

h_da

darmstadt university
of applied sciences



Hessen International Summer University 2026

<https://isu.h-da.de/>

Course: *Sustainable Supply Chains*

CLASS HOURS

Consult preliminary program schedule on our website.

Academic Directors

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1) INFORMATION ON THE COURSE CONTENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sustainability will be the dominant driver in the design of future supply chains and businesses. Sustainable supply chains need to balance the triple bottom line of People, Planet, and Prosperity while achieving a positive financial performance.

In order to achieve a sustainable value chain, a set of comprehensive approaches need to be taken into consideration – from improvements in the production processes, the management of customer expectations, and collaboration with first-tier and second-tier suppliers.

In this International Summer University course you will learn about the importance of alignment, translate sustainable strategy into actions, sustainability trade-offs and prioritization and much more. You will also learn how supply chains can be transformed into sustainable supply chains without losing its profitability.

(Virtual) seminars provide the theoretical basis for supply chain management and sustainability.

The simulation game *Triple Connection* helps you to understand the relevant decisions and trade-offs that are needed to transform supply chains.

Field trips help you to see examples of sustainable logistic solutions, innovative technology and best practices in real-life.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To provide an introduction to the basic concepts of sustainable supply chains. Students should be able to conceptualize a sustainable supply chain approach for a specific business, dedicated product and for regions.

Next to various field trips, participants will engage in a business simulation game by implementing a sustainable strategy for a virtual chocolate milk manufacturer. Participants will be confronted with various real-life, real-time dilemmas. They will be compelled to make decisions that are critical to maintain a fair

balance between profitability and sustainability. Participants learn to align and set the right priorities in creating a sustainable supply chain.

COURSE MATERIALS

To be added later

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Class hours virtual: 8 contact hours

Class hours on-site: 76 contact hours

Self-study (virtual & on-site; including virtual group work): 52 contact hours

Total: 136 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 minutes)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Type of Seminar</i>
End of May/early June	Virtual group project (3-4 virtual sessions)	Online
June 01	Welcome and academic introductory session	Darmstadt
June 02	Guest speaker: DHL	Darmstadt
June 03	Excursion to Alnatura distribution center with wooden high-bay warehouse	Darmstadt
June 04	Tutorial: How to make a reel	Darmstadt
June 05	Introduction Triple Connection (Booster 1)	Darmstadt
June 08	Triple Connection (Booster 2 + 3 + 4)	Darmstadt
June 09	Triple Connection Round 1 + 2 Debrief after 1 + 2	Darmstadt
June 10	Triple Connection Round 3 + 4 Debrief after 3 + 4	Darmstadt
June 11	Guest speaker: Nestlé	Darmstadt
June 12	Triple Connection Round 5 + 6 Debrief after 5 + 6	Darmstadt
June 15	Company visit: LEAG (PV, battery, brown coal mine)	Lausitz
June 16	Company visits Berlin: Urban Tech Republic & BMW motor cycle production	Berlin
June 19	Final presentations	Darmstadt

2) INFORMATION ON CLASS PARTICIPATION, ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

ASSIGNMENTS

Active participation and group work on a regular basis.

EXAMS

The final grade consists of three components:

1. Online Phase Presentation (20%): Group presentation (20 minutes), followed by a 5-minute Q&A session.

2. Triple Connection Simulation Presentation and Reflection (40%): Group presentation of the Triple Connection simulation outcomes & presentation of short reflective video reels.
3. Individual Assessment (30%): Active participation in class and consistent and constructive involvement in seminars and workshops.

PRACTICE MATERIALS

Online manuscripts to be prepared and distributed among the participants via Moodle (online learning system).

PROFESSIONALISM & CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend the classes and dedicate 1-2 hours a day for preparation through reading and self-study. The participation and self-study will enable the students to answer questions, lead discussions and to contribute with own ideas and opinions.

MISSED CLASSES

No more than 10% of the contact hours can be missed for successful completion of the course module. If students miss a lecture or tutorial, it is their own responsibility to obtain information on the topics. In the event of sickness, a medical certificate must be presented to the ISU program coordinator.

3) INFORMATION ON GRADING AND ECTS

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Upon successful completion, 6 ECTS will be awarded for the class.

According to the rules of ECTS, one credit is equivalent to 25-30 hours student workload.

GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Grade		Description
90-100%	15 points	1.0	very good: an outstanding achievement
	14 points		
	13 points	1.3	
80-90%	12 points	1.7	good: an achievement substantially above average requirements
	11 points	2.0	
	10 points	2.3	
70-80%	9 points	2.7	satisfactory: an achievement which corresponds to average requirements
	8 points	3.0	
	7 points	3.3	
60-70%	6 points	3.7	sufficient: an achievement which barely meets the requirements
	5 points	4.0	
0-60%	4 points	5.0	not sufficient / failed: an achievement which does not meet the requirements
	3 points		
	2 points		
	1 point		
	0 points		

This course description was issued on December 09, 2025. The program is subject to change.