

Module Manual

M.Sc. Global Sustainability Economics

Summer Semester 2026

Content

Academic advice and information.....	3
Student Advisory Service	4
Moodle course	5
Faculty Library.....	5
CIP-Pool.....	6
Mandatory counselling session.....	6
Module Structure and Study Plan	7
Credits.....	8
Course Types.....	8
Types of examination.....	9
M.Sc. Global Sustainability Economics.....	11
Objective/Description of the Master's programme.....	12
Structure of the Master's programme	12
Recognition of academic achievements.....	14
International orientation	14
Master's thesis	15
Master's thesis.....	16
Module catalogue summer semester 2026	17

Academic advice and information

Student Advisory Service

The staff of our Dean's Office and Examination Office provide ongoing academic advice for students of all Master's programmes at the Faculty of Management and Economics. They also assist students who have changed their study programme or place of study with the recognition of academic achievements and examinations. In addition they prepare information material and organise information events. Furthermore, the faculty's university lecturers are available by appointment and/or during regular office hours to support students seeking advice on questions relating to their respective subjects and studies. Each Chair also has a member of staff who is responsible for providing academic advice during fixed office hours and the "Economics Student Council Initiative" is also available for support.

In addition to all these services, the staff of the "Centre for Economic Education" (ZföB) can likewise support students from other faculties of the Ruhr University who wish to take examinations at the Faculty of Management and Economics. The ZföB offers students a central point of contact which provides them with competent information on the examinations and also takes care of the organization of the examinations.

Programme Advisors at the Faculty of Management and Economics:

Dipl.-Ök. Michèle Lorraine Teufel (representative for study affairs) / Kim Docter, M.A.

Phone: +49 (0)234 32-22687 / +49 (0)234 32-22762

Email: wiwi-studium@rub.de

Room: GD 03/229

Open consultation hours (no appointment necessary): Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Changes to office hours and further information can be found on the website:

<https://www.wiwi.rub.de/en/students/>.

Examination Office of the Faculty of Management and Economics:

Phone: +49 (02 34) 32 22237

Email: wiwi-pa-msc@rub.de

Room: GD 03/189

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Nina Isabelle Winter (Head of the Examination Office)

Room: GD 03/183

Phone: +49 (0234) 32 25316

Office hours: Online consultation by appointment.

Changes to office hours and further information can be found on the website:

www.wiwi.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/pruefungsamt

Zentrum für Ökonomische Bildung (ZföB) / Centre for Economic Education:

Phone: +49 (02 34) 32 – 28977

Email: zfoeb@rub.de

Room: GD 03/530

Office hours:

Monday 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., room GD 03/183

Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., room GD 03/183

Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., room GD 03/183

Changes to office hours and further information can be found on the website:

<http://www.wiwi.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/zfoeb>

Economics Student Council Initiative

Email: fsi@rub.de

Room: GD 03/165

Office hours:

Mon. – Fri. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Changes to office hours and further information can be found on the website: <https://www.fsi-wiwi.de/>

Please refer to the Faculty of Management and Economics' website for contact details and office hours of individual university lecturers and staff members of the various departments:

<https://www.wiwi.rub.de/en/guide/>

Moodle course

A lot of study-related information and important dates are shared by the Student Advisory Service and the Examination Office via the Moodle course **Studium an der Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaft**. The Moodle course is aimed at all students of the Faculty of Management and Economics. Information is shared in both German and English. The password can be requested via the student council's password distribution list or at wiwi-studium@rub.de.

Faculty Library

The faculty has a well-equipped reference library, which is open to students and lecturers from Monday to Saturday between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. for study, research and teaching (entrance GD 04/220). The collection, which mainly covers Economics topics, currently comprises approximately 125,000 monographs and 65,000 volumes of periodicals. In addition to around 200 special publications from the Federal Statistical Office, there are approximately 200 up-to-date journals, yearbooks and other periodicals that are tailored to the faculty's specialist areas and are partly available as electronic full texts.

