

# HWR Berlin Summer School 2021

## Sustainable Economics and Corporate Responsibility (Online)

### Overview

This course provides insights into sustainable economics and how companies can contribute to the sustainability of the economy.

Sustainable economic activity aims to establish ecological, economic and social standards for present and future generations that are in line with nature's natural boundaries. The starting point for this intensive online course are the ten key statements of the network of sustainable economics.

During the course we will explore the question of growth vs. the sustainability paradigm, the effects of governmental instruments and programmes, and a methodology to evaluate sustainability within a specific economy.

### Date

12 July – 23 July 2021

### Course Content

- Sustainable Economics
- The role of sustainable sourcing as a material topic within CSR-reporting of a firm

### Course structure

- Interactive virtual class room discussions with the lecturer and fellow students (25%)
- Recorded lectures, assignments, self-study and group work (75%)

### Course Language

English. Proof of English proficiency (TOEFL iBT 90 or equivalent) is required.

### Prerequisites

Upper undergraduate and graduate students of business and economics, international relations, and related fields

### Course Fees

€ 580

This includes tuition and programme fees.\*

\*An additional fee of 50€ applies for applicants who wish to complete extra work and receive an extra credit (5 ECTS in total)

### Credits

- Equivalent to an on-site course with 40 contact hours
- 4 - 5 ECTS

### Registration Deadline

- 15 May 2021

### Contact, Enquiries and Registration

HWR Berlin Summer and Winter School

Email: [summer@hwr-berlin.de](mailto:summer@hwr-berlin.de)

[www.hwr-berlin.de/summerschools](http://www.hwr-berlin.de/summerschools)

# Syllabus

Sustainable economic activity aims to establish ecological, economic and social standards for present and future generations that are in line with nature's natural boundaries. This intensive online course introduces to the topic of sustainable economics. Students will learn to analyse the resource productivity of specific economies in relation to economic growth. As each company must be analysed on an individual basis employing a materiality analysis, as set out in the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) standards, students will get to know reporting standards and the process of materiality analysis. In the second module, the course focuses on ecological and social impacts throughout the entire value chain. Students will explore and discuss sustainable sourcing (definitions, tools, methods, goals) and compare national views on the topic.

## Lecturer

Dr. Katharina Gapp-Schmeling



## Course delivery

The structure of this online course combines asynchronous lectures and assignments with daily live discussions (Mon – Fri, 1-2 hours daily). Students may earn an extra credit by writing a contribution chapter for a collective paper after the course delivery (deadline tba).

For a more detailed syllabus, please email [summer@hwr-berlin.de](mailto:summer@hwr-berlin.de)

## Lecturer

Dr. Therese Kirsch



## Week 1: Sustainable Economics

Day	Topic	Assignments
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainability – basic concepts (pre-reading)</li> <li>Contribution of mainstream economics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online test</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key statements of sustainable economics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compare to traditional economics and/ or ecological economics</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth vs. the sustainability paradigm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>analyse the resource productivity of specific economies</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instruments and governmental programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>give examples of governmental programmes and evaluate their effects</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measurement and Sustainable Development Goals</li> <li>Assessment: essay on a related topic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure sustainable achievements in a country</li> </ul>

## Week 2: The role of sustainable sourcing as a material topic within CSR-reporting of a firm

Day	Topic	Assignments
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-reading for week 2 (tba)</li> <li>Group exchange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online test</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GRI</li> <li>UN global compact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fill in ideas for the questions in the teams-notebook</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparison of different standards / certifications for CSR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fill in your findings on the standard you looked at (submit a short voicemail) – fill in ideas for comparison</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National differences in sustainable sourcing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read selected papers and give a short overview in the teams notebook</li> <li>Upload the papers</li> <li>Submit ideas for the collective paper.</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final conclusion, finding a structure for the collective paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final discussion. Distribution of chapters which students will write for the final assignment.</li> </ul>

\*Course content and lecturers may be subject to change