Master of Science
Circular Innovation and Sustainability

Bern University of Applied Sciences
▸ School of Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering
▸ School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences
▸ Business School

Module Title	Society and Environment
Code	MCCf323
Degree Programme	Master of Science – Circular Innovation and Sustainability
ECTS Credits	3
Workload	90 hours • 30 hours contact teaching • 15 hours group work • 45 hours self-study
Module Coordinator	Name: Dr. Dominic Blättler Phone: +41 (0) 31 910 22 50 Email: dominic.blaettler@bfh.ch Address: BFH – HAFL, Länggasse 85, 3052 Zollikofen
Lecturers	• Sandra Wilhelm; *anders kompetent GmbH* • Invited guest speakers
Entry Requirements	Prerequisite: • Have a basic understanding of concepts such as human behaviour, stakeholders, institutions, and conflict linked to environmental topics. • Take a strong interest in current issues at the human/environment interface.
Learning Outcomes and Competences	After completing the module, students: • will be able to work with the core principles and approaches at the interface of the environment and society, and understand the importance of the interrelations between humans and their environments; • can carry out a range of related analyses/tools: (e.g., stakeholder analysis, conflict analysis, apply techniques of behaviour change etc); • can relate issues to policy interventions/governance measures (e.g., public and/vs private, democratic and/vs authoritarian etc); • will be able to express their own opinion, debate with others, moderate discussions and produce focused session proceedings.
Module Content	The overarching topic of the module is 'society and the environment', understood as a complex and dynamic process of human-environment interaction based on the inseparability of social and natural systems. The module is thus concerned with aspects of global change, development, and globalisation, with social/environmental justice, individual responsibility, and framework conditions, with environmental governance and policy as well as with societal transformation towards sustainability and sustainable development.

	The Global Sustainable Development Report (2019) and the IPCC's Assessments Reports (e.g., 2021) serve as a starting point for the module: where do we stand regarding the environment, natural resources, and their management, what are the challenges and where do we go? How are natural resources utilized, shared, by whom and how, and what norms and values regulate access, their use and distribution? What are needed, meaningful ways forward, entry points for transformation? Invited guest speakers will link theory to practice by sharing professional experience from their fields of expertise.
Teaching / Learning Methods	• Presentations/inputs (lecturers, guest speakers) • Plenary work • Group work • Case studies
Assessment of Learning Outcome	• Final written exam (80%) • Assessment of group moderation & discussion summary (20%) In case of an overall insufficient grade (<4), students have the possibility to do a specific assessment improvement as defined by the module coordinator if written exam grade is minimum 3.5 (≥3.5). The maximum overall grade that can be obtained with the specific improvement is 4.
Conditions of assessment repetition	In case of failure, students can either: • Realise a re-assessment in the form of an oral examination (100%) during the next re-examination period. • Retake the full Module next time it is offered. **NB: in MSc CIS, failed modules can only be repeated once!**
Format	A week-long Module planned in calendar week n°7
Attendance & Compulsory session	Attendance at 80% of the course sessions is compulsory
Timing of the module	Winter-School
Venue	On-site
Location	Bern
Bibliography	• United Nations, 2019. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now – Science for Achieving Sustainable Development. New York. Executive Summary. • Gardner GT, Stern PC, 2000. Environmental problems and human behavior. 2nd ed. Boston, MA: Pearson Custom Publishing. • GTZ, n.d. Conflict Analysis. GTZ: FRCS. • Steg, L and Vlek C, 2009. Encouraging pro-environmental behaviour: An integrative review and research agenda. *Journal of environmental Psychology 29*.
Language	English
Links to other modules	• MCCf243 Digitalization and sustainability • MCCf313 Society and technology
Last Update	May 2023