

FB6894P: ESG AND SUSTAINABILITY

Effective Term

Semester B 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

ESG and Sustainability

Subject Code

FB - College of Business (FB)

Course Number

6894P

Academic Unit

College of Business (CB)

College/School

College of Business (CB)

Course Duration

Non-standard Duration

Other Course Duration

4 Days

Credit Units

2

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

Chinese

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to systematically introduce students the origin, evolution, and latest developments of ESG concept, including ESG investment and ESG practice, provide a detailed introduction to the connotations of E, S, and G respectively, and their interrelationships; Fully introduce the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, the challenges faced, and the corresponding actions taken, including PPP models. Through case studies or on-site tours of excellent ESG companies, help students to establish mindset and abilities to organize and promote corporate ESG investment and ESG practice, including the skills to organize corporate ESG and sustainable development reports. In the end, empower students with the topics to communicate and cooperate with outside world.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify key connotations of E, S, and G respectively and their interrelationships and key mindset of sustainability and details of SDGs.		x		
2	Evaluate and promote corporate ESG investment and ESG practice.			x	x
3	Formulate a listed company' s ESG annual report.			x	x
4	Discuss Greenwashing issues in ESG practice.		x		
5	Discuss PPP (Public Private Partnership) business model in SDGs.		x	x	
6	Collaborate with other students through discussion and work productively as part of a team.			x	

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Seminar	Students are required to discuss concepts and knowledge of ESG and sustainability. To assist students in understanding the taught concepts, discussion exercises are used in every lecture. Students are given exercises that cover relevant topics and are encouraged to work-along with the lecturer and their peers. These exercises help students to visualize the applications of the concepts.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
2	Case Discussions	Students are required to prepare case studies that illustrate and apply ESG and sustainability concepts. In groups, students will discuss, write-up, and present their analyses of the case and suggested recommendation.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
3	Independent Study	Students are required to pre-read the assigned chapters and other relevant materials provided by the lecturer before coming to classes. These readings provide students opportunity to think through ESG and sustainability concepts and their practices.	1, 4, 5	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Performances in Class Participation	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	40
2	In-Class Quizzes	1, 2	30
3	Final Group Project	2, 3, 6	30

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

1. Performances in Class Participation (40%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Active class attendance and engagement in discussions.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Proactively participate in class discussion by offering innovative ideas and asking questions related to ESG and sustainability.

2. Able to always present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas excellently in oral and/or written format in classes.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Proactively participate in class discussion by offering some innovative ideas and asking questions related to ESG and sustainability.

Able to frequently present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas acceptably in oral and/or written format in classes.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. Occasionally active when urged to participate in class discussion by offering some acceptable ideas and asking limited questions related to ESG and sustainability.

2. Occasionally present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas in oral and/or written format in classes.

Marginal

(D)

1. Reactively participate in class discussion by offering very limited ideas and asking very few questions related to ESG and sustainability.

2. Occasionally present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas fairly in oral and/or written format in classes.

Failure

(F)

1. Seldom participate in class discussion, offer few ideas, and ask very few questions related to ESG and sustainability.

2. Rarely present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas fairly in oral and/or written format in classes.

Assessment Task

2. In-Class Quizzes (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Exhibits critical thinking and clarity in writing while demonstrating a thorough understanding of the course content.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Show excellent command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.
2. Demonstrate excellent ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Show good command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.
2. Demonstrate good ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. Show acceptable command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.
2. Demonstrate acceptable ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Marginal

(D)

1. Show marginal command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.
2. Demonstrate marginal ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Failure

(F)

1. Show poor command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.
2. Demonstrate poor ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Assessment Task

3. Final Group Project (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Demonstrates a deep understanding of the subject matter through collaborative analysis and clear presentation.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

1. Show excellent capacity to analyze various ESG and sustainability issues and to apply course content to solve related problems.
2. Demonstrate excellent ability to communicate information effectively in written format.
3. Demonstrate strong evidence of original thinking.
4. Show high standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Good

(B+, B, B-)

