

Get yourself the Certificate of Engagement in Sustainability (CES)

Sustainability is one of the most urgent and complex social development tasks. We believe in the impact of bottom-up processes and are convinced that every engagement can make a difference. If you have an idea to make the future more sustainable and you want to actively participate in the transformation towards a more sustainable society, BFH SUSTAINS is happy to support you.

The BFH *Certificate of Engagement in Sustainability (CES)* offers you the opportunity to expand your interdisciplinary knowledge and sustainability-related skills in a targeted manner and to demonstrate your acquired skills and individual commitment, for example to employers, with the help of an official BFH certificate.

How is the CES constructed?

The CES consists of two parts: A curricular (**knowledge and skills** / Wissen und Fertigkeiten) and an extracurricular (**engagement** / Engagement) part.

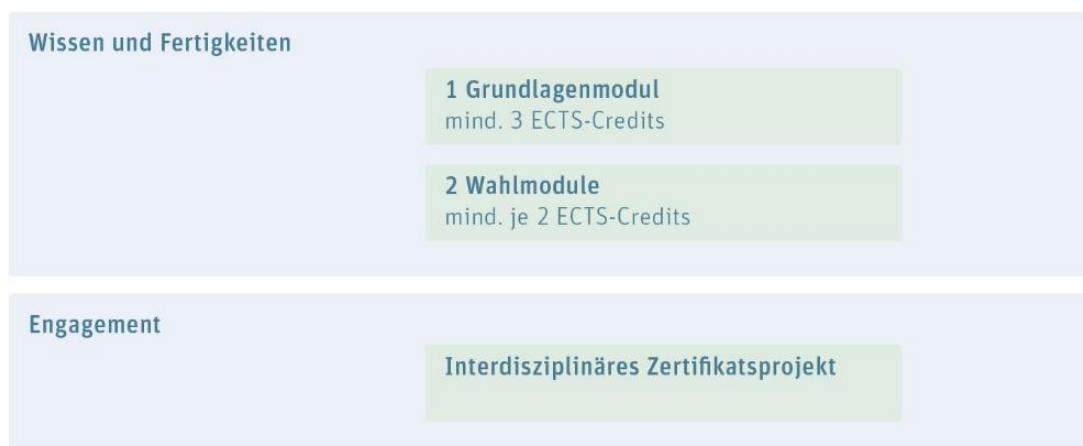


Abb. 1 Structure Certificate of Engagement in Sustainability

Knowledge and skills

In the part *knowledge & skills*, basic knowledge, awareness and fundamental competences for the goals and contents of sustainable development are acquired.

The **basics** are developed within the framework of a course comprising at least 3 ECTS. This course must deal with sustainable development in as interdisciplinary a manner as possible, addressing principles and concepts of SD and critically dealing with non-sustainable developments in our society.

From the academic year 2021/22, the following BFH diagonal modules can be credited as a foundation module (**Grundlagenmodul**):

- **Learning and Designing for a Sustainable Future** (3 ECTS, spring semester)
- **Planetary Health** (4 ECTS, Summer School)
- **Sustainability Dialogue** (3 ECTS, spring semester)

If you have taken a module at another university (e.g. as part of an exchange semester) that meets the requirements, you are welcome to apply for credit.



In addition to the basic module, you can have two additional modules credited for the area of knowledge & skills. These two elective modules can be freely chosen and can be compulsory modules in the regular degree programme or elective modules (at BFH or another university). However, a meaningful connection to the certificate project and/or the previously defined sustainability-relevant competences should be demonstrated for these modules. The scope of the two selected modules must be at least 2 ECTS each.

Engagement

In the part *engagement*, you can prove your will to change something with your certification project. While knowledge and, to some extent, skills can be taught and tested in courses, attitudes, values and will only manifest themselves in actions outside the "classroom".

Project ideas for certification projects can be developed independently or evolve from a course. However, project assignments are also advertised on www.sustains.ch. Certificate projects are already marked as such when they are announced.

What is a certificate project?

- It deals with a **multidisciplinary problem with a clear reference to sustainability**.
- **Interdisciplinary cooperation** between at least two students from different fields of study.
- **Voluntary commitment**: The project work cannot be remunerated with ECTS or financially, e.g. by the student's own employer. A certificate project cannot therefore be a thesis or term paper at the same time. However, it may very well develop into or form the basis for one.
- **Service learning**: in addition to cognitive learning, a certificate project should focus on the assumption of responsibility towards third parties (service). A reciprocal connection to curricular offers is desirable and should be encouraged if possible.
- - Certificate projects take into account the principles of **self-organised learning**.

What are the requirements for a certificate project?

- The project team must consist of at **least two students from different fields of study**.
- The time commitment per project member must be approx. **100 working hours**.
- Certificate projects must meet scientific standards.
- A certificate project must be accompanied by a **coach**.
- A certificate project needs a **project plan** (1 page), which has to be submitted and approved before the project starts, and is concluded with a short reflection report (based on approx. 4-5 questions).
- -You must be enrolled in a Bachelor's or Master's degree programme at the BFH (but this is not compulsory for the other members of the project team).

