

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code / Title : HS4012/ Sociology of Green Transformations

Pre-requisites : HS1001 Person and Society +
HS2001 Classical Social Theory +
HS2002 Doing Social Research +
HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory +
HS3002 Understanding Social Statistics

No. of AUs. : 4

Contact Hours : 52

Course Aims

This course aims to equip students with the skills to critically understand the key debates surrounding the current transformations towards a 'green' economy. Students will learn how to assess economic and policy material by applying important sociological and interdisciplinary perspectives in evaluating market-based environmental solutions and the idea of the circular economy. Students will also have the opportunity to explore and apply ESG criteria as part of financial analysis and contextualize market-based solutions through a sociological lens, focusing on access and inequality. Students interested in working in sustainability policy, sustainability reporting, or who have an interest in green finance/economy should take this course.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Identify the sociologically relevant arguments in sustainability and green discourses, and articulate how they are being applied across social, economic and political spaces
2. Discuss how institutions like markets and governance are being transformed
3. Assess how a company or institution is using ESG factors to make financial decisions

Course Content

Key topics include green economy, ESG criteria, sustainability reporting, the circular economy, de-growth and green cities

Week 1: Introduction to the Sociology of Green Transformations

Week 2: Key Issues and Debates: Changing States and Markets

Week 3: Green Consumption

Week 4: Responsible Investing: What is ESG?

Week 5: Responsible Investing: Ethics and Risk

Week 6: Responsible Investing: Reporting and Disclosure

Week 7: Responsible Investing: Global North VS Global South

Week 8: Film Screening

Week 9: Energy Transitions

Week 10: The Circular Economy

Week 11: The Green New Deal

Week 12: Sustainability Report Assignment Prep

Week 13: What will the future look like?

Course Assessment

CA1 Class Participations : 15%

CA2 Group Presentations : 30%

CA3 Reading Memo : 15%

CA4 Sustainability Report Assignment : 40%

Total -----
100%