



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2020

9,192: Sustainable Finance

ECTS credits: 2

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

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

Examination time: term time

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

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

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

Course information

Course prerequisites

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

Learning objectives

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 content

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.

Course structure

The course will have six weekly sessions, including one or two 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

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

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

Further readings will be available on the course platform.

Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS 2020, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform CANVAS/Zoom.
- The lecturer informs via CANVAS and email on the changed implementation modalities of the course;
- Course content such as guest lectures will be conducted online;
- There are no changes necessary to the course information. In the event of moving to an online platform, we will follow the course content as planned on the original dates.

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

- The written exam is conducted online with the Lockdown Browser on Canvas. The group presentations are conducted online and are being recorded.

For further information, please contact the course's teaching assistants: Julia.cousse@unisg.ch or Beatrice.petrovich@unisg.ch

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

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

Examination time: term time

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, 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%)

Examination time: term time

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

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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 on course platform.



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).