



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2020

### 7,915: Verantwortung/Responsibility: Managing the SDGs (SIGMA Global Virtual Course)

ECTS credits: 5

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Written examination (20%, 60 mins.)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,915,1.00 Verantwortung/Responsibility: Managing the SDGs \(SIGMA Global Virtual Course\)](#) -- Englisch -- [Wüstenhagen Rolf](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

None

#### Learning objectives

After completing this course, students will have:

- Completed the online modules of the SIGMA Responsible Business Course
- Developed best-practice case studies on companies
- Collaborated in cross-national, cross-institutional virtual teams
- Understood the imperative for sustainable development and why businesses and managers are expected to contribute to achieving the SDGs
- Learned about important topics such as social innovation and responsible leadership relevant under the theme of rethinking international management with regard to the SDGs
- Engaged in an in-depth reflection and discussion process under the theme of rethinking international management with regard to the SDGs

#### Course content

In recent years, sustainable development has increasingly become a key imperative for businesses. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by world leaders in 2015, showcase universally applicable targets intended to mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities, and tackle climate change. While the SDGs are not legally binding, countries are expected to take ownership and establish national frameworks aimed to accomplish the goals. Furthermore, all stakeholders including governments, civil society, the private sector, and others are demanded to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. Consequently, businesses are supposed to play an integral part in contributing to the Agenda 2030. However, these developments imply radical rethinking of established business practices, models, approaches, and paradigms. From an international perspective, in particular, they demand rethinking the very notion of international management in order to identify the role international companies and managers can play in contributing to the achievement of the SDGs.

Under the theme of the SDGs, this course encourages students to rethink international management. It is a blended online course



combining online lectures and virtual cross- institutional teamwork. The online lectures for the "Responsible Business Course", jointly designed by seven universities in the SIGMA Alliance (Copenhagen Business School, ESADE, Singapore Management University, Université Paris-Dauphine, University of St.Gallen, Hitotsubashi University Japan, and WU Vienna), are available on Coursera as a SPOC (small private online course) and cover the following modules:

1. What are the SDGs: Origins and perspectives
2. From social problem to business model
3. Responsible global leadership
4. Social innovation and social entrepreneurship
5. From carbon risk to clean energy business opportunities
6. SDG communication: Key factors of success

In addition to completing all online modules, students work in virtual cross-national, cross-institutional teams, to develop a best-practice case study on a selected company or organization. Teams receive guidance from assigned supervising instructors from any of the participating universities.

The course emphasizes the training and development of the following skills and competencies:

- Virtual collaboration and communication abilities: The online modules as well as the virtual teamwork provide a setup that trains students in virtual collaboration and digital communication. The final presentation of the case study will be delivered as screen cast or short video in mp4 format rather than a traditional ppt presentation.
- Navigating paradoxes and trade-offs: With regard to sustainable development, students will encounter numerous paradoxes and trade-offs that one must take into account in order to develop groundbreaking approaches crucial for the achievement of the SDGs.
- Creative and out-of-the-box thinking: Students rethink established business practices, models, approaches, and paradigms and they are encouraged to engage in innovative, creative, and unconventional reasoning as relevant and required in the context of sustainable development.

Please find a short video introduction to the course here:

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/embed/video/99819c42-7bcf-4d39-9d0f-c380f4e2e5f9?autoplay=false&showinfo=true>

## Course structure

In addition to completing the online modules, students will engage in virtual cross-national, cross-institutional teamwork, in groups composed by students from each of the participating institutions. Each team will develop a best-practice case study, based on desk research, publicly available information interviews, and other case-study tools. Teams will be mentored by a supervisor from one of the participating institutions.

Students need to be available virtually for the online kick-off of the Responsible Business Course on October 7, 10:00 am (approx.1-2h) as well as for the closing webinar von December 9, 10:00 am (approx. 1-2h).

These two dates might clash with one or two other CEMS Exclusive courses. Please talk to the respective professor and make sure you do not miss more than 20% of the course time.

Besides these two dates, the students do not have to be physically present. They work on the modules at their own pace and only coordinate with their student team on virtual case study.

In addition to the above, students are expected to have virtual weekly meetings within their student groups (comprising participants from the different participating universities) and will have two virtual coaching meetings with their assigned supervisor.

## Course literature

In terms of online teaching, this course embeds the virtual Responsible Business Course as developed by the SIGMA Alliance and its member institutions. Online materials - including video inputs, required readings, and module completion assessments - will



be offered through the Coursera platform (SPOC (Small Private Online Course), not a MOOC).

## Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS2020, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

There are no changes necessary to the course information.

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

There are no changes necessary to the examination information.

## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/3)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Case study group work; results in video format.

##### 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

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##### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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#### 2. Examination sub part (2/3)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Reflection paper (individual work)

##### Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the chosen citation standard such as APA or MLA.

For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende, newest edition respectively, or according to the recommendations of the



Law School).

The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into texts in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien, newest edition respectively).

For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers is mandatory independent of the chosen citation standard. Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.

#### Supplementary aids

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#### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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### 3. Examination sub part (3/3)

#### Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (20%, 60 mins.)

Examination time: term time

#### Remark

Online Quizzes on Coursera (individual work)

#### Examination-aid rule

Open Book

Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- All the pocket calculators that are not of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series are explicitly inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

#### Supplementary aids

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#### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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### Examination content

Case Cast (group work) - 50%

Reflection paper (individual work) - 30%

Online Quizzes on Coursera (individual work) - 20%

### Examination relevant literature

Will be communicated in the course



## Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 20 August 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 44 (Thursday, 29 October 2020).