

Course	A330A0450 Responsible International Business, 3 ECTS credits
Year and period	M.Sc. 1, period 3, 7 – 10.1.2020, intensive
Teacher(s)	Professor Rudolf R. Sinkovics, University of Manchester/Alli- ance Manchester Business School, UK Professor Olli Kuivalainen, LUT University
Aims	<p>The course introduces the concept of the world as "VUCA", a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous, system. Business decisions that we make within organisations (the economic system) are inextricably related to challenges in the societal and environmental system and vice-versa. Resource scarcity (raw materials such as clean water, energy) limits the space within which managers operate and compete successfully.</p> <p>In this context it has been suggested that those firms may sustain long-term success, which engage in responsible stewardship and actively consider external challenges in their business models.</p> <p>When students have completed this course, they will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - critically understanding and discuss the volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous, international business system within which firms operate, - appreciate and articulate the implications of sustainability decisions within global value chains, - produce articulate reports that showcase sustainability strategies and their implications, - analyse firm strategies and associated outcomes, which affect the firms themselves but also the system within which they operate, - appraise critical social and environmental issues in contemporary business contexts. <p>Furthermore, the behavioral simulation contributes to increased levels of learning in terms of: self-reflection, negotiation abilities, team-work and time-management under pressure as well as self-organiasation capabilities.</p>

<p>Content</p>	<p>The course unit will focus on the following main topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - globalisation drivers and ethical issues in IB, - firms and their relationship with the international business environment, - complexity in organisations, - global value chains and international business.
<p>Teaching methods</p>	<p>The course consists of 103h blocks taken up by lectures and student presentations.</p> <p>Lectures will be conceptually and theoretically informed. However, the style is informal and student participation (questions, comments and criticisms) are actively encouraged. Student group presentations form an important part of the course unit's learning process.</p> <p>30h of interactive lectures and cases, intensive format. 50h of preparation for lectures and assignments and examination.</p> <p>Total workload 80h.</p>
<p>Evaluation</p>	<p>Final grade 0-5.</p> <p>Evaluation 0-100 points: Grade component %:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final exam - part one - Multiple-choice questions 10% - Final exam - part two - Essay-type 40% - Group presentation of the research project(s) 30% - In-class assignments and class participation 20% - Total (The overall pass mark is 50%) 100% <p>All assignments must be passed.</p>
<p>Study Materials</p>	<p>Required: Dicken, Peter (2015), Global Shift - Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy (7th ed.). London: Sage Publications. (ISBN: 9781446282106).</p> <p>Recommended: Probst, Gilbert and Andrea Bassi (2014), Tackling Complexity: A Systemic Approach for Decision Makers. Sheffield, UK: Greenleaf Publishing Limited. (ISBN: 9781783530823). Leonard, Annie and Annie Conrad (2010), The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff Is Trashing the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health: And a Vision for Change. New York: Free Press. (ISBN: 9781439125663).</p> <p>Other readings and assignments to be announced before / in the class.</p>

Schedule

	week	day	time	lecture hall
Lectures	7-10.1.2020	Tuesday 7.1	8 – 16	7441
		Wednesday 8.1	8 – 16	205 (Student Union Building)
		Thursday 9.1	8 – 15	7339
		Friday 10.1	8 – 15	7332

Final exam in Moodle.