



Module Title		Research methods 3: transdisciplinary approaches
Code	MCCf433	
Degree Programme	Master of Science – Circular Innovation and Sustainability	
ECTS Credits	3	
Workload	90 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 hours contact teaching • 76 hours self-study 	
Module Coordinator	Name: Dr. Christine Jurt Phone: +41 (0) 31 910 29 50 E-Mail: christine.jurt@bfh.ch Address: BFH – HAFL, Länggasse 85, 3052 Zollikofen	
Lecturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Maria Franco Mosquera; TI • Isabel Häberli; HAFL 	
Entry Requirements	Prerequisite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCCf413 Research methods 1: qualitative approaches 	
Learning Outcomes and Competences	After completing the module, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflect on transdisciplinary research, its principles and ethical implications; • recognize when and which transdisciplinary methods can be used in a meaningful way; • work competently in transdisciplinary groups building on the competences they have built up during the course; • engage in dialogue about policy options with the public, stakeholders, and policymakers in inclusive environments; • explain and discuss the opportunities and challenges that transdisciplinary brings along in specific projects; • know different transdisciplinary methodological approaches, applicable to the different stages of a transdisciplinary project; • recognize, analyse, and present the different perspectives of the diverse actors involved in the specific questions that need to be tackled in the particular transdisciplinary project; • set up a process of co-creation of knowledge among the diverse actors involved for jointly developing contributions to the solution of wicked problems; • design a transdisciplinary research project and know how to select suitable methods for dealing with wicked problems, especially in the sustainability realm. 	
Module Content	The complex global challenges around sustainable development – including the environmental, social, cultural, political, and financial issues linked to the circular economy paradigm – demand expertise and collaboration across academic disciplines and different non-academic sectors of society. While scientific and technological solutions are needed to tackle complex challenges, they must be linked to social change and economic development if they are to be considered transformative innovations.	

	<p>Transdisciplinary research therefore aims to understand complex issues of practical interest and is based on collaborative work between academic researchers from different unrelated disciplines (i.e., interdisciplinarity) and non-academic stakeholders such as civil society, NGOs or companies (i.e., transdisciplinarity), to create societal value.</p> <p>Students in this course will learn about transdisciplinarity and how to design, carry out and evaluate effective transdisciplinary projects.</p>
Teaching / Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flipped classroom • Contact teaching • Project-based learning • Case study • Individual and group exercises • Group coaching
Assessment of Learning Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written group work report (40%) • Individual oral examination (60%)
Conditions of assessment repetition	<p>In case of failure, students can either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat the competence assessment in the form of an individual oral examination (100%) during the next proposed re-examination period. • Retake the full module next time it is offered. <p>NB: in MSc CIS, failed modules can only be repeated once!</p>
Format	2 lessons per week over 7 weeks
Attendance & Compulsory session	Not compulsory
Timing of the module	Spring Semester
Venue	On-site
Location	Bern
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brouwer, H.; Woodhill, J.; Hemmati, M.; Verhoosel, K.; van Vugt, S. (2016). <i>The MSP guide – how to design and facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships</i>. Wageningen: Wageningen University and Research, WCDI, and Rugby, UK: Practical Action Publishing, http://dx.doi.org/10.3362/9781780446691 • Hirsch Hadorn, G. et al. (eds.) (2008). <i>Handbook of Transdisciplinary Research</i>. New York: Springer. • Pohl, C.; Hirsch Hadorn, G. (2007). <i>Principles for Designing Transdisciplinary Research. Proposed by the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences</i>. München: oekom Verlag. • Wibeck, V.; Eliasson, K.; Neset, T. (2022). Co-creation research for transformative times: Facilitating foresight capacity in view of global sustainability challenges. <i>Environmental Science & Policy</i>, 128, p. 290-298.
Language	English
Links to other modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCCf313 Society and Technology • MCCf413 Research methods 1: qualitative approaches • MCCf423 Research methods 2: quantitative approaches
Last Update	May 2023