

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 33949**Name:** Toxicological Risk Evaluation**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies**ECTS Credits:** 4.5**Academic year:** 2025-26**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1205 - Degree in Human Nutrition and Dietetics	Facultat de Farmàcia i Ciències de L'alimentació	4	First quarter

**SUBJECT-MATTER**

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1205 - Degree in Human Nutrition and Dietetics	Toxicological risk assessment	ELECTIVES

**COORDINATION**

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**SUMMARY**

The Toxicological Risk Assessment (33949) is an elective subject of four-year degree, Human Nutrition and Dietetics, in the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Valencia. This subject has in the current curriculum a total of 4.5 ECTS credits taught during the first quarter.

The fundamental objective of this subject is to study the toxicological processes on organ systems and the methodologies for the risk assessment. Based in the toxic properties of an agent or mixtures and the conditions of human and environmental exposures, to identify the probability and severity of adverse effects to human and the environment. Also, in order to study the most relevant risk situations due to the presence of toxic substances in food.

**PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE****RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.



## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

To study Toxicological Risk Assessment, the knowledge of a number of basic concepts of biology, chemistry and biochemistry are needed. These concepts are part of the contents of the subjects taught during the previous courses in the Degree in Human Nutrition and Dietetics.

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Be able to estimate the risks associated with exposure to chemicals and to toxics in consumer products, in the workplace and in the environment.

Be able to interpret the data obtained from the risk assessment and establish safety limits.

Be able to interpret the establishment of safety margins.

Design and evaluate toxicological tests.

Keep a receptive attitude and understand the meaning of the knowledge transmitted.

Know about forms of exposure to toxics.

Know and be able to use the basic sources of information and databases that are used for risk assessment.

Know the different toxicokinetic and ecotoxicokinetic processes of toxic substances.

Know the international protocols of toxicological tests to evaluate toxic effects.

Know the methods most commonly used for risk assessment.

Know the restrictions of use derived from the assessment of toxic effects.

Ser capaz de establecer buenas relaciones con otros miembros del grupo y trabajar en equipo.

Ser consciente de la importancia de su participación activa en el proceso de su propio desarrollo intelectual y científico.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. Risk Assessment Toxicology. Basic concepts.

- Risk assessment. Introduction. International organizations. Stages of risk assessment.

**Bibliography.**

- Hazard Identification. Physico-chemical properties of the toxic. Structure-activity relationships.
- Exposure assessment. Risk Characterization.
- Concept of Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI). Criteria for establishing the value of ADI.
- Parameters in food toxicology. Uncertainty factors.
- Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) concept. History and evolution of the TTC. TTCs proposed according to the chemical structure. Validation TTC concept.

**2. Specific Risk Assessment.**

- Vitamin and mineral supplementation: risk assessment.
- Medicinal plants.
- Metals: Bioavailability and risk assessment.
- Risk assessment of food additives and contaminants.
- Toxicological aspects of colourings and sweeteners.
- Assessment of risk from mycotoxins exposure.
- Assessment of risk from derived toxic compounds.

**WORKLOAD****PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Tutorials	2,00
Theory	30,00
Seminar	2,00
Computer classroom practice	8,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>42,00</b>

**NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	10,00
Independent study and work	17,00
Preparation of lessons	29,50
Preparation for assessment activities	7,00
Resolution of case studies	4,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>67,50</b>

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

The development of the course is structured as follows:

**Lectures** will include 3 hours each week in which the teacher provides an overview of the topic, and the



information necessary to understand the contents of the subject. In these classes the students themselves are encouraged to conduct the search for accessory or additional information, to participate actively, and to use of bibliographical sources. The student is recommended to review the material previously available in the virtual classroom. In some of these sessions, activities and problems will be raised that will need to be solved and handed in as a task, these activities will be evaluable.

**Specialized tutoring sessions in groups.** Small groups of students will be organized to guide the students and determine the functioning of the course. This will be the ideal environment for students to raise the different issues that they arise throughout the development of the program.

**Practical sessions in computer lab** will be made in small groups and attendance is mandatory. The student's work will be followed step by step, to evaluate if they acquire the skills in finding information on websites and databases related to toxicology and to resolve practical cases. Students will expose the results and discuss their interpretation. At the end, students must give a report with the results.

**Seminars / jobs.** Small working groups will work on an issue raised by the teacher in order to expose the rest of the class and generate further debate. A script is given to the rest of the students prior to the speech. The group will be personally supervised by the teacher on a regular basis and guide the search of bibliographic sources and critical analysis of the data found in these sources. The teacher will advise on the overall approach to work, so to build capacity for work, synthesis and research student.

In the theoretical and practical sessions, examples of the applications of the subject content in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) will be indicated, as well as in the proposals of topics for the coordinated seminars. This is intended to integrate the application of the SDGs in toxicological risk assessment teaching to provide students with related knowledge and skills, as well as to promote reflection and criticism. Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, special emphasis will be placed on the following goals related to toxicological risk assessment: SDG2, SDG3, SDG4, SDG5, SDG6, SDG12.

## EVALUATION

To evaluate the theoretical contents, there will be an examination corresponding to the contents of the program. The note achieved will contribute to the final with a rate of **60%**.

Evaluable activities will be carried out in the classroom throughout the semester, which will have to be handed in as assignments and which will account for **10%** of the subject's overall grade.

Practical classes will be evaluated through the attendance of practice classes and a written exam that will be held in the same call that the theoretical exam. The score in this evaluation represents **20%** of the final grade.

The preparation and presentation of seminars represent **10%** of the final grade. It will evaluate the content, structure and expression of written work and the capacity of synthesis and clarity in oral presentation.

In addition to the assessment of learning, the teacher directly assesses the student's attitude and



participation in both, theoretical and practical classes.

Evidence of copying or plagiarism in any of the assessable tasks will result in failure to pass the subject and in appropriate disciplinary action being taken. Please note that, in accordance with article 13. d) of the Statute of the University Student (RD 1791/2010, of 30 December), it is the duty of students to refrain from using or participating in dishonest means in assessment tests, assignments or university official documents. In the event of fraudulent practices, the ¿Action Protocol for fraudulent practices at the University of Valencia¿ will be applied (ACGUV 123/2020): <https://www.uv.es/sgeneral/Protocols/C83sp.pdf>

## REFERENCES

- Ballantyne B., Marrs T.C., Syversen T. General and Applied Toxicology. Third Edition. Volume 1. Ed. A John Wiley and Sons, Ltd, Publication (2009)
- Bataller Sifre R Toxicología Clínica. Universitat de Valencia. Valencia (2004).
- Casarett & Doull¿s. Toxicology. The basic science of poisons. Ed. Curtis D. Klaasen. Mc Graw Hill Medical. Seventh Edition (2008)
- <http://busca-tox.com> Portal de búsqueda de información toxicológica.
- <http://www.aetox.es>. Asociación Española de Toxicología.
- [http://www.aesan.gob.es/AECOSAN/web/seguridad\\_alimentaria/seccion/evaluacion\\_de\\_riesgos.htm](http://www.aesan.gob.es/AECOSAN/web/seguridad_alimentaria/seccion/evaluacion_de_riesgos.htm)
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