Course BE918  
**Sustainability Challenges: Business in Society**  
BSc in Business & Economics, Elective semester 5 period 1

**Description**

The course addresses environmental and social sustainability in business practice and theory. Setting out from the wider context of business operations, it identifies the expectations and challenges that entrepreneurs and firms meet as they interact with suppliers, customers, and other stakeholders. It brings up issues of principle and practical considerations alike, focusing on business in society, practicing sustainability and finally strategies and governance for sustainability, including issues of sustainability accounting and finance. The course is organised in a series of lectures, small group seminars and a project assignment.

Aug 29, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 1 – Introduction (Örjan & Susanne)*

**Part I: The wider setting – business in society**

Aug 30, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 2 – Business in society*

Aug 31, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 3 – The main pillars of sustainability*

Sept. 5, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 4 – Beyond the nation state: global governance*

Sept. 8-9, 10.15-12.00  
*Seminar 1: SDGs dilemmas: (e.g. corruption, migration & trafficking)*  
(one semi/student)

**Part II: Practicing sustainability**

Sept 12, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 5 – Sustainable consumption & production: the consumer*

Sept 14, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 6 – Sustainable consumption and production: the firm and supply chains*

Sept 16, 10.15-12.00  
*Lecture 7 – Circular economy, sharing economy*

Sept 21, 10.15-12.00  
*Dugga: literature test (90 min.)*

Sept, 23, 10.15-12.00  
*Seminar 2: project ideas*

Sept. 23

**Part III: Business strategies and sustainability**
Sept 26, 10.15-12.00  Lecture 8 – Sustainable accounting and reporting
Sept. 28, 10.15-12.00  Lecture 9 – Sustainable finance
Sept 30, 10.15-12.00  Lecture 10 – Corporate strategies and business models
Oct 7, 10.15-12.00  Seminar 3: Debate: is there a business case for sustainability?

Part IV: Implementing sustainability approaches in Practice
Coaching – individual scheduling of 30 mins each session

Project presentations (Susanne & Örjan)
(scheduling of session to present in one of the days)
Oct 14-17