

**21<sup>st</sup> International Project Week 2019**  
**20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Lecturer:** Corinna Casi

**University/Company:** Arbis (Swedish Adult Education Centre)

**Country:** Finland

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**Introduction to Environmental Ethics**

**Content:**

The course will propose an overview on the history of Environmental Ethics: what was before Environmental Ethics, how and why Environmental Ethics emerged as an academic field. Why is ethics important in a modern world and why should ethics be part of policy-making processes? In an attempt to answer these questions ethical concepts - such as intrinsic and instrumental value, anthropocentrism and ecocentrism - together with different types of Environmental Ethics theories - such as Deep Ecology, Ecofeminism, Land Ethics, Utilitarianism, Gaia Theory, Nature conservation movement and Animal Rights - will be introduced and discussed. The applicability of different ethical theories will be tested in light of selected case studies about natural disasters and environmental accidents.

**Methods:**

Lectures, debates in class and screening of parts of documentary movies, reading of newspaper, home assignments and final poster presentation on the last day of IPW.

**Competences and skills to be acquired:**

This course attempts to give students the analytical apparatus to critically analyze the role played by the natural environment in the life of humans and other living species. The course makes students familiar with basic concepts and theories of Environmental Ethics, fostering the understanding on how human factors weigh and carry responsibility on environmental problems. Students will be trained to see different perspectives, applying moral theories and drawing ethical conclusions from real life cases in recent news. This enables the students to confront their opinions in class debates, better understand themselves and colleagues, and to improve discussion, argumentation and group work skills.

**Prerequisites:**

No prerequisites needed (previous study in philosophy, ethics and humanities are helpful).

**Language of instruction:**

English

**Recommended for:**

Interdisziplinär