



SUMAS

Career-related Studies[®] BUSINESS & SUSTAINABILITY

SAMPLE COURSE CONTENT



Sample Course Content

SUMAS CrS® COURSE FUNDAMENTALS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Sample of two weeks program delivery - February 2021

SAMPLE TOPIC 1: PUTTING SUSTAINABILITY INTO PRACTICE (SUSTAINABILITY TOOLS)

During this course we will:

- Explore different types of sustainability tools: outcome- versus process-based tools
- Learn how to choose and combine sustainability tools for a particular case
- Practice application of sustainability tools in a business context

Learning Outcome Objectives:

Objective 1

Get familiar with main frameworks of sustainability tools and practice their application in a real context scenario.

Objective 2

Understand the logic of choosing a sustainability tool for a specific case.

Objective 3

Understand and practice the combination of outcome- and result-oriented tools.

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SUMAS CrS® COURSE FUNDAMENTALS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Sample of two weeks program delivery - February 2021

SAMPLE TOPIC 1: PUTTING SUSTAINABILITY INTO PRACTICE (SUSTAINABILITY TOOLS)

Time Management:

1. (48 min) Sustainability Tools - Theory
2. (48 min) Sustainability Tools – Application
3. (45 min) Sustainability Tools – Business Simulation
4. (40 min) Sustainability Tools - Application
5. (40 min) Life Cycle Assessment Game
6. (40 min) Sustainability Tools – Online Workshop
7. (48 min) Podcast & Online Forum
8. (48 min) Consolidation: Review & Quiz

GLH¹: 4 hours (240 minutes/mandatory), 2 hours (120minutes/optional)

Planning


Recap of Previous Week and Prior Knowledge

Climate Change Projects: Key Take-Aways and Connection to Sustainability Tools Topic!

No.	Format	Content	Time
1.	Sustainability Tools - Theory	<p>Students will be listening to an Introductory Online Lecture dedicated to Theory & Practice of Sustainability Tools. This session explains the learning outcome objectives, topic's outline, relevant activities, and assessment requirements. Students will watch a video explaining four Principles 'to Win the Sustainability Game' (Conditions of Success) presented by Sustainability Illustrated and designed by the Natural Step. These four Principles serve as a baseline for the topic. Then students will get into specifics of the topic: outcome- versus process-based tools where we explain how they work, what are the benefits and drawbacks:</p> <p>Outcome-based tools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Ecological Footprint(2) Ecosystem Services(3) Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) – overlaps with both categories <p>Process-based tools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Environmental Management System(2) Whole System Analysis(3) Stakeholder Dialogue	48 minutes

¹ GLH (Guided Learning Hours) is the necessary time to complete the topic, including all directed study (classroom, homework, preparation, business simulation, activity work, plus supervision of extracurricular activities).

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FUNDAMENTALS OF SUSTAINABILITY

No.	Format	Content	Time
2.	Sustainability Tools - Application	<p>Students will investigate the leading types of sustainability tools through the examples of case studies, that provide a deeper understanding of their application in a context:</p> <p>Outcome-based tools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Ecological Footprint (2) Ecosystem Services (3) Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) – overlaps with both categories <p>Process-based tools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Environmental Management System (2) Whole System Analysis (3) Stakeholder Dialogue 	48 minutes
3.	Sustainability Tools - Business Simulation	<p>As a Sustainability Manager (real context scenario), working for a Multi-National Corporation, students will receive a sustainability-related challenge, linked to greening the supply chain. They will be given the data about (1) environmental, (2) social, and (3) economic challenges, that are connected to specific business risks and opportunities (also given to students as part of scenario). Students' objectives will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider four principles to 'Win the Sustainability Game' (Conditions of Success/the Natural Step). • Identify which tools would be the best match to address the challenge of the case and explain why. • Explain how they can combine process- with outcome- based tools in this challenge. 	48 minutes
4.	Sustainability Tools - Application	<p>Students will apply sustainability in a business context. They will be given a business scenario, where they will need to identify as a sustainability manager, which tool is appropriate (or several tools), what would be the scope of work, who will be involved, and what kind of data (information) would be required.</p> <p>Ecological footprint Ecosystem services (ESS) Life cycle Assessment/Analysis Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Whole systems thinking Stakeholder dialogue</p>	40 minutes
5.	Life Cycle Assessment Game	<p>Life Cycle Assessment Game</p> <p>Pick one of these items and run a LCA assessment on it. Make sure you consider all parts - cradle to cradle.</p> <p>Draw it out on a piece of paper and we will compare our results</p> 	40 minutes

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No.	Format	Content	Time
6.	Sustainability Tools – Online Workshop	Workshop is designed for collection, review, and peer assessment of students' work. It is an optional guided activity that would be given as additional opportunity to reinforce students' learning experience.	40 minutes
7.	Podcast & Online Forum	This forum will be arranged for all students' discussion and exchange of information. Forum is guided through pre-recorded podcast with an emphasis on discussed questions: linked to LCA, EMS, Stakeholder Dialogue, and other tools. The objective of this activity is to test students' knowledge of sustainability tools in a multi-layered context.	48 minutes

Consolidation:

No.	Format	Content	Time
8.1.	Review & De-briefing Meeting	De-briefing meeting with students to follow up on key content areas, applying sustainability tools and checking learning outcome objectives. Students are expected to be prepared and participate actively in the online zoom meeting by sharing relevant personal experience and examples from the case studies and week's online assignment. We moderate the discussion by providing challenges, where students must apply a sustainability tool in a real business situation. Students will be assessed based on the quality and frequency of their contribution and their ability to demonstrate strong reasoning skills.	38 min
8.2.	Online Quiz	The online quiz will be directed to testing students' knowledge of the materials covered in an online class and practical activities over the week. The format of the quiz consists of multiple-choice, short answer, self-reflection, and essay questions.	10 minutes
TOTAL TIME:			6 hours

Sample Course Content

SUMAS CrS® COURSE FUNDAMENTALS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Sample of two weeks program delivery - February 2021

SAMPLE TOPIC 2: PUTTING SUSTAINABILITY INTO PRACTICE (MEASUREMENT & REPORTING)

During this course we will:

- Help students make sense of inconsistent, often contradictory reporting about sustainability
- Explore different ways of sustainability measuring and reporting to communicate to the public.
- Explain the importance of collecting solid data and challenges we face with measuring sustainability.