1. Show good capacity to analyze various ESG and sustainability issues and to apply course content to solve related problems.
2. Demonstrate good ability to communicate information effectively in written format.
3. Demonstrate evidence of original thinking.
4. Show acceptable standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

1. Show fair capacity to understand and to analyze some major issues.
2. Demonstrate acceptable ability to communicate information in written format.
3. Demonstrate some evidence of original thinking.
4. Show fair standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Marginal

(D)

1. Marginally command course materials, with the ability to describe a few important ESG and sustainability issues.
2. Marginally be able to communicate information in written format.
3. Demonstrate marginal creativity.
4. Show minimal standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Failure

(F)

1. Failed to command course materials, with the ability to describe a few important ESG and sustainability issues.
2. Unable to communicate information in written format.
3. Demonstrate little creativity.
4. Show poor standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Assessment Task

Performances in Class Participation (40%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Active class attendance and engagement in discussions.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

Proactively participate in class discussion by offering innovative ideas and asking questions related to ESG and sustainability.

Able to always present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas excellently in oral and/or written format in classes.

Good

(B+, B)

Proactively participate in class discussion by offering some innovative ideas and asking questions related to ESG and sustainability.

Able to frequently present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas acceptably in oral and/or written format in classes.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

Reactively participate in class discussion by offering very limited ideas and asking very few questions related to ESG and sustainability.

Occasionally present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas fairly in oral and/or written format in classes.

Failure

(F)

Seldom participate in class discussion, offer few ideas, and ask very few questions related to ESG and sustainability.

Rarely present and communicate ESG and sustainability ideas fairly in oral and/or written format in classes.

Assessment Task

In-Class Quizzes (30%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Exhibits critical thinking and clarity in writing while demonstrating a thorough understanding of the course content.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

Show excellent command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.

Demonstrate excellent ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Good

(B+, B)

Show good command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.

Demonstrate good ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

Show marginal command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.

Demonstrate marginal ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Failure

(F)

Show poor command of concepts, theories, models, and analytical frameworks related to ESG and sustainability.

Demonstrate poor ability to apply theories, conceptual frameworks to tackle current problems and issues in ESG and sustainability.

Assessment Task

Final Group Project (30%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Demonstrates a deep understanding of the subject matter through collaborative analysis and clear presentation.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

Show excellent capacity to analyze various ESG and sustainability issues and to apply course content to solve related problems.

Demonstrate excellent ability to communicate information effectively in written format.

Demonstrate strong evidence of original thinking.

Show high standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Good

(B+, B)

Show good capacity to analyze various ESG and sustainability issues and to apply course content to solve related problems.

Demonstrate good ability to communicate information effectively in written format.

Demonstrate evidence of original thinking.

Show acceptable standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C)

Marginally command course materials, with the ability to describe a few important ESG and sustainability issues.

Marginally be able to communicate information in written format.

Demonstrate marginal creativity.

Show minimal standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Failure

(F)

Failed to command course materials, with the ability to describe a few important ESG and sustainability issues.

Unable to communicate information in written format.

Demonstrate little creativity.

Show poor standard of ESG and sustainability ethics.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

ESG, ESG investment, ESG Practice; Sustainability; Environment, Ecology, Climate Change, Carbon Neutrality, Zero Waste City; SDGs, Sustainable Development; PPP; Social Responsibility, Impact Investment; Corporate Governance, listed company, Stakeholder, Shareholder.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	《ESG投资》, (美)马克·墨比尔斯 卡洛斯·冯·哈登伯格 格雷格·科尼茨尼著, 中信出版社, 2021年。
2	《ESG投资》, 周君 荆中博 高婷著, 中国财政经济出版社, 2023年。
3	《2030年可持续发展议程》(中文), 联合国文件, 2015年发布。

Additional Readings

Title	
1	《环境保护与碳中和》, 王天义主编, 中国科学技术出版社, 2022年7月。
2	《文明审判: 能源、粮食、自然与人类未来》, (加拿大) 达林·夸尔曼著, 浙江人民出版社, 2022年9月。