



Name	SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY MANAGEMENT
Course Unit	-
Academic Discipline	ECON-07/A
Academic year and semester	3 rd Year, 1 st Semester
Teaching language	English
CFU	6
Number of hours of total assisted teaching activities and divided between DE and DI	36 (DE)
Instructors	Course Director: Domenico De Fano Domenico De Fano (Sustainability, 3CFU), Andrea Roberto Bifulco (Circular Economy, 3CFU)
Expected Learning Outcomes	<p>At the end of the course, students will be able to comprehend and analyze key topics such as stakeholder engagement and ESG risk management. They will gain a thorough understanding of the theoretical frameworks on corporate sustainability, including strategies for sustainability, theory of change, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p> <p>Students will also acquire knowledge on the principles and frameworks of the Circular Economy, learning to implement circular economy strategies effectively. They will be equipped with the ability to perform specific analysis in the context of the Circular Economy, such as Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Material Flow Analysis (MFA), enabling them to develop and apply innovative managerial practices for circular solutions.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students will develop a business idea based on the pillars of circular economy and sustainability. This project will integrate theoretical knowledge with practical application, fostering skills that are essential for real-world business scenarios.</p> <p>Specifically, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn to independently plan and measure the effects of sustainability strategies on overall enterprise performance and its key stakeholders. - Gain proficiency in presenting and defending sustainability strategies, demonstrating their potential to generate social, environmental, and economic value. - Acquire a technical vocabulary and specialized terminology relevant to sustainability and circular management. - Understand and apply key principles of the Circular Economy in practical business ideas. - Engage effectively with stakeholders to implement sustainable and circular business practices.
Course Syllabus	<p>The course is structured in two modules. The Sustainability module presents the theoretical framework on corporate sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theory of Change and sustainability issue - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Stakeholder Engagement - ESG Risk Management <p>The Circular Economy module is dedicated to the study of the theoretical and practical characteristics and innovative practices of Circular Economy management. It includes the following contents:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Circular Economy - Key Principles and Frameworks - Circular Economy Strategies - LCA and MFA - Circular business models
<p>Course Structure</p>	<p>The course is structured in lectures that take place according to the academic calendar. The teaching method - focused on the discussion of the main related-theories, case studies, and scientific papers - will enable active learning of methodologies and tools. Some lectures will be conducted by practitioners and experts in sustainability and circular management, with practical case analyses to ensure full contact with the real operations of businesses oriented towards sustainability and the circular economy.</p> <p>The course includes 36 hours of dedicated lectures. Attending students are required to practically apply the knowledge acquired through group work on a specific circular business idea; each group typically consists of 5-6 students.</p>
<p>Evaluation Methods</p>	<p>Evaluation criteria vary for attending and non-attending students.</p> <p><u>Attending students</u> Attendance status is achieved through active participation in the field project. The assessment for attending students comprises two parts: field project and a mandatory written exam. The field project examination involves writing and presenting a comprehensive circular business idea, which must be completed in a group. Each group member is responsible for specific parts or activities, which should be clearly identified and documented in the project report. Additionally, each member must present their respective contributions during a final classroom presentation, demonstrating their understanding and involvement in their assigned areas. This approach ensures that all students are engaged and can showcase their individual competencies within the collaborative effort.</p> <p><u>Non-attending students</u> A written exam, to be completed in 60 minutes, consists of 11 multiple-choice questions and 4 open-ended questions about the entire program.</p> <p>The field project involves writing and presenting a comprehensive and original circular business idea as a group. The group project report will be evaluated based on content quality, assessing the comprehensiveness, feasibility, relevance, and innovation of the business idea; analytical rigor, evaluating the thoroughness of analysis, including sustainability assessments and potential impact evaluations; and documentation and clarity, which involves clear identification and documentation of each member's contributions, along with the overall coherence and presentation of the report.</p> <p>In the multiple-choice questions, students must demonstrate their understanding of the correctness of solutions using sustainability and circular economy management theories and tools. They should also show their knowledge and comprehension of the assumptions underlying the main theories related to sustainability and circular economy management.</p> <p>In the open-ended questions, students must independently demonstrate their ability to resolve questions related to the main developments in sustainability theories explored during the course. They should also apply key circular economy models and tools focused on recent managerial approaches. Answers should be presented with clarity and proper language, formulating effective solutions to the strategic decisions that companies face in the context of sustainability and the circular economy.</p>
<p>Assessment Methods</p>	<p><u>Attending students:</u> The assessment comprises two parts: field project and written exam. The case studies account maximum for 24 points (24/30), while the written exam, which lasts 30 minutes, includes one open question worth 3 points and four multiple-choice questions worth 4 points.</p>



	<p><u>Non-attending students:</u></p> <p>The final grade is awarded on the basis of the following criteria: up to 11 points are awarded through 11 multiple-choice questions; up to 20 points are awarded through 4 open-ended questions. "30 e lode" is awarded to non-attending students who achieve a grade of 31 points on the written exam.</p>
Prerequisites	No prerequisites
Teaching and didactic material	<p><u>Attending students:</u></p> <p>Readings and materials provided by the instructors on the course platform</p> <p><u>Non-attending students:</u></p> <p>M. TONELLI, N. CRISTONI, Strategic Management and the Circular Economy, 2019, Routledge</p> <p>Readings and materials provided by the instructors on the course platform</p>