



Pathways to Sustainability

Transfakultäres
Querschnittsprogramm
Nachhaltige
Entwicklung

I Status

"Pathways to Sustainability" is a small program of interdisciplinary courses of study in sustainability offered at the University of Basel (as part of the Transfaculty Cross Section Program; in German short: TQNE).

The program is open to students from all degree programs of the University of Basel (from the third bachelor semester on). It is intended as a supplement to the enrolled degree program.

The courses can be attended individually, but it is advisable to enroll for the four of them (acquisition of a certificate, see VII).

II Study objectives

The goals of the program are:

- Knowledge of the socio-political significance of sustainability
- Reflection on the role and contributions of science

- Ability to speak competently about the current social and scientific challenges of a sustainable development
- Basic knowledge of important social, ecological and economic systems, and their interactions
- Raising of awareness of the complexity of issues related to sustainable development, the need for multiple perspectives and integrated approaches to sustainability
- Experience in interdisciplinary work and transdisciplinary dialog
- Knowledge of reasonable expectations regarding the contributions made by the natural, social and economic sciences
- Adoption of strategies to identify, evaluate and integrate knowledge from different disciplines and professional fields with a view to substantiated judgments about socially relevant issues
- Currently, particular attention is paid to the focus topic „food and sustainability“.

III Program structure

A: 41828: Lecture	Perspectives of Natural Sciences on Sustainability	3 CP	12 CP
B: 41829: Lecture	Perspectives of Social Sciences on Sustainability	3 CP	
C: 43700: Lecture	Perspectives of Economics on Sustainability	3 CP	
D: 43701: Seminar	Interdisciplinary Approaches to Sustainability	3 CP	

IV Course content

The three lectures (A-C) present, discuss and reflect on approaches, theories and findings on sustainability from the disciplinary areas of natural sciences, social sciences and economics. The knowledge gained in these classes is the foundation for work in the integrative seminar (D), in which students formulate interdisciplinary questions about socially relevant problems and address them independently in mixed-subject groups. Registration for (D) requires successful completion of two lecture courses from A-C.

V Teaching formats

Lectures with practical courses, seminar, site visit, interdisciplinary group work.

VI Language

Language of instruction is English. A good command of English is required (level B2 or higher).

VII Certification

Students who have successfully passed all courses AND completed their studies receive a certificate for the program "Pathways to Sustainability".

For this purpose, students send an email and a copy of the final degree document of the finished studies to: coordination-msd@unibas.ch

VIII Contact

Prof. Dr. Patricia Holm,
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Student advice service

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Program cooperation

Master's Degree in Sustainable Development www.msd.unibas.ch	Forschungsgruppe Mensch-Gesellschaft-Umwelt www.mgu.unibas.ch
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