



Title of the course:

Sustainability Management



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Short description of the course:

The course is designed to introduce PhD students to the fundamental skills and tools regarding sustainability management in general and its effect on environmental and competitive performance in particular.

The aim of the course is to present different and multidisciplinary approaches that can be applied to investigate this topic.

Management students will benefit from knowing the scientific literature and from analyzing some practical implications presented by external speakers.

The course will include some “traditional” one-way teaching but will be mostly based on students’ presentations and case study analysis.

Student commitment

Upon enrolling into this course, students commit to come to class prepared to comment on the readings, where required. During the course students will be divided into study groups, which will deliver in-class presentations. Attendance is compulsory.

Schedule, topics, descriptions, readings



The course can be divided in three parts. In the Lectures 1, 6 and 7 we will explore relevant theories from business studies that are useful to improve our skills on sustainable management

In the Lecture 2-5 some relevant practical tools/approaches that are going to be useful to apply on the field will be presented with the support of researchers.

In the last lectures, study groups will be created to discuss, by in-class presentations, some relevant academic contributions on this field.

The course will take place **on Wednesday from January 25 to April 04**, at 11.00 in **Room 1** at Institute of Management in Pisa

Date	Title	Main Topics	Hours
Jan 25, 2012	<i>Sustainability Management – Overview and objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainability: meanings and definitions ○ The integration of sustainable development concept into the public policies ○ Enterprises and sustainability: role & responsibility ○ The dimension of sustainability; ○ From policy to market: overview of most innovative policy instruments and tools 	2
Feb 1, 2012	<i>Integrated assessment for decision making</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cost-benefit analysis ○ Social Multi-criteria evaluation ○ Multi-scale integrated assessment 	
Feb 08, 2012	<i>Life Cycle analysis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental performance: meanings and definitions ○ Local and global environmental impacts ○ The greening of processes: a life-cycle approach ○ LCA – empirical applications 	2
Feb 15, 2012	<i>Case study methodology (Action research) - some practical implications</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Action research</i>: theoretical profile and practical tools ○ CSR management: definitions and tools ○ Action research experience in an Italian Retailing Cooperative in the field of CSR management 	2
Feb 29, 2012	<i>Survey methods – practical implications</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The application of survey approach in the environmental management studies 	2



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The sampling process –an empirical application ○ Questionnaire design - ○ Data collecting and analysis 	
Mar 07, 2012	<i>Effects of management practices on Environmental and Social performance at the firm level</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental and social performance: definitions and measures ○ The effects of policies and instruments on firms' environmental and social performance; ○ Empirical evidence and future research 	2
Mar 14, 2012	<i>Effects of management practices on competitive performance at the firm level</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Competitiveness: definitions and measures ○ The effects of policies and instruments on firms' competitive performance; ○ Theoretical framework: neoclassic, Porter hypotheses and Resource-Based View ○ Empirical evidence and future research 	2
Mar 21, 2012	<i>Reading, analysis and discussion</i>	Study groups will be created to discuss, by in-class presentations, some relevant academic contributions on this field. Required reading will be provided .	2
Mar 28, 2012	<i>Reading, analysis and discussion</i>		2
Apr 04, 2012	<i>Reading, analysis and discussion</i>		2
Apr 18, 2012	<i>Reviewing exercise</i>	Study groups will be created to simulate reviewing exercise of selected manuscripts	2

Final Examination

A final take-home exam will take place at the end of the course. Further details about the exam will be given at the beginning of the course.

Readings

Required readings will be distributed electronically by instructors.