

International Summer University 2024
Course: Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability
Level: Undergraduate /Bachelor -



HOCHSCHULE OSNABRÜCK
 UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Learning objectives (also taking into account students' soft skill competences): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an understanding of the function and importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainability. • Develop an understanding of Systems Thinking, i.e., fields of study do not exist in a vacuum and must be understood as integrated systems which dynamically affect one another. • Understand critical thinking and analysis against historical developments and paradigmatic financial and economic thought. • Understand basic theories of how many of our business practices work counterproductively to a sustainable environment. • Appreciate the diverse institutional and societal responses to CSR and Sustainability in the EU and the USA. • Understand the current societal design of the consumer economy and its limited future. • Develop a mindset of solutions as opposed to disaster. • Development of communication, self-management and group working skills. 	
Learning contents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical development of modern society and economics and how this has influenced our paradigms in finance, economics, marketing & government • The role of property rights, agency theory and corporate governance • The role of risk management in CSR and Sustainability • Contemporary issues in the economy, business, politics and the environment <p>Whenever possible, students are encouraged to read additional materials on and, discuss additional theories, such as behavioral economics, stewardship theory, stakeholder theory, and etc.</p>	
Skills enhanced include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and comprehension skills of academic literature • Communication skills (e.g. class discussion, presentations, and course paper) • Problem-solving skills • Team work in international groups • Critical thinking skills 	
Teaching methods	<p>The course will provide further insight into vital topics of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainability, specifically with respect to historical development and contrasting political systems (EU vs. USA). Learning outcomes will be achieved by lectures, mini-case studies, group work and other appropriate methods.</p>

Requirements/prerequisites	<p>This course is designed for undergraduate students studying business management or international management with an interest in the relationship between government, the economy and society. Students should have successfully completed an introductory course in management.</p>
Key literature	<p>Articles will be provided for reading prior to the start of the seminar.</p> <p>Additional recommended readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epstein, M (2008). Making Sustainability Work: Best Practices in Managing and Measuring Corporate Social, Environmental, and Economic Impacts. Berrett-Koehler Publishers. • Meadows, D. (2008). Thinking in Systems. Chelsea Green Publishing. • Nemetz, P. (2013). Business and the Sustainability Challenge: An Integrated Perspective. Routledge Publishing.
Examination <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Type of examination 2. Exam aids 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a) Scholarly (proper citations) individual paper (5-10 pages). This should be a deeper look at an aspect or company handled within the group presentation. b) Group presentation 2. Research using course materials and external sources
Max. participants	25
Language of lecture	English
Promoter of the module	
Module instructor/Home university	Bruce Kibler Gannon University, Erie, PA, USA
Hours all in all <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Time spent in classroom b) Time spent outside classroom 	<p>Hours all in all: 150 hours</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) 60 hours b) 90 hours: Time for preparation: 45 hours, Time for literature studies: 45 hours
ECTS-Credits	5