

HWR Berlin Summer School 2025

Sustainability Challenges in a Global World

Overview

This course is in tune with the times and adopts an interdisciplinary approach to current sustainability challenges, such as climate change, resource depletion, biodiversity loss and pollution. Students will analyse the role of economics, politics, legal systems, technological and social innovation and the social sciences in contributing to a more sustainable future. The course combines short lectures with discussions, group work, field trips and expert input.

Dates

24 June – 4 July: Virtual Reading Period
6 – 19 July: On-site classes in Berlin

Course Content

- Sustainability Challenges and its numerous aspects
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Circular Economy
- Corporate Social Responsibility

The course programme also includes:

- Study visits to companies and institutions
- Module on German culture and society from an intercultural perspective

Course Language

English. Proof of English proficiency (TOEFL iBT 90 or equivalent) is required.

Prerequisites

Upper undergraduate students (after two years of study) or graduates with good standing from different disciplines (business, engineering, environmental background, IT, social science)

Number of Participants

20–25

Course Fees

€ 950 (without accommodation)

This includes tuition and programme fees, health, accident and liability insurance, study visits, most parts of the culture and leisure time programme.

Credits

150 hours workload / 6 ECTS credits include

- 50 contact hours business course
- 10 contact hours German culture and society
- Reading Period incl. monitored self-tests
- Excursions and company visits
- Optional extra credit on request

Accommodation

- Student hotel (double occupancy)
- Arrival 6 July (move-in), departure 19 July (move-out)
- Optional booking upon request

Culture and Leisure Time Programme

The Summer School team offers participants a wide variety of optional cultural and social events in Berlin and surrounding area (e.g. museums, boat trip, palaces, trip to Potsdam and Sachsenhausen) about twice a week.

Registration Deadline

- 1 April 2025
- 15 March 2025 for nominated students from partner universities
- Early-Bird 10% by 1 March 2025

Contact, Enquiries and Registration

HWR Berlin Summer and Winter School

Email: summer@hwr-berlin.de

www.hwr-berlin.de/summerschools

Syllabus

For a more detailed syllabus, please email summer@hwr-berlin.de

Lecturers

Stephan Bohle, Prof. Dr. Silke Bustamante, Michael Deflorian, Prof. Dr. Christine Gockel, Dr. Stefan Paulus, Prof. Dr. Peter Riess, Prof. Dr. Sven Ripsas, Dr. Stephan Sina, Prof. Dr. Uta Stäsche, Remy Verbeek

Week 1

Virtual Reading Period

The virtual reading period aims at gaining a comprehensive understanding of sustainable development and its multifaceted challenges and opportunities. The readings cover key aspects such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Altogether, students are asked to study papers and answer associated questions (monitored self-tests).

Week 2

On-site Programme in Berlin

Students gain a deep understanding of the current sustainability challenges and take a closer look at its different dimensions, such as politics, legal systems and circular economy. A first field trip and corporate talk promise expert insights.

Day	
1	• Vision & Objectives: SDG Game
2	• Microeconomic Foundations of Sustainability • Distribution and Climate Justice • Global Climate Change Politics
3	• Psychological Aspects of Sustainability • Political Consumption for Sustainability Democracy? • Individual Contribution to Sustainability
4	• Relevant Legal Systems • Emission Trading Systems • Reporting Obligations • Field Trip
5	• Circular Economy • Corporate Talk

Week 3

On-site Programme in Berlin

The second week on-site focuses on sustainable finance and the basics of Corporate Social Responsibility. A future workshop and a field trip will allow students to explore the topics in more depth. The programme concludes with the poster presentation, an interdisciplinary analysis of selected sustainability challenges.

Day	
1	• Future Workshop
2	• Sustainable Finance 4.0 • Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship
3	• Basics of CSR • Basics of Sustainable Management
4	• Field trip
5	• Poster Presentation

Weeks 2–3: Cultural Module

German Culture and Society: Intercultural Perspectives

- Students will be exposed to various aspects of German culture and society through a series of site visits and reflective papers
- The reflective papers (one per study week) should be related to an aspect of German culture and society and/or students' intercultural experience

* Course content/lecturers may be subject to change

Last but not least: Get more out of your summer school experience!

Combine this programme with our add-on "Cross-Cultural Management"
→ on-site from 29 June – 6 July