The faculty library offers students and lecturers 250 workstations and four group study rooms. Online access to online publications and research resources (OPAC, ZDB, HBZ network, digital databases, etc.) is provided by 18 multimedia student workstations. In addition, the faculty library has numerous internet connections and Wi-Fi, so that individual internet research can be conveniently carried out from any workstation in the faculty library. The full texts or bibliographies researched can be printed out directly on site using four networked copiers or archived on data carriers.

In order to make it easier for students to access information, staff members offer weekly research courses (even during the lecture-free period). In these courses, students are introduced to the literature research databases available at the Ruhr University and have the opportunity to practise useful research strategies. As freely available information on the Internet is becoming increasingly important, the range of courses on electronic full-text searches on the internet has been continuously expanded. The focus here is on finding full texts, working papers and dissertations in electronic form, as well as familiarising students with Economics-related online platforms such as Vascoda, Netec and Econbiz.

In addition to the Faculty Library of Management and Economics and other departmental libraries, the main University Library has a wide range of basic literature. Here, the collection of Economics literature comprises approximately 65,000 volumes, most of which are available for loan. The University Library also provides access to various electronic databases, with Business Source Premier and WISO-Net being particularly important from an Economics perspective.

CIP-Pool

The Faculty of Management and Economics has a total of over 60 PC workstations available for computer-based courses and independent work on PCs. The workstations are equipped with the latest operating systems and application software. The workstations for independent work are located in two freely accessible rooms (GD 02/208 and GD 02/224). Three additional computer rooms are provided for courses.

Mandatory counselling session

To enrol in one of the Master's programmes offered by the Faculty of Management and Economics, proof of a mandatory consultation must be provided. The purpose of the mandatory consultation is to clarify any questions you may have about starting your studies and to provide general information about the programme. The mandatory consultation is therefore only intended for students who have already been admitted to a Master's programme. The student advisory service informs students by email about the date of the consultation, which usually takes place online.

Module Structure and Study Plan

Credits

All modules are specified in terms of ECTS. Each successfully completed module earns 5, 7.5 or 10 credits in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The examination requirements are fully integrated into the course of study. The total volume of study for all Master's programmes at the Faculty of Management and Economics is 120 ECTS.

The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) is a student-centred system based on the average student workload required to achieve the learning outcomes at the end of a programme of study. One ECTS corresponds to an average student workload of 30 hours. This means that 30 ECTS per semester correspond to a workload of 900 hours per semester, which is required for study-related activities (attending courses, preparation and follow-up work, examinations, internships, etc.). Based on an average workload of 45 weeks of 40 hours per week, this corresponds to the international standard for the academic year.

Course Types

The following types of courses are offered as part of the modularised curriculum in the Master's programmes of the Faculty of Management and Economics:

- a) Lecture
- b) Exercise
- c) Seminar
- d) Colloquium
- e) Tutorial
- f) Project seminar

Lectures present the subject matter in an exemplary and systematic manner. They provide an overview of related issues.

Exercises serve to deepen specialist knowledge and acquire subject-specific skills and abilities using examples.

Seminars serve to deepen academic knowledge and can be offered on any topic within the subject area. They teach academic work within the thematic focus of the seminar. They are characterised by a high degree of interactivity between teachers and students.

Colloquiums serve to deepen the discussion of selected scientific issues.

Tutorials are conducted by qualified students under the responsibility of a lecturer; they serve to practise cooperative learning and working methods in small student groups and to deepen specialist knowledge. For the tutors, this activity also serves as a "university teaching internship" in which they can reflect on and develop their ability to perceive and control group communication processes, thereby acquiring professionally relevant teaching skills during their studies.

Project seminars are courses with a special organisational form, the aim of which is to work on application-oriented topics, prepare the presentation of research results within and outside the university, and improve students' linguistic and personal skills as well as their analytical and critical abilities.

