

Syllabus
Sustainable Development (SD) (ESR 5062)
Professor Dr. Jürgen Volkert
Summer Semester 2023

Level	Master
Credits	5 ECTS (together with International Economics)
Student Contact Hours	2 per week (45 minutes)
Workload	Workload 150 hours, 60 hours within class and 90 hours for self-study (together with International Economics)
Prerequisites	Foundations in Economics (Module)
Time	<p>Wednesday, March 15 & March 29: only 15:30 – 17:00</p> <p>March 22, April 5, April 12, April 19, and April 26: 13:45 – 17:00</p> <p>April 19: Practitioners in Sustainability: P. Dhawan 17:15 – 18:45</p> <p>Presentation sessions:</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Wednesday, June 14: 13:45 – 17:00</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Wednesday, June 21: 13:45 – 17:00</p> <p>Oral exams: July 5 and July 6 individual times: t. b. a.</p>
Room	W.4.1.06
Start Date	March 15, 2023
	<p>Name Professor Dr. Jürgen Volkert</p> <hr/> <p>Office W.4.1.01</p> <p>If it is more convenient for you – just send me an e-mail and we will meet in my virtual office (see below)</p> <hr/> <p>Virtual Office Alfaview-Link:</p> <p>https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/7cdcf7f-b43f-4f5a-b3bd-591a2d56507c</p> <hr/> <p>Colloquium Tuesday, 13:45 – 15:15</p> <hr/> <p>Phone 0049-7231-286286</p> <hr/> <p>Email juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de</p>

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 social and ecological sustainable development that companies are confronted with
- discussing the relation between economic growth and sustainable development and assessing the relevance of efficiency, consistency 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 Intended Learning Outcomes and their Contribution to Program Intended Learning Outcomes / Program Goals

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 and sustainability as a framework condition for Transnational Corporations. Critical discussion of causes / consequences and benefits / risks of globalization for sustainable development. Discussion of sustainability topics in international debates Presentation and discussion of the term paper.	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 scientific 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 their causes 5.3 Development and critical assessment of sustainability strategies	<p>Understanding of main determinants and effects of sustainable development</p> <p>Critical analysis of sustainability and globalization, economic and human development, poverty, inequality, human and labor rights issues; importance of institutions for sustainable development, corruption, socially sustainable development, environmental sustainability</p> <p>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.</p>	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 material 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 ECO 5061 course. Participants must submit and discuss drafts of a team paper’s outline (table of contents) and reference list and examples of citations in text or footnotes (compliant with academic standards) until April 30.

Date of delivery of the term paper is June 5, 2023. Presentations have to be delivered until June 12, 2023. The presentations and discussions of the papers for ESR 5062 are scheduled on June 14, 2023 and June 21, 2023. Each presentation will last 30 minutes for a team of two students with an additional discussion of ca. 25-30 minutes.

- Assignment of topics: March 16, 2023 in the ECO 5061 session.
- Date of delivery of a draft of the outline, your current list of references and of examples for citation: April 30, 2023.
- Date of delivery of the term paper: June 5, 2023.
- Date of delivery for presentations: June 12, 2023.
- The presentations and discussions of the papers for ESR5062 are scheduled for June 14, 2023 and June 21, 2023. Each presentation will last max. 25-30 minutes for a team of two students with an additional discussion of also ca. 30 minutes.

Assessment and 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%),
 - By April 30 you have to deliver a draft of the outline and your current list of references as a basis for a personal meeting in which you present your current status. 10% of the grade for the written term paper depend on the grade for the quality of this submission. Please make sure that your preliminary list of references is organized according to academic standards already. Moreover, give examples (1) how you plan to cite in your paper and (2) for the integration of figures and tables into your paper.
- (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).

Outline of the Course

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

Presentation topics

1. Interpersonal trust in others: determinants and impacts on social capital, poverty and development
2. Human rights due diligence in global corporate supply chains
3. Planned obsolescence – a challenge for sustainability
4. Sustainable investment to mitigate Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks: its rationale, importance, challenges and ways forward
5. The EU Emissions Trading System (ETS): its goals, rationale, current state, challenges, and perspectives

Literature and Course Materials

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 regularly 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 regularly 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.

Teaching and Learning Approach

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.

Preliminary schedule for ESR5062 –Sustainable Development

Wed, March 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Sustainable Development – a first overview
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15:30–17:00	
Wed, March 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development – Concepts, Governance and Corporations Multidimensional Development: Economic Sustainability and Growth
Wed, March 29 15:30–17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Economic Sustainability and Growth
Wed, April 5 13:45-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability
Wed, April 12 13:45-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Social Sustainability
Wed, April 19 13:45 – 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multidimensional Development: Environmental Sustainability
Wed, April 19 17:15 – 18:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Practitioners in Sustainability” series featuring Piyush Dhawan: “Plastics and Marine Litter and the role of the Private Sector” (working title)
Wed, April 26 13:45 – 17:00	<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 to juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de
June 5, 2023	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
June 12, 2023	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
Wed, June 14	Presentation and discussion of term papers – part I (ESR5062)
Wed, June 21	Presentation and discussion of term papers – part II (ESR5062)
July 5 and 6	Oral exams

