

18 - 24 May 2025: SOUTH WESTPHALIA INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

There is no future without thinking, acting, and living sustainably. In summer 2025, we at South Westphalia UAS would like to invite you to our Erasmus+ South Westphalia International Sustainability Week where we will discuss sustainable futures by exploring the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), global guideposts for sustainable action.

Designed as field-specific blended modules on individual SDGs in business administration, management, engineering, and early childhood education, we will all meet in our campus location Hagen from 18 to 24 May 2025 to examine what sustainability can be for us as individuals and in our various disciplines. Participating in field excursions, lab work, and group activities, students will acquire skills for sustainable awareness based on the framework of the Inner Development Goals tailored to their disciplines/recognized in their home study program.

Come and join us for an exciting summer experience to contribute to a sustainable future. 😊

MODUL/KURSANGEBOT

Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12): Sustainability of Companies					
Short name	Workload	Credit Points	Preparatory	Face-to-Face	Conclusion and final project work
SoC	90h / 180h Preparation + ISW: 90 h Project: 90 h	3 ECTS / 6 ECTS Preparation + ISW: 3 ECTS Project: 3 ECTS	1 x 2 h (common online-session of all students) + self-study phase (preparation of SDG's)	International Sustainability Week (40 hours, thereof one strand of 6 sessions each 3 hours)	online consultation hours + self-study phase (project work) + final presentation session
1	Group size	International students		German students	
		overall approx. 12 students (incl. German students)		overall approx. 12 students (incl. international students)	
2	<p>Contents</p> <p>Climate protection and sustainability are among the most important current and future issues for the economy and society. Sustainable management means giving equal priority to ecological, social and economic aspects. Sustainability and the associated responsible actions for the environment and society are becoming increasingly important for the future viability of companies and affect everyone in the organisation equally. More and more companies are therefore already addressing these issues and they are very present in their external image and in their communication with customers. But what is behind this and how sustainable are companies really?</p> <p>In addition to the gradual development towards greater sustainability in many companies, for example by increasing efficiency and reducing emissions, it is primarily a question of developing new business models or further developing existing business models and implementing innovations in an entrepreneurial way. To do this, companies often have to think long-term and develop strategies for dealing with the issue of sustainability.</p> <p>Participants will learn the basics of sustainability, corporate social responsibility and climate and environmental protection and will familiarise themselves with the sustainability management of companies. They also deal with sustainability reporting and analysing the environmental impact of companies. They learn about criteria for assessing companies in terms of their sustainability, analyse the sustainability of companies using specific examples and thus learn how to evaluate business models and corporate strategies: How far are companies currently in terms of sustainability? Where is there sustainable corporate management, where is it just greenwashing to improve image?</p>				

	The module content thereby contributes mainly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 'Responsible Consumption and Production' (SDG 12) and "Climate Action" (SDG 13), but is also linked to many other SDG's.
3	<p>Learning outcomes</p> <p>Due to the methods and perspectives learnt, participants will later be able to critically question the statements made by companies, form their own opinion of the sustainability promises made by companies and also make an important contribution to the development of greater sustainability in their own company. The importance of this topic will continue to grow in the coming years, and skills in this area will be helpful in both professional and personal contexts in the future.</p>
4	<p>Teaching and learning methods</p> <p>The course is organised as a seminar. Participants learn, discuss and practice sustainability aspects, analyse the business models of selected companies themselves and present their findings to the group. Project work will be performed after the block seminar and be presented in a follow-up online session.</p>
5	<p>Prerequisites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Basic knowledge of internet research and presentation skills
6	<p>Requirements for the awarding of credits</p> <p>Preparation + ISW: 3 ECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ successful preparation of SDG task after preparatory session ▪ active participation in the International Sustainability Week, including the group assignment <p>Project: 3 ECTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ project report and project presentation in follow-up online session
7	<p>Module responsible / Lecturer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christian Goldscheid
8	<p>Literature</p> <p>Will be given during preparatory session</p>
9	<p>Additional information (to complete: Link to the associated a Moodle-course)</p>