Types of examination

Each Master module is completed by an examination. The type of examination depends on the module and is specified in the respective module description.

All types of examinations offered in the Faculty's Master programmes are explained in more detail below.

Written examination

In a written examination students must demonstrate that they have a really good knowledge of the module subject area and have the ability to respond appropriately to questions within a limited timeframe and using limited resources. Written examinations can be carried out online at workstations. The duration of a written examination is determined by subject-specific considerations, taking into account the CP allocated to the module. It is determined by the examiner and lasts between half an hour and two hours. The assessment process may not exceed six weeks. Multiple-choice questions may also be included in written examinations. Multiple choice is a format used in examinations in which several pre-formulated answers are available for selection for each question. The assessment criteria must be announced on the exam paper as well as 14 days before the exam. If the exam includes multiple-choice questions, the weightings of the individual parts of the examination must also be specified.

Oral examination

In an oral examination candidates must demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge of the subject area and can respond to questions in a comprehensible manner and in context. Oral examinations are usually conducted by at least two examiners or one examiner in the presence of an expert assessor. Oral examinations are taken as group examinations or as individual examinations. The oral examination should last between 15 and 30 minutes per candidate. The main items discussed and results of the examination must be recorded in a protocol. Before determining the grade, the examiners discuss the grade. The assessor must be consulted before the grade is determined. The candidate shall be informed of the examination grade immediately after the examination and the reasons for the grade shall be explained. Students who wish to take the same examination at a later date may be admitted as observers, depending on the space available and provided that the candidate does not object. This admission does not extend to the consultation session and announcement of the grade.

Seminar assessment

Seminar assessment focuses on continuous assessment through written papers, oral presentations, active class participation, and discussion. Evaluation by the seminar tutor is typically based on the quality of independent work and engagement throughout the semester. The scope is determined on the basis of subject-specific criteria, taking into account the CP allocated to the module. The examination requirement is fulfilled when the student has given a presentation and participated in the specified number of individual sessions scheduled for discussing the seminar paper. The examination is failed if the student has not given a presentation and, if applicable, has not submitted the supplementary written paper by the deadline, has not participated in the obligatory individual sessions, has not made use of the opportunity to make up for the missed individual sessions or has not done so successfully.

Presentation

A presentation is a lecture lasting at least 15 and at most 45 minutes based on a written paper. Students are expected to demonstrate that they are capable of academically researching a topic, placing it in context of the subject and presenting their findings in a structured way.

Written assignment

As part of a written assignment, a task from the module's course content is to be completed and responded to appropriately, with reference to the relevant literature and, if necessary, using other suitable resources. The resources permitted will be announced together with the task. The scope is determined based on subject-specific criteria, taking into account the CP allocated to the module.

Project assignment

A project assignment involves working independently on a given topic. Group work may also be permitted by the course instructor if it is possible to assess the contribution of each individual group member. The course instructor must define the assignment at the beginning of the course and assess each student individually at the end of the course.

Homework

Homework consists of a series of tasks set by the responsible lecturer, each of which must be completed independently by a specified deadline and submitted to the lecturer for correction. Homework may include a discussion of the tasks and any problems that may arise.

Coursework

Coursework is an additional proof of qualification that must generally be completed during the semester. On the one hand, it may be required by module coordinators as a prerequisite for completing the module. In this case, the module handbook must specify the qualitative and quantitative scope of the coursework that must be completed as a prerequisite for completing the module. On the other hand, coursework can also be a graded qualification for which bonus points can be awarded towards the final examination. In this case, the module handbook must specify the extent to which bonus points can be earned by coursework. The awarding of bonus points is limited to a maximum of 25% of the points that can be achieved in the final examination.

