

<b>Title of the course:</b>	Fair Trade and Sustainable Development		
<b>Course ID:</b>	VE-GMT012		
<b>Level of education:</b>	BSc, Erasmus	<b>Academic semester:</b>	Spring
<b>Professor's name:</b>	Dr. Annamaria ARTNER	<b>Academic title:</b> C.Sc. habilitated college professor	
<b>Hours per semester:</b>	30	<b>Credits:</b>	4
<b>Exam:</b>	Teamwork & essay	:	–

#### Aims of the course:

The course provides the basic knowledge about the history, meaning and problems of the fair trade and the socio-economic-environmental sustainability. Students have the opportunity to understand the importance of theoretical debates on the social, economic and environmental effects of free trade and profit orientation ("business as usual") approach with special regard to its consequences on the position of the lower social classes and the development of less competitive and underdeveloped economies i.e. peripheries. Students will also learn about the obstacles to fair trade and sustainable development and the problems with their institutions. The meaning of competitiveness and the influence of market competition on the employment conditions and the nature will be discussed as well. As a result, students will acquire knowledge about the logic of the global economy and the mechanisms that reproduce developmental and wealth hierarchies among and within nations. Students will learn to argue for sustainability and justify innovative strategic choices that serve fair trade and sustainable development and be able to initiate strategic changes in the management of micro- or macroeconomic entities in order to support a catching up process taking into consideration the aspects of sustainability. Besides, students will learn how to work in groups, make oral presentation and write scientific essay in the abovementioned very broad topics.

#### Course outline

##### Introduction: The bases of fair trade and sustainable development

- What is fair trade? Where does it derive from?
- What is sustainability? Environmental concept and beyond.

##### The context of fair trade and sustainability

- The system of world economy.
- Uneven development and its relation to fair trade and sustainability.

##### Fundamentals of international trade and global reproduction

- Evolution of theories of international division of labour.
- Absolute, comparative, and competitive advantages, factor endowments.
- Multi-dimensional hierarchy of the globalized world.
- Developmental studies and the problem of catching up.

##### Cycles of reproduction

- Types and nature of cycles of production.
- Cycles and crises.
- Globalization of cycles and its consequences on catching up.

##### Preparing presentations and essays.

- Methodology.
- Distribution of topics for midterm and final examination.

##### Fair trade, its institutions, and impediments.

- How to help developing countries' small producers?
- Experiments of Fair Trade membership organizations.

##### Critics of the practice of Fair Trade organizations and the possible resolution of the problems.

- Is Fair Trade fair? – How do the institutions of FT function?
- How does Fair Trade help sustainable development?

##### Environmental versus social sustainability.

- Competition and social hierarchy.
- Poverty an environment.

#### **Sustainable Developmental Goals of the UN.**

- History and rationale of the SDGs – MDGs and their results.
- SDGs No 1-5.

#### **Sustainable Developmental Goals of the UN.**

- SDGs No 6-17.
- The global warming: reasons, concepts and solutions.

#### **Global labour market, fairness, and sustainability.**

- Features of the global labour market.
- Consequences of the global reproduction of capital and crises on the labour market.
- Vulnerability, precariat and the fair trade and sustainability.

#### **Midterm examination.**

- Teamwork, presentations.

#### **Market forces, justice, and sustainability.**

- Innovative ideas making global economic exchange fair and sustainable.
- Case studies: Barry Callebaut, Mondelez International, Sainsbury.
- Unconditional Basic Income – idea, experiments, and lessons.

#### **Summary and conclusions.**

- How fair trade and sustainability relate to business strategies.

#### **Final examination – essays.**

#### **Requirements and assessment**

Students must be active during the course, solve tasks assigned by the teacher, prepare presentations both in teams and individually and write a final essay that satisfies the requirements of scientific works. Assessment is made on the bases of the above criteria based on the following weights:

Activity during lessons: 20%  
Midterm exam (teamwork – presentation): 30%  
First outline of the final essay (individual ppt-presentation): 10%  
Final essay (individual): 40%

#### **Grades:**

5 – excellent (91-100%)  
4 – good (75-90%)  
3 – medium (61-74%)  
2 – sufficient (51-60%)  
1 – insufficient/failed (0-50%)

#### **Readings**

Boto. I. (2012) : Does Fair Trade contribute to sustainable development? Resources on Fair Trade. Brussels Rural Development Briefings. A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues.

Dempsey, N., Bramley, G., Power, S. and Brown, C. (2009) : The Social Dimension of Sustainable Development: Defining Urban Social Sustainability. Sustainable Development, Published online in Wiley InterScience ([www.interscience.wiley.com](http://www.interscience.wiley.com)) DOI: 10.1002/sd.417

Dragusanu, R., Giovannucci, D. and Nunn, N. (2014): The Economics of Fair Trade. Journal of Economic Perspectives 28(3): 217–236

Holden, E., Linnerud, K. and Banister, D. (2017): The Imperatives of Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development. Published online in Wiley Online Library ([wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)) DOI:10.1002/sd.1647

Schweickart, D. (2009): Is Sustainable Capitalism an Oxymoron? Perspectives on Global Development and Technology 8(2-3): 557-78.

Van Parijs, P. and Vanderborght, Y. (2017) : Basic Income: A Radical Proposal for a Free Society and a Sane Economy, Harvard University Press, Cambridge.

**Internet, multimédia, newspapers etc.**

Youtube: Jeffrey Sachs – The Age of Sustainable Development. Lecture series

Fair Trade International <https://www.fairtrade.net/about-fairtrade.html>

More than green. <http://www.morethangreen.es/en/ideology/four-sustainabilities-cultural-economic-social-environmental-sustainability/#sthash.R63Mt96v.dpbs>

UNDP Sustainable Development Goals <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>