

Modulkarte/ Modulecard

Master REAP
HCU Hamburg

Module No.	Semester	Teaching staff	Entire module-coordinator
REAP_M0101	1	Peters / REAP-Team / Guest Lecturers	Prof. Irene Peters, Ph.D.

Module name	Subject area	Duration/ sem.	Frequency of offering	Type (C/CE/E)	Emphasis in overall grade/ %
Facets of Sustainability	Facets and Methods	1	yearly	C	4,17

CP (according to ECTS)	Workload/ h.	Self-study/ h.	Contact time/ h.	Contact hours/ week	Type of exam
5	150	120	30	2 SWS	S

Previous knowledge/ Conditions for participation (in form and content)

General knowledge in and interest for the natural sciences and contemporary politics

Educational aim of the module (Learning results, Skills)

- Familiarity with the natural resource flows (carbon cycle, phosphorus cycle, urban hydrology) of the Earth's ecosystems, along general lines
- "Ecological numeracy": Being familiar with key data (for example, the distribution of population across continents and their growth trends, statistical reach of fossil fuel resources, per capita energy and water consumption in different parts of the world), being capable of estimating them in broad strokes and to perform computations with them
- Knowledge of international political efforts to promote sustainability
- Basic understanding of different disciplinary approaches towards operationalising the concept of sustainability (ecology, economics ...)

Course contents

- Overview of global (environmental and natural resource) sustainability deficits (for example, climate change, atmospheric ozone depletion, depletion of water, forest and soil resources, loss of genetic diversity, habitat fragmentation, persistent organic pollutants, etc.) with a revisiting (at advanced high school level) of their natural science foundations
- The part of human activities and metropolitan areas in creating these deficits, historically, at present, and in future scenarios
- How sustainability (or sustainability deficits, respectively) was perceived over the last centuries. Classics of sustainability literature (e.g., Malthus, Carson, Schumacher, Club of Rome, also Lomborg); disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches for the analysis of the sustainability theme.
- Sustainability politics: Guiding principles and action plans the world has come up with, at international, national and local levels (Agenda 21, Green communities movement, NGOs, etc.).

Teaching and learning methods

Lectures, individual student inputs for specific subjects.

Condition for awarding the ECTS- credits

Semester work (collection) (S): regular participation and one or more of the following: Successful completion of student report, oral presentation, take-home written exam.

Further information

Latest update: 10.12.2012