

Sustainable Development (SD) (ESR5062)

Syllabus

Summer Term 2021

Time:	Wednesday, March 17, 24 & 31, April 7, 14 & 28: 15:30 – 18:45 Presentation sessions: Tuesday, June 29: 15:30 – 18:45 Wednesday, June 30 13:45 – 20:30 Oral exams: July 9, 2021
Room/Virtual Office:	Online – alfaview-link: https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/7cdcf7f-b43f-4f5a-b3bd-591a2d56507c
Begin:	March 17, 2021
ECTS-Credits:	5 (together with International Economics)
Level:	Advanced Level II
Prerequisites:	Foundations in Economics (Module)
Accessibility:	Course is compulsory for 2 nd semester MBA-IM students and open to international guest students on MBA-level

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, the participants shall be capable of:

- analyzing the nature and dimensions of sustainable development and how they affect transnational corporations
- identifying normative ethical backgrounds of economics and sustainable development as well as potential conflicts for society and business
- acquiring a clear perception of the necessity, drivers, consequences and challenges of sustainable development that companies are confronted with
- discussing the relation between economic growth and sustainable development and assessing the relevance of efficiency and sufficiency options – for the economy as well as for companies
- understanding the decisive role of governments, NGOs and other stakeholders, as main drivers of the global corporate environment.
- analyzing, explaining and discussing environmental policy instruments

Course contributions to the MBA program goals / learning outcomes

Goal	Learning Objectives	Course Contributions to Goal	Assessment
1 Responsible leadership in organizational contexts	1.1 Knowledge of leadership principles 1.2 Application of leadership principles 1.3 Critical reflection of leadership concepts		
2 Creative problem solving skills in a complex business environment	2.1 Ability to identify, differentiate and classify problems 2.2 Ability to analyze problems (instrumental competence) 2.3 Ability to find creative solutions (systemic competence) 2.4 Ability to present problems (communicative competence)	Understanding of main determinants and effects of globalization as a framework condition for globally acting companies; Critical discussion of causes / consequences and benefits / risks of globalization. Discussion of economic topics in international policy debates Presentation and discussion of the term paper. Presentation of an executive summary	Discussion within classes, Term Paper, Presentation and Discussion of Term Paper . Oral exam.
3 Research Skills	3.1 Methodological knowledge (extending knowledge) 3.2 Competence in applying relevant state of the art research methods (instrumental competence) 3.3 Ability to collect innovative results by using relevant research methods (systemic competence)	Based upon academic literature research students have to prepare a term paper and a presentation in teams of 2 students.	Discussion within classes, Term Paper, Presentation and Discussion of Term Paper and Case Study
4 Management of Innovation	4.1 Fundamental knowledge of operational innovation processes 4.2 Ability to assess a company's innovation potential 4.3 Ability to develop complex technological strategies	Also depending on specific presentation topics students learn how sustainability challenges create pressure and potentials for technological and social innovation (e.g. resource efficiency, microfinance, BoP)	Participation in Class Presentation and discussion
5 Management of the challenges of global sustainability and awareness for social and corporate responsibilities	5.1 Fundamental knowledge of sustainability issues 5.2 Ability to identify and analyze sustainability issues and its causes 5.3 Development of sustainability strategies	Understanding of main determinants and effects of sustainable development Critical analysis of sustainability and globalization, economic and human development, poverty, inequality, and child labor, importance of institutions for sustainable development, corruption, socially sustainable development, environmental sustainability Economic foundations and three pillars of sustainable development. Ethical foundations of sustainable development as a normative concept of intra- and intergenerational justice. Analysis of globalization criticism, Economic functions of low wages in developing countries, etc. Presentation and discussion with Daimler CSR Senior Manager.	Discussion within classes, Term Paper, Presentation and Discussion of Term Paper

Basic outline and organization:

The course consists of two main elements:

- 1) **Interactive lectures with discussion:** in the first weeks of the semester, an introduction to the foundations of Sustainable Development is given. The introductory sessions follow a primarily interactive lecture-style approach. Preparation based upon suggested basic readings and continuing active class participation throughout the term is expected. The slides and additional materials for each session will be uploaded to the e-learning platform.
- 2) **Preparation, presentation and discussion of an academic paper on a current issue of Sustainable Development debates.** Based upon the knowledge acquired in the interactive lectures, students will work in teams of two on a current topic of policy debates in Sustainable Development. Thereby, each team of two students prepares, presents and discusses a 20 pages (only text, excluding title page, table of contents, appendix reference list...) academic term paper.

