UCLouvain

Ilsms2281

Sustainable Management and Value Chains

2018

5 credits	30.0 h	Q1

Teacher(s)	Reuter Carsten ;				
Language :	English				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	This course will address environmental, social and ethical risks, and new business opportunities arising from managing the natural environment. This course will also look at responses at a strategic and operational level: sustainable innovation and green supply chain management, environmental management systems and certification (ISO 14001, EMAS, etc.), supplier code of conducts, sustainable supplier selection and supplier development, waste reduction, eco-efficiency, greenwashing, child labour and labour safety. The focus is not only on operations of the focal firm, but particularly also on sustainability challenges that enfold along globally dispersed supply chains.				
Aims	On successful completion of this program, each student will acquire the following skills: • Demonstrate independent reasoning, look critically and consciously acquired knowledge (both academic and common sense) and managerial practices, in light of emerging circumstances and their outcomes. • Decide and act responsibly, while taking into account the social, economic and environmental sometimes antinomic, outcomes in the short, medium and long term, for the various stakeholders. • Perceptively synthesize the essential elements of a situation, demontsrating a certain conceptual distance, to diagnose and identify pertinent conclusions. • Position and understand the functioning of an organization, in its local and international socioeconomic dimensions and identify the associated strategic issues and operational decisions. • Work in a team: Join in and collaborate with team members. Be open and take into consideration the different points of view and ways of thinking, manage differences and conflicts constructively, accept diversity. The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".				

Evaluation methods

The performance assessment will be based on individual and group performance:

- Group Performance (50%)
- Individual Performance (50%)

'The assessment consists of three components.

- 1. Group Presentation (20%)
- 2. Group Case Report (30%)
- 3. Individual Exam (50%)

Students who won't be present for the final exam as they are exchange students will have an alternate assessment.

Also, in case students failed the course, they will have the chance to resit their marks for the individual report and final exam in the second examination period in a 3 hour exam.

*Group Presentation:

'The group case presentation (details regarding the content and questions will be announced during the course). You will work on a real-life case. Grades will be given based on these criteria:

'Analysis""" 30%"

Suggested Solution """30%

Originality and critical thinking "20%

Professionalism and rigor of presentation" 20%

Groups can comprise max. five members.

Depending on the number of attendees, students may be required to turn in their presentation in form of a "screencast", i.e. a Powerpoint-Presentation with voice-over.

*Group Case Report

Students will be asked to develop a group research paper that analyzes main CSR issues of SCs in a particular industry (e.g. meat, coffee, mobile phones, sneakers, laptops, energy, waste). Depending on the particular industry, the structure and governance of the SCs will differ and so will major CSR problems. We ask students to analyze the most apparent CSR problems of an industry by using relevant literature.

Groups can comprise max. five members.

*Individual Exam

The final exam is a written examination based on course literature and lectures. The exam content will be narrowed down at the end of the class

Teaching methods

The format is based on active learning and includes lectures, case studies, videos, incidents and class discussion, qualified speakers and a project work in sustainability management.

Each guest speaker discusses his or her professional background and organization, sustainability program objectives, and concrete strategies for meeting those objectives.

The course provides time for questions and discussion among the instructors, the speakers, and the students, giving students valuable insights into how sustainability is managed in the real world.

Students will read case studies and some background material designed to help them answer the questions posed at the end of each case exercise. The cases will always pose practical issues for decision makers to address'but issues that are best addressed with a firm grounding in the literature of management and sustainability.

Content

In the 21st century, a company cannot maintain its competitive position or achieve continuous operating improvement without the successful implementation of strategic, well-designed, and well-implemented sustainability initiatives. Sustainability improvements are critical at many points in an operation's value chain, from initial product conception to production/manufacturing, distribution, and waste disposal.

A sustainable, socially responsible, and financially-driven company must develop, analyze, select, and implement measures that will help it capitalize on the opportunities for improved operating performance, and that will mitigate the inevitable unfavorable effects of business operations. This requires managers who can identify potential threats and challenges, develop strategies to address such challenges, conduct the evaluations of competing alternatives, and make the fact-based decisions. It also requires managers to articulate the decisions to broad sets of stakeholders (i.e., the facility manager, the chairman of the board, individual employees, community organizations, governmental/regulatory agencies).

Bibliography	Examples of references are listed below :
	Crane, A. (2013). Modern slavery as a management practice: Exploring the conditions and capabilities for human exploitation. Academy of Management Review, 38(1), 49-69.
	Egels-Zandén, N. (2014). Revisiting supplier compliance with MNC codes of conduct: Recoupling policy and practice at Chinese toy suppliers. Journal of Business Ethics, 119(1), 59-75.
	Gereffi, G., Humphrey, J., & Sturgeon, T. (2005). The governance of global value chains. Review of International Political Economy, 12(1), 78-104.
	Goebel, P. et al. (2018). Purchasing managers' willingness to pay for attributes that constitute sustainability. Journal of Operations Management, in print
	Grant, D. B., Wong, C. Y., & Trautrims, A. (2017). Sustainable logistics and supply chain management: principles and practices for sustainable operations and management. Kogan Page Publishers.
	Hofmann, H., Schleper, M. & Blome, C. (2016). Conflict minerals and supply chain due diligence: an exploratory study of multi-tier supply chains. Journal of Business Ethics, in print.
	Jiang, B. (2009). Implementing supplier codes of conduct in global supply chains: Process explanations from theoretic and empirical perspectives. Journal of Business Ethics, 85(1), 77-92.
	Porter, M. & M.R. Kramer, (2011) Creating shared value, Harvard Business Review, January-February, pp. 62-77.
	Reuter, C., Foerstl, K., Hartmann, E. & Blome, C. (2011). Sustainable global supplier management: the role of dynamic capabilities in achieving competitive advantage. Journal of Supply Chain Management, 46(2), 45-63.
	Sroufe, R. (2013). Developing Sustainable Supply Chains to Drive Value: Management Issues, Insights, Concepts, and Tools. Business Expert Press.
1	Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
	Wilhelm, M.M., Blome, C., Bhakoo, V. & Paulraj, A. (2016). Sustainability in multi-tier supply chains: Understanding the double agency role of the first-tier supplier. Journal of Operations Management, 41, 42-60.
Faculty or entity in	CLSM
charge	

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims		
Master [60] in Management	GESM2M1	5		Q		
Master [120] in Business Engineering	INGM2M	5		•		
Master [120] in Management	GEST2M	5		٩		
Master [120] in Management	GESM2M	5		Q		
Master [120] in Business Engineering	INGE2M	5		٩		