M.Sc. Global Sustainability Economics

Objective/Description of the Master's programme

Building on an initial professional Economics degree, the two-year, 120 ECTS Master's programme in **Global Sustainability Economics** offers a professional continuation of economic education. Taking into account the requirements of science and practice, in-depth specialist knowledge and skills for global sustainability challenges are taught. The programme aims to enable students to critically evaluate scientific findings and problem-solving strategies and to act responsibly. Students of the Master's programme are introduced to sophisticated theoretical models and modern empirical methods of economics, as well as the cultural and ethical foundations necessary for a basic understanding of sustainability. The teaching of social skills, self-management and intercultural competence is a fundamental part of the programme. The programme qualifies graduates for economic sustainability analyses in international organisations, public authorities and companies. In addition, this programme also prepares students for a career in academia. In addition to comprehensive, practice-oriented academic training, the individual teaching modules therefore place considerable emphasis on methodological and scientific content. The Global Sustainability Economics programme is the first English-language Master's programme in Economics in Germany that focuses on global sustainability.

Structure of the Master's programme

The Master's programme has a standard duration of four semesters and comprises a total of 120 credits, of which 90 CP must be earned in modules, including 10 CP in a project seminar, and 30 CP through the Master's thesis.

During the first two semesters, the focus is on imparting subject-specific knowledge and developing personal skills. In addition, the project seminar takes place in the second semester as a key event of the programme. In this central and exclusive event, students learn to analyse and understand global interrelationships from the perspective of economic research. Building on economic analysis, they identify distributional and ethical issues and develop policy recommendations in line with sustainable development goals.

After acquiring fundamental knowledge and skills in the field of global sustainability economics at the Ruhr University, students can spend a semester abroad at attractive international partner universities. The focus is on partner universities that offer a comparable Master's programme in sustainability with an economic focus. The final semester is reserved for the Master's thesis. In this semester issues raised in the project seminar can be explored in greater depth.

Ideal course of study when starting in winter semester

1 st Semester	Micro-economics 5 ECTS	Applied Econometrics with R 5 ECTS	Introduction to GSE 5 ECTS	Economics of Inequality 5 ECTS	Environmental Economics 5 ECTS	Compulsory Elective 5 ECTS
2 nd Semester	Macro-economics 5 ECTS	Introduction to Micro-econometrics 5 ECTS	International Political Economy 5 ECTS	Compulsory Electives 15 ECTS		
3 rd Semester	Project Seminar Global Sustainability 10 ECTS		(Compulsory) Electives 20 ECTS			
4 th Semester	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS					

Ideal course of study when starting in summer semester

1 st Semester	Macro-economics 5 ECTS	Introduction to Micro-econometrics 5 ECTS	Introduction to GSE 5 ECTS	International Political Economy 5 ECTS	Compulsory Electives 10 ECTS	
2 nd Semester	Micro-economics 5 ECTS	Applied Econometrics with R 5 ECTS	Economics of Inequality 5 ECTS	Environmental Economics 5 ECTS	Compulsory Electives 10 ECTS	
3 rd Semester	Project Seminar Global Sustainability 10 ECTS		(Compulsory) Electives 20 ECTS			
4 th Semester	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS					

The programme consists of ten compulsory modules, including the compulsory project seminar. **The compulsory modules comprise a total of 50 CP.**

The remaining 40 CP can be completed in the compulsory elective area (at least 30 CP), where a wide range of Economics courses related to sustainability or global issues are available. In addition, students have the option of taking a limited number (max. 10 CP) of courses related to sustainability in the field of business administration, as well as modules from other faculties that deal with specific sustainability issues and ethical questions.

Recognition of academic achievements

Academic achievements from a similar or comparable degree programme completed at another university in Germany or abroad can be recognised upon application if they are equivalent. Recognition can be granted for subject modules of the Faculty of Management and Economics or for substitute modules, known as 'dummy modules'.

Modules that were not completed at the Faculty of Management and Economics can be credited up to a maximum of 40% of the CP required for the degree programme. In the case of partnership agreements with other faculties or universities (e.g. Erasmus, University Alliance Ruhr), this maximum limit may be exceeded.