Please note that within the “Sustainable Globalization I” module, every student either does a term paper in “ECO 5061 International Economics” or in “ESR 5062 Sustainable Development.”

Papers are written in Times New Roman, Font Size 12, 1.5 line spacing, 2.5 cm margins on the left and right side, 2 cm at the top and at the bottom. For further issues and for preparing the paper in general the students have to follow the “Guidelines of the Business School for Academic Writing”.

The assignment of topics will take place in the first session of the course. Participants are encouraged to submit and discuss drafts of a team paper’s table of contents and reference list (compliant with academic standards) until April 30.

Date of delivery of the term paper is June 16, 2021. Presentations have to be delivered until June 18. The presentations and discussions of the papers for ESR 5062 are scheduled on June 29 and June 30. Each presentation will last 30 minutes for a team of two students with an additional discussion of 20-30 minutes.

Grading:

Attendance in the introductory sessions and in the presentations of your fellow students is mandatory. Preparation and active participation are expected.

The grade for the module “Sustainable Globalization I” is based upon:

- (1) the quality of the written term paper (40%),
- (2) the presentation and your participation within class and the discussions after the presentations (25%),
- (3) a joint oral exam for the module “Sustainable Globalization I” focusing on the contents of both courses and on selected presentations (35 %).

Please note that it is not possible to pass if the written term paper does not achieve a sufficient grade (4.0).

Main course topics:

- Sustainable Development – Concepts, Governance and Corporations
- Economic Sustainability and Growth
- Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability
- Multidimensional Development: Environmental Sustainability
- Revisiting Good Governance, Institutions and Corporations

Presentation topics

To be specified in the first or second session.

Course Materials (most recent editions):

Todaro, M. P.; Smith, S. C.: Economic Development, Addison-Wesley, Boston.

Perkins, D. H.; Radelet, S., Lindauer, D. L.: Economics of Development, W.W. Norton, New York, London.

Periodicals:

The **Human Development Report** (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/>), published annually by the United Nations Development Program, reports on human development issues throughout the world. It contains a wealth of data, including the Human Development Index. The full text of the report and all data are available online free of charge in PDF format (statistics are also available in Excel format).

The **World Development Report** and The **World Development Indicators Report** are published annually by the World Bank (<http://econ.worldbank.org>). Each issue of the report addresses a specific economic development issue. The full text is available from this site free of charge in PDF format.

Interesting articles on numerous current topics in development economics can be found e.g. in "The Economist" (www.economist.com).

Availability of the lecturer and teaching philosophy:

As the topics are decisive for society and corporations we will aim at an interactive course and understanding. Therefore, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or problems. The longer you hesitate the fewer options I will have to guide you.

Professor Dr. Jürgen Volkert
Colloquium: Monday, 13:45 – 15:15 in the virtual office
Email: juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de

Preliminary schedule for ESR5062 –Sustainable Development

Wed, March 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Sustainable Development – a first overview • Sustainable Development – Concepts, Governance and Corporations
Wed, March 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Economic Sustainability and Growth
Wed, March 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Economic Sustainability and Growth • Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability.
Wed, April 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability
Wed, April 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability • Multidimensional Development: Environmental Sustainability
Wed, April 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Environmental Sustainability
Fri, April 30	Last date for submission of the drafts of table of contents and reference list/bibliography (compliant with academic standards) to juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de
Wed, June 16	Delivery of the term papers – please submit a printed version and an electronic version of your SD paper to both, juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de and harald.strotmann@hs-pforzheim.de
Fri, June 18	Delivery of the presentations – please submit an electronic version of your SD presentation to both, juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de and harald.strotmann@hs-pforzheim.de
Tue, June 29	Presentation and discussion of term papers – part I (ESR5062)
Wed, June 30	Presentation and discussion of term papers – part II (ESR5062)
Fri, July 09	Oral exams (also on International Economics)