



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2017

9,192: Sustainable Finance

ECTS credits: 2

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Written examination (60%, 60 mins.)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (40%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[9,192,1.00 Sustainable Finance](#) -- Englisch -- [Wüstenhagen Rolf](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

While there are no formal prerequisites, it is recommended to attend this course after having attended the compulsory courses in Financial Markets and Financial intermediation of the Master in Banking and Finance.

The course is recommended for MBF-students in their first or third semester of the program.

Course content

Background

Sustainability, i.e. a development that meets the needs of present generations without compromising on the needs of future generations, has been adopted as an objective by the United Nations in 1992. Since then, governments and investors are increasingly recognizing the important link between sustainability and financial markets. On the one hand, a wide range of sustainability or socially responsible investment (SRI) products have come to market across different asset classes. On the other hand, global trends like climate change will have financial consequences that go far beyond the niche of traditional "green" investing, as indicated for example by the Bank of England warning of stability risks resulting from a devaluation of carbon assets. Firms directly (e.g. energy companies) or indirectly (e.g. automotive companies) exposed to global sustainability trends are facing fundamental challenges. What are the implications for banking and finance?

Students who build competence in sustainable finance are well positioned to take advantage of emerging opportunities in this growing segment of the job market, and to take wise long-term investment decisions reflecting the far-reaching implications of sustainability trends on financial markets.

Objective

Participants in this course will

Understand the conceptual foundations of sustainability and its implications for business, with a special focus on financial institutions



Assess how global sustainability trends translate into opportunities and challenges for investors

Get to know the most important investment vehicles related to sustainable finance

Understand current and future drivers of financial and sustainability performance

Course structure

The course will have six weekly sessions, including short guest lectures by professionals from the financial industry. As an additional element, student teams will design their own investment solution in the area of sustainable finance, which they will present in short investor pitches in the second half of the course.

Course literature

Staub-Bisang, M. (2012): Sustainable Investing for Institutional Investors: Risk, Regulations and Strategies. Wiley.

Carbon Tracker (2011): Unburnable Carbon- Are the world's financial markets carrying a carbon bubble?

<http://www.carbontracker.org/report/carbon-bubble/>



Additional course information

For further information, please contact the course's teaching assistant: julia.cousse@student.unisg.ch

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (60%, 60 mins.)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Extended Closed Book

The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

None

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English



2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (40%)

Remark

Investor pitch for sustainable finance product.

Examination-aid rule

Practical examination

No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

None

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

Global sustainability challenges and their implications for finance; relationship between sustainability and financial performance; sustainable financial products in different asset classes; carbon finance; sustainable finance applied to institutional investors, retail finance, venture finance; behavioral finance implications for sustainable finance.

Examination relevant literature

Literature and material provided during the lectures.



Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc.

When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 24 August 2017
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 16 October 2017
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 06 November 2017

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.