



3SG847 – GREEN & SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS

# SUMMER SCHOOL



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**3SG847 – GREEN & SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS**

**10.7. - 14.7. 2023**

**Prague University of Economics & Business**

*Faculty of Business Administration; Department of Strategy*



## INFOSHEET

**DATES: 10.7. – 14.7. 2023**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** 31.5.2023 (EARLY BIRD); **10.7.2023 (FINAL DEADLINE)**

**REGISTRATION LINK:** <https://forms.gle/D3fRTvrM84MUGhcT6>

**LOCATION:** On Campus at the Prague University of Economics & Business, nám. Winstona Churchilla 4, Prague 3 – 130 67, Czech republic

Potential opportunity to attend online uniquely for students who will not be able to attend in person due to VISA Issues.

**COUSE:** 3SG847 – Accredited 3 ECTS; participants will receive a certificate upon completion that can be validated at their home University.

**LANGUAGE:** English

**TARGET GROUP:** 3SG847 – Intense summer school programme is designed for both bachelor and master students focused on the development of holistic understanding of sustainability. This course cultivates a comprehensive understanding of global interconnectedness and the evolving landscape of sustainability and ESG factors. Students are expected to possess foundational business knowledge, as they will engage in discussions on the challenges faced by companies navigating complex systems. Our innovative curriculum blends business, geopolitical, legislative, and economic insights, utilizing interactive teaching methods such as debates and strategic workshops to address pressing sustainability issues. Join us in developing the skills and perspectives needed to make a meaningful impact in today's world.

**PRICE:** 300 EUR (EARLY BIRD); 400 EUR (STANDARD PRICE)

### **Tuition includes:**

- ⇒ Lecture material
- ⇒ Group work evaluation and feedback
- ⇒ Guided tour of the beautiful UNESCO city of Prague
- ⇒ List of recommendations for sightseeing & activities in Prague
- ⇒ Extracurricular Social Activities
- ⇒ Certificate of attendance

Upon final and successful registration and receipt of payment, our office will issue an official letter of admission which can be used for VISA applications.

Tuition excludes travel expenses and accommodation (possibility to arrange)

**ACCOMODATION:** Possibility to be arranged at the University dormitories, depending on the student's preference (4 people room, 2 people room, Single room; prices range from 20-50 EUR/night)

## LECTURERS

### Ing. Natalie Badie, MIM

Contact RB357; [natalie.badie@vse.cz](mailto:natalie.badie@vse.cz)



Natalie Badie is a strategy and sustainability consultant, educator, and PhD Candidate at the Prague University of Economics and Business. She holds a dual degree from the esteemed CEMS Master in International Management (MIM) Programme at VSE and Bocconi University. With her extensive experience in both the startup and corporate sectors, Natalie has developed a deep understanding of various business environments and their unique challenges. Her current research is focused on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) topics as they relate to the rapidly changing business landscape. She is also a member of the Research team that launched the first Czech Independent ESG Rating.

### Tanweer Ali M.A.



Tanweer, an accomplished professional with a diverse background, holds an M.A. degree in Mathematics from the prestigious University of Oxford. In addition, he has earned the esteemed CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) and FRM (Financial Risk Manager) designations. Presently, he is pursuing his PhD at the University of Hertfordshire. His experience ranges from insurance, investment banking, and consulting across the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic. Tanweer is a believer in social impact, and has acted as a board member and advisor for several non-profit organizations, primarily focusing on refugee and human rights issues. His multifaceted skill set encompasses a deep knowledge of finance and investment.

## Guest speakers

The list of guest speakers from the business will be finalized prior to the beginning of the course, but standard guests of the course include experts focused on sustainability, circularity and integration of marginalized groups.

## Aims of the course

This course has two primary objectives. First, it aims to equip you with a thorough understanding of green initiatives and the intricacies of ecosystems as a whole, while recognizing the diverse perspectives and opinions that intertwine within the realm of sustainability. Second, the course is designed to foster critical thinking skills, enabling you to grasp complex issues, evaluate the credibility of information and sources, and articulate, interpret, and debate your viewpoints.

Our goals include cultivating a deep comprehension of sustainable ecosystems and the environmental, economic, and social benefits derived from green initiatives. We will analyze the consequences of human activities on ecosystems and their long-term viability, and examine the sustainability practices employed by various organizations, assessing their impacts on both internal and external environments.

Furthermore, we will explore current and emerging green technologies and their roles in promoting sustainable ecosystems, investigate the connection between green initiatives and economic development, and identify and evaluate strategies for establishing and maintaining sustainable ecosystems.

Throughout the course, you will develop effective communication skills related to green and sustainable ecosystems, gain insights into the driving forces behind change, and familiarize yourself with the legislation focused on sustainability.

