Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

2019/2020

Health and Safety at Work

Code: 100483
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500258 Labour Relations	OB	3	1

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Other comments on languages

Morning group. In case of international students attending the course the language could become Spanish, after agreeing it with the rest of the group.

Teachers

Javier Caballero Bastardo

Prerequisites

None

Objectives and Contextualisation

The fundamental objective of this subject is to acquire a global vision of the relationships between work and health, the factors that affect work-related accidents, preventative systems and the ways of organizing occupational risk prevention, taking into account technical, legal, organizational, psychosocial and labor relations aspects.

In this sense, the specific objectives are the following:

- To know the basic concepts of occupational health and its theoretical frameworks.

- To know the distribution of responsibilities in the field of prevention of occupational hazards, the legal framework and the preventive principles that guide it.

- To know the more frequent risk factors in the workplace and how to prevent them.

- To know the ways to organize the prevention at company level, as well as the participation of workers in the field of prevention of occupational hazards.

- To know the main sources of information on occupational health and safety.

Competences

- Clearly expressing ideas or facts in a compelling way.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Drawing up and formalising reports and documents.
- Identify the foundations of the main legal and organisational areas in the field of human work.
- Planning, designing, consulting and managing occupational risk prevention systems.
- Self-motivating by undertaking specific training programs to acquire new knowledge.
- Working autonomously.

Learning Outcomes

1. Clearly expressing ideas or facts in a compelling way.
2. Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
3. Drawing up and formalising reports and documents.
4. Recognising the psychosocial factors of a company.
5. Relating the ergonomics, workloads and other health-related and occupational safety issues.
6. Self-motivating by undertaking specific training programs to acquire new knowledge.
7. Solving the practical problems related to epidemiology.
8. Students must know the basic concepts of the social organization of labour in a company.
9. Students must know the basic concepts related to the social agents of industrial relations.
10. Understanding and relating the working conditions of a company to security and health at work in that company.
11. Understanding the basic concepts of illnesses and labour and occupational accidents.
12. Working autonomously.

Content

The subject will provide knowledge on the following topics:

1. WORK, RISK AND HEALTH
1.1. Evolution of ways of losing health and risk prevention policies. Social inequalities and health. Gender and health. Public health and occupational health.
1.2. Relations between work and health. The concepts of risk and hazard. Evolution of work pathologies. Occupational health and the diffuse borders between productive and reproductive work.
1.3. Accidents and occupational diseases. Concepts, definitions and legal consequences.

2. SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICIES
2.1.Evolution of preventive models. The regulation of health in the workplace. Preventive principles in force in the legislation in Europe, Spain and Catalonia. International organizations related to safety and health at work.
2.2. The organization of the prevention at work place: possibilities and practices. The Prevention Services. The Delegates of Prevention. Health and Safety Committees at Work. The prevention of risks and the system of labor relations.
2.3. The role of the 'Mutuas', Labor Inspection, Trade Unions and other agencies related to occupational health.

3. RISK FACTORS IN THE LABOR SCOPE
3.1. Material conditions
3.2. Pollutants
3.3. Environmental conditions.
3.4. Workload and Ergonomy
3.5. Psychosocial factors and stress, moral harassment at work, organization of working time.

4. ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF LABOR RISKS
4.1.Epidemiology. Frequency measures and association measures. Cohort and case-control studies. Interventions in public health and occupational health. Accident rates.
4.2. The role of risk assessment in occupational risk management. Type of evaluations: by measurement and by estimation. Acceptable risk and social perception of risk. Contextual analysis of risky behaviors. Gender inequalities in the evaluation of occupational risks.
4.3. Other tools of the preventive organization: Health surveillance and emergency plans.

Methodology

In accordance with the criteria proposed, the subject will have the following teaching methodology:

1- Theoretical classes
During the course, teachers will present the main concepts and theoretical frameworks for each unit of study.

2- Seminars
The seminars will consist of the discussion, exposition and debate of a series of practical cases and of selected readings on the thematic contents of the subject. At the beginning of the course the teacher will provide these readings and the calendar of discussions and debates.

3- Team work
Groups of 3-4 people will be organized. Each group will have to do a job that combines reading materials with empirical data on working conditions and risk prevention. The teacher will give detailed instructions at the beginning of the course.

4- Search for information and oral presentations
Throughout the course each student will have to prepare a public presentation based on the reading materials and / or the information collected to do the team work. These exhibitions will be held in groups, following a calendar that will be established at the beginning of the course.

5- Self-organized work of the student
Each student will have to prepare to answer one individual written test, as well as do the team work and the conceptual maps of the lectures that will be discussed in the classroom.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Theoretical classes	22.5	0.9	10, 11, 4, 7, 5
Type: Supervised			
Oral presentations and information search	22.5	0.9	2, 1
Seminars	7.5	0.3	2, 11, 4, 7, 5
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous organization of the student	47.5	1.9	12
Team work	45	1.8	10, 3

Assessment

In accordance with these criteria, the assessment of the subject will consist of:
a) An individual written exam (50%)
b) Team work (30%)
c) Seminars (20%)

At the beginning of the course, the teachers will give detailed instructions and timetables.
To pass the subject it is essential to approve sections a) and b) separately.
In the event that someone does not take the exams or group work, it will be considered 'Not Appraising'.
In the recovery exam, the maximum grade to reach will be an 'approved' one.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam	50%	2	0.08	8, 9, 11, 4, 7, 5
Seminar	20%	2	0.08	2, 1
Team work	30%	1	0.04	6, 10, 3, 12

Bibliography

References:

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Basics:

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Complementary:

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