

Sustainable Development and Participation

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

<p>Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability</p> <p>Speciality Social Sciences & Humanities</p> <p>Organizational unit Faculty of Law and Administration</p> <p>Study level first cycle (joint degree programme)</p> <p>Study form full-time degree programme</p> <p>Education profile General academic</p> <p>Mandatory elective</p>		<p>Education cycle 2025/26</p> <p>Realization year 2027/28</p> <p>Subject code UJ.WPAJBSSSHS.810.16598.25</p> <p>Lecture languages english</p> <p>Subject related to scientific research Yes</p> <p>Disciplines Political and Administrative Sciences, Sociology</p> <p>ISCED classification 0213 Fine arts</p> <p>USOS code</p>	
Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo		
Lecturer	Jeanette Behringer		
Period Semester 5	Examination graded credit	Number of ECTS points 3.0	Activities and hours Discussion class: 28

Goals

C1	The aim of the course is to acquire theoretical and empirical knowledge about the role and meaning of participation in the sustainability discourse and in sustainability politics. This includes normative principles and criteria for evaluating participation as well as empirical findings on challenges and the relationship between participation and sustainability. In addition to theoretical and empirical knowledge, students will gain insight into the practice of participation in the context of Swiss sustainability politics. This will enable them to critically reflect on and reflexively design participation to promote sustainability.
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Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student knows and understands:			
W1	the role of social and political participation for Sustainable Development on a national and global scale	JBS_K1_W01, JBS_K1_W02, JBS_K1_W04, JBS_K1_W05	credit with grade, essay, presentation
W2	theories and concepts of formal and informal political participation, as well as deliberative, participatory, and elitist models of democracy.	JBS_K1_W06, JBS_K1_W07	credit with grade, essay, presentation
Skills - Student can:			
U1	understand, develop, and present a clear and concise idea of social and political participation and its relevance to successful solutions for sustainable development.	JBS_K1_U01, JBS_K1_U02	credit with grade, essay, presentation
Social competences - Student is ready for:			
K1	to understand social and political participation as a core instrument of SD and reflect on different concepts of participation according to a variety of democratic theories.	JBS_K1_K01, JBS_K1_K02, JBS_K1_K03	credit with grade, essay, presentation

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	28
preparation for classes	16
preparation of a multimedia presentation	14
essay preparation	30
Student workload	Hours 88
	ECTS 3.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Personal experiences and reflection on participation in the field of Sustainable Development	W1, W2, U1, K1
2.	The relationship between Sustainable Development (SD) and participation within core documents of Sustainable Development	W1, W2, U1
3.	Excursion to the Swiss Parliament / Group 2030 and Alliance Sud, debate with politicians and civil society organizations on political participation	W1, W2, U1, K1
4.	Concepts of formal and informal political and social participation	W1, W2, U1
5.	The role of political and social participation for long-term and global problems in the perspective of different democratic theories	W1, W2, U1, K1
6.	Empirical evidence on forms, actors, and access to social and political participation	W1, W2, U1, K1
7.	Criteria of legitimate participation for Sustainable Development	W1, W2, U1, K1

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

text analysis, brainstorming, conversation lecture, lecture with multimedia presentation, discussion, case study, peer review

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Discussion class	credit with grade, essay, presentation	Presentation (50% of final grade), essay (50% of final grade); active participation in class discussions is required.

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. Dacombe, R., & Parvin, P. (2021). Participatory Democracy in an Age of Inequality. *Representation*, 57(2), 145-157. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00344893.2021.1933151>
2. Camarero, M. (2019). Social and Political Participation. In: Bericat, E., Jiménez-Rodrigo, M. (eds) *The Quality of European Societies*. Social Indicators Research Series, vol 75. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-05023-8_5

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K01	The graduate can encourage sustainability-driven practices in the workplace and appraise sustainability of own values, perceptions, roles, and actions, with a special focus on environmental wellbeing.
JBS_K1_K02	The graduate can demonstrate considerable entrepreneurial initiative, autonomy, and readiness to act in complex and changing environments, especially in the context of supporting, undertaking, and co-organising activities beneficial for a sustainable society.
JBS_K1_K03	The graduate can consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.
JBS_K1_U01	The graduate can critically analyse academic literature, formulate research questions and conduct research under supervision.
JBS_K1_U02	The graduate can present and report knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences – including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in a foreign language at the CEFR B2 level.
JBS_K1_W01	The graduate can describe the concept of sustainability and recognize the differences in relevant definitions, models and approaches.
JBS_K1_W02	The graduate can explain the axiological background of sustainability and summarize key stages of development of the concept.
JBS_K1_W04	The graduate can identify sustainability-related problems specific to selected cultural, geographical, and political contexts.
JBS_K1_W05	The graduate can identify essential international instruments and institutions related to sustainability and explain their potential role in resolution of a given problem.
JBS_K1_W06	The graduate can describe interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on disciplines included in the selected specialisation track (law and politics; chemistry and physics; chemistry and biology; economics and geography; economics, management and engineering; humanities).
JBS_K1_W07	The graduate can apply the theory and methodology of disciplines included in the selected specialisation track to sustainability-related problems, taking into consideration practical limitations such as protection of intellectual property.