Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Sustainability Economics
Course Code	27611
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	SECS-P/02
Language	English
Degree Course	Master in Public Policy and Innovative Governance
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Dr. PhD. Alberto Maria Zanni, AlbertoMaria.Zanni@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/52541
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
Course Year/s	2
CP	6
Teaching Hours	36 ONLINE
Lab Hours	
Individual Study Hours	
Planned Office Hours	18 ONLINE
Contents Summary	The course covers the applied economics aspects of sustainability: a) the concept of sustainability and its implications in economic policy; b) environmental policy instruments: how to design policies towards sustainability; c) environmental valuation: eliciting values for non-market environmental goods and services; d) the economics of sustainable transport, cities, energy, tourism.
Course Topics	1. The concept of sustainability and its economic implications 2. Economic theory and practice of environmental policy (externalities, optimal pollution, abatement costs) 3. Command and control instruments; subsidies, environmental

	taxation and trading systems 4. Evaluation of environmental policy instruments 5. Valuation of environmental assets (economic values, WTA and WTP, revealed preference methods, stated preference methods, alternatives to the more traditional methods) 6. The economics of sustainable transport and cities 7. Sustainability in other sectors
Keywords	sustainability, externalities, equity, valuation, policy
Recommended Prerequisites	B1 level in English is required to sit the exam
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	Frontal online lectures, mainly synchronous, presentations, discussions
Mandatory Attendance	Attendance is recommended, but not mandatory.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	Knowledge and understanding The student will acquire the knowledge of economic theory necessary to understand and analyse economic and business phenomena in the public sector in order to support decision-making processes. Knowledge of public policy and the tools necessary for the design of sustainable policies will be consolidated. Knowledge related to the labour market, education and health will also be deepened, functional to the development of public policy analysis and evaluation skills. Ability to apply knowledge and understanding The student will acquire the ability to: - interpret market trends through the application of appropriate economic models and implement economic analysis tools, also using data; - apply economic models to describe the behaviour of economic agents and develop sustainable economic policies in various application domains of interest to businesses and public bodies. Autonomy of judgement The student will acquire the ability to: - apply acquired knowledge to interpret economic and business

	phenomena in order to make directional and operational decisions in the context of public administration; - select data and use appropriate information to describe a problem concerning the design, implementation and evaluation of public sector projects and policies, aiming at innovation and improvement of processes, products and results; - relate models and empirical evidence in the study of public policy phenomena; - reflect, also in a perspective of public ethics and sustainability with regard to future generations, on the responsibilities connected with the use of public resources. Communication skills The student will acquire the ability to communicate effectively in oral and written form the specialised content of the individual disciplines, using different registers according to recipients and communicative and didactic purposes, and to evaluate the formative effects of his/her communication. Learning skills The student will acquire the ability to: - use information technology autonomously to carry out bibliographical research and investigations and for one's own training and continuing education; - identify thematic links and establish relationships between different cases and contexts of analysis; - frame a new problem systematically and generate appropriate taxonomies; - develop general models from the phenomena studied.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	Knowledge and understanding Students will know and understand analytical tools used in environmental and sustainability economics and acquire knowledge on the theory of externalities with empirical applications in various sectors Applying knowledge and understanding Students will be able to comprehend and apply research contributions. They will learn how to compare the effectiveness of

	different environmental policy instruments and learn how to design environmental valuation studies, interpret theoretical ideas and applied research results. Making judgments Student will be able to reflect on specific problems and formulate judgments that include the valuation of environmental commodities and evaluation of environmental policies. Communication skills Students will be able to communicate content, key concepts, research ideas, problems and solutions as well as empirical research results to both a specialist and non-specialist audience. Learning skills Students will develop the ability to connect economic theory with real-world sustainability challenges. This entails independently expanding their understanding through in-depth engagement with scientific research and empirical analyses. They will cultivate skills essential for conducting thorough literature reviews and formulating precise research questions.
Assessment	For Attending students: I) Presentation (40% of the final grade). The presentation requires critical discussion of a case study in sustainability economics. II) Final exam (60% of the final grade). The final exam consists of analytical problems in multiple choice questions and short essay question form. The final exam tests Skill 1 (Knowledge and understanding). The presentation allows to verify Skills 2, 3 and 4 (Applying knowledge and understanding, Making judgements, Communication skills). The skill concerned with autonomous study (Skill 5, Learning skills) is indirectly verified, because passing the final exam requires autonomous execution of exercises suggested by the lecturer and face-to-face discussions. For non-attending students or students who do not take the

	presentation, the final exam is 100% of the final grade.
Evaluation Criteria	Overall, students will be assessed against the learning outcomes. Presentations will be evaluated in terms of structure, content and communication techniques. Reaction to questions from the audience will also be part of the assessment, as well as questions addressed to other students during their presentations. Exam will be a mixture of multiple choice questions and essay type, valued against the criteria, in particular knowledge and understanding of the main concepts and their implications in real world policy settings.
Required Readings	These will be provided at the beginning and during the course
Supplementary Readings	The lectures will mainly be drawn from journal articles. Additional literature will be given during class.
Further Information	lectures will be recorded
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Good health and well-being, Clean water and sanitation, Affordable and clean energy, Climate action, Sustainable cities and communities, Responsible consumption and production, Reduced inequalities