BTU
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

AI SYLLABUS

Sustainable Development

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of sustainable development, including environmental sustainability, social responsibility, ethical leadership, and sustainable business models. Students will explore the historical development of sustainability, current sustainability issues, and future directions in sustainable development. The course will also examine the role of business in sustainability and the potential for sustainable development to address global challenges such as climate change and social inequality.

Course Goals:

- To understand the principles and practices of sustainable development
- To examine the role of business in sustainable development
- To explore the ethical, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainability
- To develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills in the context of sustainable development

Course Outline:

Week 1: Introduction to Sustainable Development

1. Overview of the course and its objectives
2. Definitions and concepts of sustainability
3. Historical perspectives on sustainable development

Week 2: Environmental Sustainability

1. The impact of human activity on the environment
2. Climate change and its implications
3. Strategies for promoting environmental sustainability

Week 3: Social Responsibility

1. The role of business in promoting social responsibility
2. Corporate social responsibility and its impact on society

3. Strategies for promoting social responsibility

Week 4: Ethical Leadership

1. Ethics in business and sustainable development
2. Ethical leadership in promoting sustainability
3. Strategies for promoting ethical leadership

Week 5: Sustainable Business Models

1. Overview of sustainable business models
2. Examples of sustainable businesses
3. Strategies for promoting sustainable business models

Week 6: Future Directions in Sustainable Development

1. Emerging trends and challenges in sustainable development
2. Sustainable development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals
3. Strategies for promoting sustainable development

Course Assignments:

Midterm exam (25%)
Research paper on a selected topic in sustainable development (35%)
Class participation and attendance (20%)
Final exam (20%)

Required Readings:

1. "The Sustainable MBA: A Business Guide to Sustainability" by Giselle Weybrecht
2. "Sustainability: A History" by Jeremy L. Caradonna
3. "Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things" by William McDonough and Michael Braungart
4. "Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution" by Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins, and L. Hunter Lovins
5. "The Ecology of Commerce: A Declaration of Sustainability" by Paul Hawken
6. "Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming" edited by Paul Hawken
7. "The End of Nature" by Bill McKibben

8. ["Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson](#)
9. ["Blessed Unrest: How the Largest Movement in the World Came into Being and Why No One Saw It Coming" by Paul Hawken](#)
10. ["Our Common Future" by the World Commission on Environment and Development](#)

Course Resources:

- Online resources on sustainable development and sustainable business practices
- TED Talks on sustainability and sustainable development
- Guest speakers from business and non-profit organizations working in sustainable development

Classroom Policies:

- Attendance and participation are expected in every class.
- Late homework assignments will not be accepted without prior approval from the instructor. If you have an emergency or an unexpected situation that prevents you from completing an assignment on time, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.
- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the course. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that their work is original and properly cited.
- Students are expected to treat each other and the instructor with respect and professionalism. Inappropriate behavior, including harassment and discrimination, will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action.