

69760 - Circular Economy accounting and information

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 69760 - Circular Economy accounting and information

Faculty / School: 100 - Facultad de Ciencias

Degree: 627 - Master's Degree in Circular Economy

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 01

Semester: Second semester

Subject type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

The *Accounting and Information of Circular Economy* subject is designed to provide the fundamentals and main accounting techniques for the implementation of circular economy. It is designed for students who have social sciences and law degrees and is taught at the University of Zaragoza.

It is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda(<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), so that the acquisition of its learning results provides training and competence to contribute to some extent to the achievement of the Goal.

2. Learning results

- To know the basic components of Corporate Social Responsibility and apply them in circular economy models and how they are integrated in organizations and institutions.
- To be able to measure and analyse the social and environmental information of companies and organizations that carry out circular economy activities.
- To be able to manage the tools for measuring the introduction of the Sustainable Development Goals and sustainability objectives proposed by ecology and earth sciences in companies and organisations
- To be able to apply financial accounting and environmental management standards and tools that affect circular economy activities.
- To know the main international proposals for sustainability in circular economy models and the information derived from them.
- To be able to define and measure circular economy activities for management control, such as dematerialization, reuse, collaborative and symbiotic environments and meso-level activities in the value chain.

3. Syllabus

Topic 1. Accounting for Sustainability: circular economy and climate change

- *Triple Bottom Line* and corporate information for closing circles
- Conceptual aspects of social and environmental accounting
- Accounting regulation and sustainability
- Accounting applied to circular economy
- Greenhouse gas emission allowance accounting

Topic 2. Measurement and control of circular economy in organizations.

- Measurement and development of sustainability and circularity indicators.
- Performance assessment in circular economy environments
- Environmental management accounting methodologies: *Cradle to Cradle*, *Life Cycle Costing(LCC)* and *Material Flow Cost Accounting(MFCA)*.
- Transfer costs in collaborative and symbiosis models
- Measuring social impacts in circular business models

Topic 3. Sustainability Information

- Context and evolution of sustainability information.
- Content of sustainability information. Application to circular economy.
- Verification of sustainability information.
- Trends for *reporting* in circular economy environments

4. Academic activities

Master classes: 16 hours

Sessions of 50 minutes each for the entire group. Teachers explain the theoretical contents and solve representative applied problems. Teaching materials are available in Moodle.

Problem solving and case studies: 44 hours of student work, including 8 face-to-face hours.

Students must prepare problem solving and case studies.

Study: 84 hours

Students study theory, read supplemental readings and prepare for the final short, long and/or open-ended question test.

Assessment tests: 6 hours.

Students take a final short answer, long answer and/or open-ended questions test.

5. Assessment system

The subject is assessed using two evaluation methods: continuous and global. For this purpose, the grades obtained in the following tests will be used:

- Active participation (A).
- Problem solving and case studies (P). The solving of these exercises is an individual or group work of the students. Students will be required to submit a report at the end of each session following the guidelines and presentation format that will be established.
- Subject work (FT). The work will be conducted in continuous assessment mode throughout the subject according to the instructions provided for this purpose. Its main objective is to analyse the level of accountability of information on sustainability and, in particular, on circular economy of companies and organizations.
- Final short answer, long answer and/or open-ended question test (graded F).

The grades obtained by each student in the above assessment activities are weighted according to the following formulas:

Formula 1 (Continuous assessment): Final grade: $0.2 \times A + 0.3 \times P + 0.5 \times FT$

Formula 2: Final grade: F

It is not necessary to achieve minimum grades in the assessment tests for the application of the above formulas. The final grade will be the best grade obtained in each case after the application of formula 1 and 2.