Viva + midterm report + diary 30%
11	weekly meeting	Supervisor monitoring the work progress and the project diary	
12	Third seminar	Referencing	
13	weekly meeting	Interim Progress Report writing, Project diary evaluation	
14	weekly meeting	Report submission, Discussion with supervisor on presentation	

15	weekly meeting	Final Report presentation and oral examination	Final presentation/Viva + Final report + diary 65%
16			
17			

IMPORTANT DATES

Week	Semester 1
1	Students: register in NREC4902
2	
3	
4	Students: submit the project outline to the supervisor
5	Project Committee: report to the board the list of all sections of NREC4902
6	Supervisor: submit the Project Outline (Form 1-Outline) to the FYP committee
7	
8	Project Committee: examiners approval
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	Students: submit the Progress Report to the supervisor, examiner, and the FYP Committee Supervisor: submit the Checklist Assessment (Form 1-CheckList) to the FYP committee
14	Presentation.
15	Supervisor: submit Supervisor Assessment (Form 1-Sup) to the FYP Examiner: submit Examiner Assessment (Form 1-Exm) to the FYP
16	FYP Committee: students grades approval
17	Supervisor: submit grades to A&R