

Title of course	Sustainable Finance
Responsible instructor	Prof Dr Mareike Heinemann
Learning objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know the motivation of investors in the consideration of sustainability aspects ▪ Identify challenges for companies to implement a sustainable business strategy ▪ Know means to measure sustainability performance and evaluate companies based on sustainable principles and make an investment decision based on environmental, social and governance criteria ▪ Learn and assess investment strategies, methods and benchmarks in the context of sustainability ▪ Know the regulatory environment and reporting initiatives ▪ Analyse selected cases from different areas of finance
Course contents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 2. Challenges to companies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Externalities 2.2 Reporting regulations and integrated reporting 2.3 Sustainability ratings 3. Financing sustainability <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Focus on long-term value creation 3.2 Equity 3.3 Debt 3.4 Portfolio Management
Teaching methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lectures ▪ Seminars ▪ Exercises ▪ Project work
Prerequisites	There are no formal requirements.
Suggested reading	<p>Preferably most recent edition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schoenmaker, D., Schramade, W.: Principles of Sustainable Finance, Oxford ▪ Bril, H., Kell, G., Rasche, A.: Sustainable Investing – A Path to a New Horizon, Routledge ▪ Sherwood, M.W., Pollard, J.: Responsible Investing – An Introduction to Environmental, Social, and Governance Investments, Routledge ▪ Thompson, S.: Green and Sustainable Finance – Principles and Practice, KoganPage ▪ Further references will be given during the classes.
Applicability	<p>This course is in particular applicable to the following Master programmes:</p> <p>International Business and Economics (M.A.; “IBE”), Finance (M.Sc.).</p> <p>This course is also applicable to other business-oriented Master programmes offered by Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences.</p>
Workload	<p>Total workload: 180 hours, of them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lecture: 45 ▪ Self-study: 135, of them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course preparation (in particular reading): 40

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Follow-up: 20 ▪ Preparation of academic research project: 45 ▪ Exam preparation: 30
ECTS credit points and weighting factor	6 ECTS credit points; weighting factor: 6/120 (IBE) or 6/90 (Finance), respectively
Basis of student evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive written examination, 90 minutes (80%) ▪ Presentation of student research project (20%)
Time	First academic year
Frequency	Each academic year
Duration	One semester
Course type	Elective course
Remarks	Teaching language is English.