Valid from 2025.HS

Module description: Sustainability – Sufficiency – Efficiency – Consistency

Module Code	w.MA.XX.SSEC.23HS
ECTS Credits	3
Language of Instruction/Examination	English
Module Description	Sustainability is the practice of using natural resources, such as water, soil, or air responsibly so that they can support both present and future generations. The concept of sustainability provides a normative framework for the implementation of sustainability and is also a subject of research. This module reflects on the root causes of unsustainability and the most important trends and concepts of sustainability, relating them to the concept of the circular economy. Sufficiency, efficiency, and consistency are presented as important strategies for implementing sustainable development. Based on current debates and practical examples, advantages and disadvantages are considered and their integration into circular economy concepts are discussed.
Organizational Unit	Zurich CTR f Sustainability Leadership
Module Coordinator	Annette Jenny
Deputy Module Coordinator	Rolf Krebs
Program and Specialization	• Circular Economy Management
Legal Framework	Academic Regulations MSc in Circular Economy Management dated 02.06.2022, Appendix to the Academic Regulations for the degree program in Circular Economy Management, first adopted on 23.09.2022
Module Category	**Module Type** Compulsory
Prerequisite Knowledge	Students are able to explain the principles of sustainability and key concepts of sustainable development, for example, the Strategic Development Goals framework and triple-bottom-line model.
Contribution to Program Learning Objectives (by the concerned Module)	• Professional Competence • Methodological Competence • Social Competence • Self-Competence
Contribution to Program Learning Objectives	**Professional Competence** • Knowing and Understanding Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance • Apply, Analyze, and Synthesize Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance • Evaluate Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance **Methodological Competence** • Problem-Solving & Critical Thinking • Scientific Methodology • Work Methods, Techniques, and Procedures • Information Literacy • Creativity & Innovation **Social Competence** • Written Communication • Oral Communication • Teamwork & Conflict Management • Intercultural Insight & Ability to Change Perspective **Self-Competence** • Self-Management & Self-Reflection • Ethical & Social Responsibility • Learning & Change

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Module Learning Objectives

Students...
- Students understand key concepts of sustainability.
- Students reflect on the root causes (e.g., growth paradigm, consumer culture, and inequality) that lead to unsustainability in current economic and private domains and discuss implications & solutions.
- Students understand the concept of eco-economic decoupling and its implication for the application of sustainability strategies & the circular economy.
- Students understand the concepts of efficiency, sufficiency, and consistency and can relate them to the concept of the circular economy.
- Students reflect on and justify their own roles in the context of sustainability.

Module Content

- Key concepts of sustainability, such as sustainability models, strategies, and concepts of life quality & well-being.
- Root causes of unsustainability (such as the growth paradigm, consumer culture, and inequality) and sustainable development in a global context.
- The concept of eco-economic decoupling and its implication for sustainability strategies and the circular economy.
- Sustainability strategies of efficiency, sufficiency, and consistency and their relationship to the circular economy.

Links to other modules

This module is linked to the following modules:

Digital Learning Resources

- Reader

Methods of Instruction

- Exercises
- Case Studies
- Interactive Instruction
- Application Tasks
- Project Work
- Lecture
- Literature Review

Social Settings Used:
- Pair Work
- Group Work
- Individual Work

Type of Instruction

	Classroom Instruction	Guided Self-Study	Autonomous Self-Study
Lecture	6 h	-	
Excercise	-	-	
Project Work	-	30 h	
Seminar	24 h	30 h	
Total	**30 h**	**60 h**	**0 h**

Performance Assessment

End-of-module exam	Form	Length (min.)	Weighting
-			
Permitted Resources			

Others	Assessment	Format	Length (min.)	Weighting
Talk/oral presentation	Grade	Einzelarbeit	15	40.00
Written Assignment	Grade	Einzelarbeit	0	60.00

Classroom Attendance Requirement

60%

Compulsory Reading

Recommended Reading

Comments