Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS5206
Subject Title	Social Impact Assessment
Credit Value	3
Level	5
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil

Assessment Methods

100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment
1. Attendance and participation	10%	0%
2. Presentation of assigned tasks	20%	20%
3. Final report	20%	30%

- The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned;
- The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and
- Student must pass all components (standard of passing) if he/she is to pass the subject.

Objectives

This subject aims to introduce the basic theoretical and methodological framework involved in assessing social impacts. Students are expected to learn the most commonly used techniques and develop the necessary competence in impact assessment by undertaking a group project designed to simulate a professional impact assessment experience.

The subject intends to prepare students to develop the following:

Professional Attributes
- Capacity in participating effectively in assessing social impacts emanating from development projects
- Professional competence in planning and conducting social impact assessment
- Expertise in and knowledge of tools and instruments for assessing community and individual needs among members in project affected areas
- Ability in developing mitigation options in responding to development impacts

Personal Attributes
- Higher level of critical thinking and capacity for creative social investigation
- Maturity and sophistication in making incisive judgment on mitigating adverse social impacts
- Effective communication skills in community engagement

	• Appreciation ethical practices in public engagement in assessing social impacts
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: a. Articulate critically the theoretical and methodological foundations of social impact assessment (SIA) b. Participate professionally as practitioners of SIA c. Make independent, creative and expert decisions for selecting specific techniques for data collection and public engagement d. Perform as a team in designing, executing, managing and completing an SIA and to interpret and communicate professionally and ethically the findings and recommendations ensue
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	**1. Introduction and Overview:** • What is SIA • SIA and the Planning Process • The Role of SIA • SIA, SA (Social Assessment), SEIA (Social Economic Impact Assessment) and SIR (Social Impact Review) **2. Theoretical and Methodological Basis of SIA** • Rational Model • Bounded Rationality • Principle of Pareto Optimality • Dynamic System Model • Comparative Diachronic Model • Principles of SIA • Domain Assumptions and Conceptions of SIA Practices **3. Processes of SIA** • Scoping • Profiling • Identification of Issues • Projection • Assessment of Impacts • Mitigation • Recommendations **4. Identifying Social Impacts: Delphi Technique** • History of Delphi Technique • Using Delphi Technique • Strengths and Limitations • Implementation and Analysis **5. Identifying Social Impacts: Nominal Group Technique** • Origin of Nominal Group Technique (NGT) • Public Consultation and Community Engagement • Role of NGT • Designing NGT for Public Forum • Facilitating NGT • Guarding Biases and Limitations • Interpreting Information

6. **Identifying Social Impacts: Community Survey**
    - Survey Design
    - Sampling
    - Developing Survey Questions
    - Pilot Testing
    - Implementing Survey
    - Data Analysis

7. **Cross Impact Analysis**
    - Cross Impacts, Chain Impacts, Compounded Impacts and Accumulated Impacts
    - Constructing Cross Impact Matrices
    - Analyzing Cross Impact Matrices
    - Drawing Conclusions

8. **Relevant Impact Tree**
    - Considering Impact Sequences
    - Using the Tree Concept
    - Constructing Impact Tree
    - Advantages and Limitations

9. **Scenario Generation**
    - What is a Scenario
    - The Use of Scenario in Assessing Social Impacts
    - Developing Scenario
    - Analyzing Scenario
    - Comparing Scenarios

10. **Evaluating Social Impacts**
    - The Concept of Social Well Being
    - Evaluating Social Well Being and Social Impacts
    - Procedure of evaluating social impacts
    - Criteria for evaluative categories/levels

11. **Working Out Mitigation**
    - Objectives of Mitigation
    - Hierarchy of Mitigation Strategies
    - Developing Mitigation Strategies
    - Good Practice in Impact Mitigation
    - Mitigation Criteria

12. **Communicating Findings and Making Recommendations**
    - Making Recommendations
    - Monitoring Social Impacts
    - Impact Management
    - The Politics of SIA
    - Feasibility, Practicability and Effectiveness
    -

Teaching/Learning Methodology	This subject will employ a variety of teaching and learning methods. Interactive lectures integrated with workshops will ensure students to become conversant with the necessary theoretical framework and background and techniques for preparing and implementing social impact assessment. Supervised group project activities will further enable participating students to put into practice the knowledge, skills and specific techniques commonly used in carrying out social impact assessment. Seminar presentations will allow students to exchange their practical experiences and learn from one another the strength and pitfalls of performing assessment tasks. Students thus will be expected to develop real experiences and understanding of the complexities and professionalism involved in implementing social impact assessment. As well, they will also learn about balancing team work and leadership, problem solving and ethics in order to become a responsible, sensitive and empathetic practitioner in the field.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed			
		a	b	c	d
1. Attendance and participation	10%	✓	✓		✓
2. Presentation of assigned tasks	40%	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Final report	50%	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total	100 %				