## Learning outcomes

*Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:*

1. Develop an understanding of the importance of green and sustainable ecosystems
2. Analyze the environmental, economic, social and governance related information
3. Understand the principles and strategies for constructing green and sustainable ecosystems
4. Evaluate current sustainable initiatives and assess their implications
5. Identify greenwashing and navigate through the world of misleading labelling
6. Identify impactful strategies that won't be contributing to further harm of the environment
7. Examine the impact of human activities on the environment and the potential solutions to mitigate them
8. Demonstrate the ability to create and implement sustainable initiatives in green and sustainable ecosystems
9. Empathize with the variety of stakeholders and develop the skills to defend a variety of points of view on the same topic
10. Analyze and evaluate the motivations of different stakeholders to use only selected bits and pieces of information to support one's argument and debunk them
11. Conduct a strategic workshop with a variety of stakeholders, use activation techniques and manage a discussion

## WEEK PLAN

Monday 10.7. - 9:00 – 13:00

Tuesday 11.7. - 9:00 – 13:00

Wednesday 12.7. - 9:00 – 12:00; 13:00 – 15:00

Thursday 13.7. 9:00 – 13:00

Friday 14.7. 9:00 – 12:00

## What is the content of this course?

1. Introduction / Course structure
2. UN Sustainable Development Goals
3. Historical Evolvement of CSR into ESG
4. SDGs and their integration into Sustainability Advisory
5. High impact solutions – do we have to legislate?
6. ESG – buzzword or value creator?
7. Corporate Monitoring – if we don't keep them accountable, who will?
8. Everyone is greenwashing
9. What role does finance play in the transition to sustainability?
10. Circularity & Sustainable Business Models, why does the business future lie in this field?
11. Numbers don't lie, let's put it all into perspective

## Participation

This is a discussion-based lecture that requires students' active participation. We want YOU to be part of the learning, which means YOU have to participate in the discussions with meaningful comments, interact with our guest lecturers and be an active listener to other people's thoughts and ideas. Be prepared to get your views challenged and be ready to challenge the others. Please join us with an open mind.

## News / Current Affairs

Managers should maintain a robust habit of monitoring current affairs for their own decision-making capabilities. Multiple sources of information should be regularly read and are expected to be a part of your expertise ([The Economist](#), [Financial Times](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#) etc..) If you're interested, we can share our favourite information sources, news outlets, podcasts, and so on in order to enrich each other in this class.

## Teaching Methods

**Lectures:** The course will include lectures that introduce general concepts of Sustainability with a focus on real business implications. The lectures will highly interactive using modern activation techniques and tools to encourage student participation and engagement.

**Workshops:** The course will include strategic workshops where students will have hands-on experience with practical tools used in designing new strategies and business models within multicultural teams that will be addressing the current issues at hand linked to sustainability. The workshops will be designed to allow students to work in groups and collaborate with each other.

**Discussions:** The course will include group discussions where students will have the opportunity to share their ideas and perspectives on the topics covered in class and based on the pre-readings. The discussions will be facilitated by the instructor, and they will be designed to encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

**Business professionals:** The course will also include guest lectures from business professionals who will provide real-world insights into the topics covered in class. The guest lectures will be designed to give students an opportunity to learn from industry experts and to network with professionals in the field.

**Team project:** As a part of the summer school, students will work on a team project that focuses on designing solutions for a company / industry which would be addressing sustainability. The project will be designed to give students hands-on experience in applying the concepts and tools covered in class to a real-world scenario. The project will be presented at the end of the course, and it will be evaluated by the instructor.

**Reflection report:** Students will be required to write reflection report based on their course experience. This reports will be designed to encourage students to reflect on their own learning and to articulate their thoughts and ideas in writing. The report will be structured to guide students through the process of critical reflection, and they will be graded based on the depth of analysis, coherence, and clarity of expression. The reports will be a valuable tool for students to develop their reflective practice and to improve their analytical and writing skills.

**Book discussion:** As part of the course, students will read a book related to the future outlook and the general functioning of the world by Distinguished Professor Emeritus and leading multidisciplinary scientist and author who specializes in energy, environmental, and population issues - Vaclav Smil. No other living scientist has more books on a wide variety of topics reviewed in the leading scientific journal Nature The book is picked by the instructor, and it will be discussed in class in a book discussion session. The book discussion session will be designed to encourage students to engage critically with the ideas presented in the book and to share their thoughts and opinions with their classmates. The session will be facilitated by the instructor and will be structured to guide students through a discussion of the key themes and concepts presented in the book. The book discussion will provide students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the course material and to engage in a thoughtful and meaningful discussion with their peers.