

Course Syllabus

EE 465 Sustainable Development

Number of credits: 3 credits (3-0-6)

Google Class enrolment key: To be announced

Course Description:

Prerequisites: EE212 (or EE214) and EE311

Development of sustainable development approach under context of socio-politico-economic development at different levels. Sustainable development crises at global level and in Thailand. Definitions and fundamental ideas regarding Sustainable Development and contemporary debates. Other approaches related to sustainable development and their critiques, such as Gross National Happiness (GNH), Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, Green Growth, etc. Economic theories related to sustainable development, such as the analysis of externalities, public goods, common-pool resources, ecological economics, Green Economy, and economic measures for sustainable development. Policies and indicators related to sustainable development at global level, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Challenges and obstacles to achieve sustainable development.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide students with deeper understanding on sustainable development approach, the Sustainable Development Goals, their principles, and related economic approaches towards sustainability, such as Circular Economy, Green Economy, Sufficiency Economy Philosophy. Historical development and critiques of the approaches and principles are also provided.
2. To increase students' knowledge and experiences on sustainable development in practice by offering how economic theories and tools, as well as other social sciences, are used in the real world to promote sustainable development.

Potential Content:

The course is structured into three main parts. Each part takes approximately 5 weeks.

Part 1: Understanding Sustainable Development and its critique

This part aims to provide a broader understanding of the term development and where the sustainable development is positioned in the landscape of development theories and history. More details of the sustainable development movement at global level are provided. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are emphasized not only on its details but also the principles on which the SDGs is based. At the end of this part, critiques on sustainable development and related concepts are discussed.

Sub-topics:

- Development of definitions and concepts
- Sustainable Development movement at Global Level
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Critiques on sustainable development, SDGs, and related principles

Part 2: Economic-related approaches to Sustainable Development

To achieve sustainable development and SDGs, several economic-related approaches have been proposed as an alternative to the mainstream economic development approach. This part introduces the students to these approaches as well as their critiques.

Sub-topics:

- Circular Economy
- Green Economy
- Doughnut Economics
- The Thailand's BCG model
- Sufficiency Economy Philosophy

Part 3: Sustainable Development in Practice

The implementation of the SDGs is not simple. It involves several stakeholders and requires intensive coordination and integration. Each step of the implementation needs financing, and monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, as SDGs implementation policy is a public policy, politics is inevitable. This part introduces the students to several practical issues in the SDG implementation. It also introduces practical economic measures to promote the achievement of the SDGs.

Sub-topics:

- Practical economic measures to achieve sustainable development
- Finance for development
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Indicators
- Comparative Sustainable Development Policies
- Politics in Sustainable Development
- Private Sector, SDGs and Sustainability Report
- Roles of Civil Society in the SDGs implementation
- Transdisciplinary Approach in Sustainability Research

Teaching Formats

- Lecture
- Guest Speakers
- Field trip to visit communities or organizations working on sustainable development