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

In order to gain knowledge and competence in conducting social impact assessment, students' attendance and active participation in weekly interactive lectures and workshops are not only compulsory but graded by their performance in the various tasks to which they are assigned to complete. They will be also required to present interim reports on their group project in class before they complete a written final report on their social impact assessment project at the end of the semester.

Student Study Effort Expected

Class contact:	
▪ Lecture and workshop	39 Hrs.
Other student study effort:	
▪ Self-directed studies	22 Hrs.
▪ Preparation of assigned tasks	20 Hrs.
▪ Preparation of group final report	25 Hrs.
▪ Fieldwork	15 Hrs.
Total student study effort	121 Hrs.

Reading List and References	Essential Arce-Gomez, A., Donovan, J.D., & Bedggood, R.E. (2015). Social impact assessments: Developing a consolidated conceptual framework, *Environmental Impact Assessment Review,* 50: 85–94. Barrow, C.J. (2000). *Social impact assessment: An introduction.* London: Hodder Arnold. Becker, H. A., & Vanclay, F. (Eds.) (2003). *The international handbook of social impact assessment: Conceptual and methodological advances.* Cheltenham, Colchester, UK: Edward Elgar. Burdge, R.J. (2004). *A community guide to social impact assessment. (3rd Ed.).* Middleton, WI: Social Ecology Press. Vanclay, F. et. al. (2015). *Social impact assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects.* [Online] Accessible on: http://www.iaia.org/pdf/IAIA%202015%20Social%20Impact%20Assessment%20 guidance%20document.pdf. Supplementary Adler, M., & Ziglio, E. (1996). *Gazing into the oracle: The Delphi method and its application to social policy and public health.* London; Bristol, PA: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. André, P., B., Enserink, D. C., & Croal, P. (2006). *Public participation international best practice principles. Special Publication Series No. 4.* Fargo, USA: International Association for Impact. [Online]. Accessible on http://www.iaia.org/publicdocuments/special-publications/SP4%20web.pdf. Esteves, A. M., Franks, D.M., & Vanclay, F. (2012). The state of the art of social impact assessment. *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal* (special issue on '*Impact Assessment: a Global Review of the State-of-the Art'*), 30(1): 35-44. Franks, D.M., Brereton, D., & Moran, C.J. (2011). Cumulative social impacts. In F. Vanclay and A.M. Esteves (Eds.) *New directions in social impact assessment: Conceptual and methodological advances* (pp. 202-220). Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar. Garland, E. (2007). *Future, Inc.: How businesses can anticipate and profit from what's next.* New York**:** AMACOM. (Chapter 6: Scenario Generation). Hawtin, M., Hughes, G., & Percy-Smith, J. (1994). *Community profiling: Auditing social needs.* Buckingham: Open University Press. Interorganizational Committee on Principles and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment (IOCPG) (2003). U.S. principles and guidelines for social impact assessment. *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal,* 21(3): 233-270. (Also appeared in *Environmental policy and NEPA: Past, present, and future,* edited by Ray Clark and Larry Canter 1997, Boca Raton, Fla.: St. Lucie Press, Chapter 14: Putting People in the Environment: Principles for Social Impact Assessment,

pp. 229-250).

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Mathur, H. M. (2011). Social impact assessment: A tool for planning better resettlement. *Social Change*, 41(1): 97-120.

Momtaz, S., & Kabir, S.M.Z. (2013). *Evaluating environmental and social impact assessment in developing countries* [Electronic Resource]*.* (Chapter 5). Waltham, MA: Elsevier.

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Pope, J., Bond, A., Morrison-Saunders, A., & Retief, F. (2013). Advancing the theory and practice of impact assessment: Setting the research agenda. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review,* 41: 1-9.

Prenzel, P.V., & Vanclay, F. (2014). How social impact assessment can contribute to conflict management. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review, 45: 30–37.*

Tang, B.S, Wong, S.W., & Lau, M.C.H. (2008). Social impact assessment and public participation in China: A case study of land requisition in Guangzhou. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review,* 28(1):57-72.

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