

Course title: Principles and Concepts of Sustainability				
Course code: MPP 163	No. of credits: 2	L-T-P distribution: 20-08-00	Learning hours: 28	
Pre-requisite course code and title (if any):				
Department: Department of Business and Sustainability				
Course coordinator(s):		Course instructor(s):		
Contact details:				
Course type: Core		Course offered in:		
Course description On successful completion of the course, students should be able to discuss the concept of sustainability and able to see how it translates into realities of organizations and communities. The ambition of the course is to empower students to critically analyse different, often competing, definitions of sustainability driven by perspectives and interests of societal stakeholders. It will introduce sustainability visions and practices relevant for the business community.				
Course objectives The learning process will be highly participatory with students encouraged to take different positions with regards to sustainability principles and practices. A special emphasis would be put to providing historical perspective to the concepts, and strategies employs by businesses and their stakeholders as well as various ideological interpretations of these concepts and strategies in individual contexts. Finally, the students will be encouraged to work with discussion of multiple solutions for sustainability challenges. - The course consists of combination of the in-class lectures, seminars and course assignments. The feedback on the assignment will be given during the in-class group reporting. Full attendance and participation in the assignment is required.				
Course contents				
Module	Topic	L	T	P
1	Sustainable development – evolution, approaches, interpretations The students are requested to prepare and conduct two debate on the importance of environmental/social aspects of SD and on probabilities of various world scenarios	3	1	0
2	What drives business – issues and trends	2	1	0
3	Is the business of business, is business? Through the group discussion and presentation, the students are requested to explore various forms of “corporations of the future”. They will also work with analysis of a case of sustainable enterprise.	4	1	0
4	Business (corporate) sustainability The students are introduced to analyze a case relevant for understanding of stakeholder engagement and communication (Disney case)	3	1	0
5	Sustainable Production and Consumption In addition to the discussion, the students will work with the study case of Rio Tinto focusing on the company’s strategy in biodiversity and ecosystem serve	4	2	0
6	Corporate Social Responsibility The students will be requested to organize a debate on the role of CSR in the progress towards SD	2	1	0
7	Pro-poor development the students will work with developing principles of business engagement with poor communities	2	1	0

	Total	20	8	
Evaluation Criterion:				
Test 1: To prepare and conduct a debates – probabilities of various world scenarios: 10%				
Test 2: To explore various forms of “corporations of the future”. Analysis of a case of sustainable enterprise: 20%				
Test 3: Disney case - stakeholder engagement and communication: 10%				
Test 4: Case of Rio Tinto focusing on the company’s strategy in biodiversity and ecosystem services: 20%				
Test 5: To prepare and conduct a debate on the role of CSR in the progress towards SD: 10%				
Test 6: Developing principles of business engagement with poor communities: 20%				
Test 7: To prepare and conduct a debate –importance of environmental/social aspects of SD: 10%				
Learning Outcome:				
On successful completion of the course, the students would be able to -				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the concept of sustainability and able to see how it translates into realities of organizations and communities. • Be able critically analyse different, often competing, definitions of sustainability driven by perspectives and interests of societal stakeholders. • Become familiar with sustainability visions and practices relevant for the business community at the level of companies, supply chain, communities. 				
References:				
Dresner S. (2002) The Principles of Sustainability, Earthscan, London.				
Robertson M. (2017) Sustainability Principles and Practice, Routledge, London & NY.				
Materials:				
Vanegas JA (2003) Road Map & Principles for Built Environment Sustainability, Environmental Science & Technology, Vol.37(23), pp. 5363-72.				
Lindsey TC. (2011) Sustainable Principles: Common Values for Achieving Sustainability, Journal of Cleaner Production, Vol.19(5), pp. 561-65.				
Additional Information:				
Student Responsibility:				

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Course Reviewers:

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