Syllabus

**CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY & RESPONSIBILITY**

**Purpose**

The Purpose of the Master level elective Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility is to provide participants with language, tools and insights needed to successfully understand, develop and manage businesses in relation to the demands and needs of society and the natural environment.

**Course Content**

Corporations are faced with issues of climate change, inclusion working conditions, human rights and biodiversity and others, etc.  This influences the conditions under which corporations operate and presents both challenges and opportunities to the current business models and practices.

This course will address several of the main sustainability challenges discussed today and the role of business in relation to these challenges.  In addition to seminars and lectures discussing core concepts in CSR and Business Sustainability, the focus will be on the practice and management of sustainability and corporate responsibility.

Participants will be addressing and solving real business and organizational problems and opportunities related to several themes on corporate sustainability and responsibility, such as climate change, human rights and circular economy.

**Structure and Format**

The course has three distinct parts: 1. reading and discussing core concepts in the CSR and sustainability literature; 2. thematic seminars linking concepts to practice of sustainability, including guest lecture on the theme; and 3. addressing a sustainability challenge through a case project.

1. Literature assignment and examination. The course literature and core concepts will be discussed during thematic seminars during the first part of the course. An individual literature exam on core concepts will take place.

2. Thematic seminars and guest lecture linking concepts to practice of sustainability.

3. Student Driven Live Case project. The core of the course is devoted to a live case that can be in cooperation with a selected company or organization addressing a sustainability challenge that the company/organization needs support in responding to.   The group task is to make a report plus a presentation describing and analytically addressing the challenge through new solutions.  The task involves collecting primary data. Individual group tutoring will be scheduled during the period, at times in cooperation with the selected company or organization.

The live case will be presented and discussed to the other student groups as well as to invited companies/organizations at the end of the course.

Format. Hybrid. The course will take place on SSE Campus, live in classroom, as well as online/digital. In addition to being a CEMS and SSE elective course, it is offered as a Global Network for Advanced Management (GNAM) course.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

The general intended learning outcomes is that upon completion of the course, participants should be able to understand and manage social and environmental impact on business value. More specifically, after competing the course students should be able to…

1. …relate and explain key Sustainability and CSR concepts and theories
2. …apply and relate these concepts and theories to business practice
3. …use and systematically integrate CSR and Sustainability theories to analyze, assess and give managerial advice in situations of complex interplay between the firm, its stakeholders and societal needs.

**Examination**

The course has two assessment activities (AA) related to the ILOs. Each AA is graded Pass, Good, Very Good, or Excellent. To pass the course, the student must receive at least Pass on each ILO and each AA. A compound grade for the course is calculated using the percentages corresponding to each AA below:

(1) Literature seminar examination (individual examination) covering ILO 1 & 2 (55%)

(2) Case report and presentations (group) covering ILOs 2 and 3 (45%)

 An attendance level of 80% of the classes is required (IRL or Digital). Attendance at literature exam and case project presentations are mandatory.