Learning Outcome Objectives:

Objective 1

Become aware of the different sustainability measurement and reporting tools.

Objective 2

Learn how to measure and report sustainability data to accurately add value.

Objective 3

Learn different types of sustainability reporting frameworks and connected challenges.

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Sample of two weeks program delivery - February 2021

SAMPLE TOPIC 2: PUTTING SUSTAINABILITY INTO PRACTICE (MEASUREMENT & REPORTING)

Time Management:

1. (48 min) Sustainability Tools - Theory
2. (48 min) Sustainability Tools – Application
3. (45 min) Sustainability Tools – Business Simulation
4. (40 min) Sustainability Tools - Application
5. (40 min) Business Scenario Game
6. (40 min) Sustainability Tools – Online Workshop
7. (48 min) Podcast & Online Forum
8. (48 min) Consolidation: Review & Quiz

GLH² : 4 hours (240 minutes/mandatory), 2 hours (120minutes/optional)

Planning

Recap of Previous Week and Prior Knowledge

Putting Sustainability into Practice: choosing and applying sustainability tools for a specific case by combining outcome- with process-based tools.


No.	Format	Content	Time
1.	Sustainability Tools - Theory	<p>Students will be listening to an Introductory Online Lecture dedicated to Theory & Practice of Sustainability Measurement and Reporting. This session explains the learning outcome objectives, topic's outline, relevant activities, and assessment requirements. As the baseline, students will watch a video about GRI (Leading Reporting Initiative) Sustainability Standard introducing how the system works, what are the gaps, and options for the future of reporting.</p> <p>Then students will get into specifics of how companies should report on sustainability with an emphasis on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Communication methods2. Resources3. Organizational structures4. Stakeholders	48 minutes

²GLH (Guided Learning Hours) is the necessary time to complete the topic, including all directed study (classroom, homework, preparation, business simulation, activity work, plus supervision of extracurricular activities).

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No.	Format	Content	Time
2.	Sustainability Tools - Application	Students will apply the leading types of sustainability tools through case studies examples, that illustrate application to get a deeper understanding of their application and make sense of inconsistent, often contradictory reporting about the sustainability. Application activity includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication methods 2. Resources 3. Organizational structures 4. Stakeholders 	48 minutes
3.	Sustainability Tools - Business Simulation	Students will scan two sustainability reports to analyze the positive aspects (opportunities) and the negative aspects (gaps). Students will address the following questions: which report do they think is more legitimate for sustainability? Do they feel these reports are authentic, for marketing purposes, or a bit of both? Students will be using the resources below (Required Materials, step 6) to make an informed opinion. Report 1- Nordic Construction Company Report 2- Beltech Construction Company	48 minutes
4.	Sustainability Tools - Application	Students will go through our digest of materials followed by their application of recommended tools in a business context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q&A on Sustainability Reporting (UNEP) • Directory of Sustainability Planning and Reporting Tools (ISSP) 	40 minutes
5.	Business Scenario Game	<p>Business Scenario Game: You are hired by a new app that helps people track where their food comes from. They want you to make a sustainability report with data to be transparent with their customers about their environmental impact. What would be the steps you take to do this job?</p>  <p>The #1 end-to-end food traceability solution on blockchain</p> <p>TE-FOOD</p>	40 minutes
6.	Sustainability Tools – Online Workshop	Workshop is designed for collection, review, and peer assessment of students' work. It is an optional guided activity that would be given as additional opportunity to reinforce students' learning experience.	40 min

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No.	Format	Content	Time
7.	Podcast & Online Forum	<p>This forum will be arranged for all students' discussion and exchange of information. Forum is guided through pre-recorded podcast with an emphasis on discussed questions linked to the topic. Based on students' knowledge of measurement tools and a multi-layered context of the topic, they will investigate current gaps in sustainability reporting. How can we address these gaps? How should we collect more accurate data? It would be required to support answers with examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy use• Transportation• Buildings• Operations and purchasing• Forests, farms & soil	48 minutes

Consolidation:

No.	Format	Content	Time
8.1.	Review & De-briefing Meeting	De-briefing meeting with students to follow up on key content areas, applying sustainability tools and checking learning outcome objectives. Students are expected to be prepared and participate actively in the online zoom meeting by sharing relevant personal experience and examples from the case studies and week's online assignment. We moderate the discussion by providing challenges where students must apply a sustainability tool to a real business situation. Students will be assessed based on the quality and frequency of their contribution and their ability to demonstrate strong reasoning skills	38 min
8.2.	Online Quiz	The online quiz will be directed in testing students' knowledge of the materials covered in an online class and practical activities over the week. The format of the quiz consists of multiple-choice, short answer, self-reflection, and essay questions.	10 minutes
TOTAL TIME:			6 hours

Contact Us

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