

P2.1: Conceptual Approaches of Sustainable Development (M.Sc.) / Seminar

Conceptual Approaches of Sustainable Development

Lecturer

PD Dr. Philipp Namberger

Level☐ B.Sc. ☒ M.Sc.**Assessment**Presentation in class (30 min),
term paper (6,000 words)

Aim: This seminar addresses general issues of sustainability in an interdisciplinary context. Students will explore sustainability as a multidimensional concept and as a complex challenge for the global community. They will discuss key political texts as well as ethical and sustainability-related topics. The seminar also introduces political strategies and programs that address sustainability issues at various regional levels as well as in different regional contexts. The seminar is designed to be interactive and encourages students to engage in active, constructive discussions.

Organization

Time: Thu, 8-10

Place: Richard-Wagner-Str. 10,
D 114

Workload: 2 SWS, 3 ECTS

Language: German and/or
English

Date	Session	Topic
15.10.26	01	Organizational aspects, introduction
22.10.26	02	Sustainability as a normative guiding concept (e.g. SDGs)
29.10.26	03	Sustainability ethics (anthropocentric vs. ecocentric perspectives, responsibility, moral reasoning, and decision-making) and justice (e.g. inter- vs. intragenerational justice, North–South inequalities and global disparities, environmental justice)
05.11.26	04	Concepts and their visualization, models and theories of sustainability (the three pillars of sustainability, the 3/4/5 P's, the triple bottom line, strong vs. weak sustainability, etc.): differences and similarities
12.11.26	05	Planetary boundaries and global environmental governance
19.11.26	06	Sustainability as a governance challenge (multi-level governance [especially local, regional, national], role of institutions, states, and civil society)
26.11.26	07	Policy instruments for sustainability (market-based tools [e.g., carbon taxes, emissions trading], regulatory vs. voluntary approaches)
03.12.26	08	Sustainability in the context of globalization (e.g. global supply chains and responsibility, local impacts of global processes)
10.12.26	09	Blue and Green Economy (e.g. Circular Economy, C2C)
17.12.26	10	Feeding the planet: sustainable food systems and agrarian transformations
07.01.27	11	Mobility and energy transitions (e.g. rebound effect dilemma, digitalization, AI)
14.01.27	12	Mitigation meets adaptation: navigating Net Zero infrastructures (e.g. CCS) and climate emergency resilience
21.01.27	13	Post-Growth and degrowth approaches (e.g. in tourism)
28.01.27	14	Biodiversity crisis (e.g. rewilding)