Individual modules are recognised by the Chair that teaches a comparable module or similar subject matter. To this end, it is helpful to first compare the content of the module from the other degree programme with the content of the modules offered by the Faculty of Management and Economics, e.g. using the module handbook for the current semester.

For recognition, the Chair requires the following documents in German or English:

- Transcript of records including module name, grade, CP and date of passing the module to be recognised
- Module description of the module to be recognised from the module handbook of the degree programme in which the module examination was taken
- Form „Antrag auf Anerkennung von Prüfungsleistungen“ from the Examination Office of the Faculty of Management and Economics (see <https://www.wiwi.rub.de/pruefungsamt/informationen-uebersichten/#informationenumsstudium>).

Once the module has been approved by the Chair, it will be credited by the Examination Office and transferred to FlexNow.

If you have any questions about the recognition procedure, you can always contact the Student Advisory Service of the Faculty of Management and Economics as a first step.

International orientation

Students can engage in the Faculty's existing international exchange activities. The Faculty has maintained a close bond with partner universities in Europe and beyond for many years.

Examination results obtained, for example, during an ERASMUS stay can be recognised upon application if they are equivalent. Recognition can be granted for specialist modules of the Faculty of Management and Economics or for substitute modules, so-called 'dummy modules'.

In addition to the above-mentioned modules, other academic achievements from abroad can be credited to modules offered at the Faculty of Management and Economics at the Ruhr University. If credits are transferred to such modules, these modules can no longer be taken at RUB. This form of credit transfer must also be clarified in advance with the relevant module coordinators.

The possibility of crediting foreign academic achievements should always be clarified with the International Office of the Faculty of Management and Economics before going abroad. Contact details and further information on studying abroad, applications, procedures and planning, as well as important dates, can be found on the website: <https://www.wiwi.rub.de/en/international/>.

Master's thesis					
Modul-Nr./ Module no.	Kreditpunkte/ Credit points 30 CP	Arbeitsaufwand/ Workload 900 h	Semester/ Term 4. Semester	Turnus/ Frequency	Dauer/ Duration 1 Semester
Lehrveranstaltungen/ Courses Master's thesis			Kontaktzeit/ Contact time	Selbststudium/ Self-study	Gruppengröße/ Group size
Unterrichtssprache/ Language English			Teilnahmevoraussetzungen/ Requirements Examination rules		
Anmeldeverfahren/ Registration					
Lernziele/ Learning targets Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possess broad knowledge of economics, • have in-depth knowledge of economic theories, methods, and subject areas of their chosen study program, • are able to independently work on a challenging economics topic within a given time frame, taking into account relevant theories and applying scientific methods, • are able to present their results in writing in an appropriate manner that meets the criteria of scientific work, can present the approach and results of their work orally, and relate them to related topics 					
Inhalt/ Contents Students write their master's thesis. After written assessment, an examination interview takes place. In this defense, students defend their master's thesis, drawing on related topics.					
Lehrformen/ Teaching methods Individual advice and support					
Prüfungsformen/ Mode of assessment Written master's thesis and oral defense					
Voraussetzungen für die Vergabe von Kreditpunkten/ Requirements for the award of credit points Credit points are awarded upon successful completion of the master's thesis and the final oral examination.					
Stellenwert der Note für die Endnote (bei einem Gesamtstudienumfang von 120 ECTS)/ Weight of the mark for the final score (based on a required coursework of 120 ECTS) 25%					
Lernmaterialien und Literaturangaben/ Learning material and relevant literature Assigned depending on the topic.					
Modulbeauftragte/r und hauptamtlich Lehrende/ Module coordinator(s) and lecturer(s) All chairs of the Faculty of Management and Economics					
Sonstige Informationen/ Further information					

Module catalogue | summer semester 2026
