Valid from 2024.HS

Module description: Drivers – Politics and Governance

Module Code	w.MA.XX.DPG.23HS
ECTS Credits	3
Language of Instruction/Examination	English
Module Description	The transformation towards a circular economy is supported and/or driven by policy. Central to this process are the governance and policy-mix concepts. In this module, we present and discuss the drivers and barriers as well as transformation paths towards a circular economy. At the same time, we address the multi-level governance (coordinated actions) and instruments/measures required to promote circular economy as well as associated policy challenges. Influencing policies will be analyzed from multiple stakeholder perspectives: private sector/enterprises, consumers, legislators, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Drivers and barriers are discussed in the context of international governance of climate change and biodiversity, SDG, sustainability promoting policy actions: EU Green Deal, EU Circular Economy Action Plan, as well as environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) principles.
Organizational Unit	IMI Ltg.
Module Coordinator	Raushan Bokusheva
Deputy Module Coordinator	Paula Mónica Castro Pareja
Program and Specialization	• Circular Economy Management
Legal Framework	Academic Regulations MSc in Circular Economy Management dated 02.06.2022, Appendix to the Academic Regulations for the degree program in Circular Economy Management, first adopted on 23.09.2022
Module Category	**Module Type** Compulsory
Prerequisite Knowledge	Students must have basic knowledge of: • sustainability and resources and how they are managed. • circular economy methods and definitions. • technologies and innovations in the circular economy.
Contribution to Program Learning Objectives (by the concerned Module)	• Professional Competence • Methodological Competence • Social Competence • Self-Competence
Contribution to Program Learning Objectives	**Professional Competence** • Knowing and Understanding Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance • Apply, Analyze, and Synthesize Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance • Evaluate Content of Theoretical and Practical Relevance **Methodological Competence** • Problem-Solving & Critical Thinking • Scientific Methodology • Work Methods, Techniques, and Procedures • Information Literacy • Creativity & Innovation **Social Competence** • Written Communication • Oral Communication • Teamwork & Conflict Management • Intercultural Insight & Ability to Change Perspective **Self-Competence** • Self-Management & Self-Reflection • Ethical & Social Responsibility • Learning & Change

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Module Learning Objectives	Students... • know the players, policies, and measures in multilateral, supranational, and national settings. • understand typical policy measures to foster implementation of the circular economy. • understand the strengths and weaknesses of different policy instruments. • know how to examine policymaking mechanisms (e.g., lobbying). • know how to analyze the impact of policies, regulations, and other measures. • know innovation process dynamics and policy instruments aimed at promoting innovation (technological, institutional, and social innovations).
Module Content	• The circular economy as a long-term transformation process and the role of politics • The role of policy for the circular economy. Political theory: Definition of government and governance, polity, policy, and politics • The policymaking process, introducing the case study Switzerland: “Revision USG” • Lobbying and stakeholder analysis (reference to behavioral change) • Typology of measures, policy instruments, policy mix concept. Regulation and economic instruments (bans of substances, taxes on resources extraction, extended producer responsibility, waste fees) • Policy impact evaluation • Supranational approaches • Multilateral approaches • Innovation policy and economics • Market competition and company strategic behavior • National and regional approaches • Challenges, including multilevel governance, policy integration, and the decline of industries (student presentations) • Synthesis and Q&A on exam
Links to other modules	This module is linked to the following modules:
Digital Learning Resources	• Teaching Materials
Methods of Instruction	• Lecture • Case Studies • Interactive Instruction • Exercises Social Settings Used: • Individual Work • Pair Work • Group Work

Type of Instruction

	Classroom Instruction	Guided Self-Study	Autonomous Self-Study
Lecture	22 h	50 h	
Excercise	2 h	2 h	
Project Work	-	-	
Seminar	4 h	10 h	
Total	**28 h**	**62 h**	**0 h**

Performance Assessment

End-of-module exam	Form	Length (min.)	Weighting
Written exam	closed book	60	70.00
Permitted Resources	Spec. calculator acc. to leaflet "Utilities"		

Others	Assessment	Format	Length (min.)	Weighting
Talk/oral presentation	Grade	Gruppenarbeit	30	30.00

Classroom Attendance Requirement	80%
Compulsory Reading	• Hartley, K. & Schülzchen, S. & Bakker, C. & Kirchherr, J. (2023). A policy framework for the circular economy: Lessons from the EU. Journal of Cleaner Production, 412 pp. 137176. doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2023.137176..
Recommended Reading	
Comments	