

FB6890P: SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Sustainable Finance

Subject Code

FB - College of Business (FB)

Course Number

6890P

Academic Unit

College of Business (CB)

College/School

College of Business (CB)

Course Duration

Non-standard Duration

Other Course Duration

2 days

Credit Units

1

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

Chinese

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course introduces sustainable finance, including the principles, practices, and challenges of integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors into financial decision-making. Topics covered include sustainable investing, green bonds, impact investing, ESG risks and opportunities, and the role of financial institutions in promoting sustainable development. This course aims to enlighten students with established and emerging theories on how finance can be used to address sustainability challenges. The course provides students with sophisticated and rigorous training in the nexus of sustainability and financial management. By the end of this course, students will gain a foundation in the understanding of how regulations and market forces steer corporates' and investors' sustainable investment behaviours.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explain the theories and importance of ESG financing and investment (shareholder primary theory vs. stakeholder theory).		x		
2	Evaluating sustainability opportunities and risks (ESG rating and integrated reporting).		x	x	x
3	Apply ESG investment and financing decisions in a framework of corporate finance decision-making.		x	x	x
4	Apply cutting-edge theory on sustainable finance and investment to real-world managerial and investment decisions.			x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Seminars and in-class discussions	Students are encouraged to think critically and logically in responding to questions and discussing issues of real-world examples.	1, 2, 3, 4	

2	Case assignments/project	Students will have to work on case assignments/project as a group or independently. Students are required to understand critical issues in the case/project and conduct an independent analysis to develop their own solutions.	1, 2, 3, 4	In-class participation and presentation, as well as out-of-class preparation.
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Class discussion	1, 2, 3, 4	20	-	Yes
2	Individual assignment	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	Yes
3	Group project	1, 2, 3, 4	50	-	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Class discussion (20%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to demonstrate critical understanding of the course material

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B, B-) High

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Satisfactory

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

2. Individual assignment (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to apply theories introduced in class

Ability to resolve real-life issues.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B, B-) High

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Satisfactory

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

3.Group project (50%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Ability to present material in a logical manner and demonstrate the ability conduct an independent analysis to develop their own solutions.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B, B-) High

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Satisfactory

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

1. Class discussion (20%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to demonstrate critical understanding of the course material

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B) High

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

2. Individual assignment (30%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to apply theories introduced in class
Ability to resolve real-life issues.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B) High

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Assessment Task

3. Group project (50%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Ability to present material in a logical manner and demonstrate the ability conduct an independent analysis to develop their own solutions.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Outstanding

Good

(B+, B) High

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not reaching marginal level

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

ESG
ESG rating
Socially responsible investment and Impact Investment
ESG-integrated reporting and ESG disclosure
Green bonds
Financing and social inclusion
Sustainable supply chain

Greenwashing

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Lecture notes, newspaper clippings, and academic articles
2	Cases from Harvard Business School
3	Cases from China Management case-sharing center

Additional Readings

Title	
1	CFA institute (2024) ESG investing curriculum.