



I-WEEK ON SUSTAINABILITY 18-22 MARCH 2024

INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1. I-WEEK OBJECTIVE

The mission of the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Antwerp, includes a strong international orientation of our educational and research activities. The “International Week on Sustainability” (“*I-Week*”) was set up to offer insights on the theme of sustainability (in a broad meaning) in an international context (speakers, students, topics). In 2024, we will celebrate the 11th edition of the I-Week! The I-Week will be held from Monday 18 March to Friday 22 March 2024 from CET 9:00 to CET 17:00, with introductory sessions on Friday 1 March, Friday 8 March and Friday, 15 March 2024 from CET 13:00 to CET 15:00.

With the theme of sustainability, we aim to expose our students to international views and perspectives on corporate sustainability, social and environmental reporting, and business strategy for sustainability. It is a great opportunity for students to acquire a global perspective and intercultural skills in a course specific context. Students will participate in interactive lectures delivered by international visiting professors or business managers with international experience. International students will have the opportunity to closely work in groups with Belgian and other international students. For an optimal learning experience, students should be very fluent in English.

2. LEARNING GOALS

Students are able to

- i. relate the overarching theme of the international week to the knowledge acquired in the different areas of business administration and business economics
- ii. view the overarching theme and these areas from an international perspective
- iii. apply gained knowledge in an international team with the acquired intercultural skills
- iv. produce a well-structured short report and video or PowerPoint presentation in English, in which creativity and the capacity to synthesize are key
- v. reflect ethically and critically on your topic within sustainability

3. PROGRAMME

An example of the programme is shown in attachment. The specific programme will be made available after the kick-off session on Friday, 1 March 2024.

3.1 HYBRID FORMAT, ATTENDANCE REQUIRED

The I-Week takes place in a hybrid learning environment: it can be followed online, in class or both. All sessions will be livestreamed for all international students to follow at home using the Blackboard



Collaborate platform. Depending on time zone differences, presentations will be recorded and made available.

It is an intense week of presentations, group work, workshops, etc. Therefore attendance during the week is required from CET 9:00 to approximately 17:00. Attendance is also required during the three introductory sessions before the I-Week. As it is a **3 ECTS course** (workload of about 75-90 hours¹), this course furthermore requires extra work before and after the I-Week, including finishing assignments in group after the I-Week.

3.2 CONTENT

Three **introductory sessions** will be organized before the start of the I-Week on Friday, 1 March, Friday, 8 March and Friday, 15 March 2024 from CET 13:00 to CET 15:00.

During the International Week, you will be able to interact with speakers from various **companies and social/non-profit organizations** as well as speakers with an **academic background** talking about **ecological sustainability, social/ethical sustainability and governance** (cf. ESG) and as well as economic sustainability. This will be done in plenary sessions and smaller workshop sessions. On Friday, a **CEO debate** is organised with several CEOs from national and international companies which put sustainability high on their agenda. And on Thursday, a **Sustainability Fair** is organized for students joining on campus.

Students are divided in **international groups of 6 to 7 students** to work on a paper and presentation of a selected organization and topic. During the week, dedicated timeslots are foreseen to work on this group assignment and feedback moments will be planned. To guide the students, short tutor sessions will be given during the week.

In a **cultural mix and match** on Wednesday you will be able to digitally meet the other students participating in the I-Week. As we yearly welcome about 30 different nationalities, the digital mix and match gives you the opportunity to foster an international exchange of ideas and get in touch with each other in an informal way.

4. EVALUATION OF LEARNING

Students will be evaluated as follows:

<u>Assessment method</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Group paper and presentation on a particular topic, within allocated teams (80% of your grade)	At latest 31 March 2024, CET 14:00

¹ <https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/study/student-services-advice/study-choice-guidance/rules-regulations/credits/>



with peer assessment which can affect your individual grade	
Individual assignment (20% of your grade)	At latest 31 March 2024, CET 14:00
Self-reflection and reflection about other people's work (mandatory but not graded)	Beginning of April 2024
Attendance (mandatory, might affect your grading)	Whole period

As **attendance** during the week is required this will be taken into account in your grading. Depending on the regulations of your home university the attendance level may vary.

All international students will receive a **certificate** from the University of Antwerp indicating their presence during the week and their grade. When and how these will be distributed depends on your home universities.

5. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

For students wishing to **participate in person**, we will provide administrative support regarding **visa application** (if necessary) and **accommodation**. The latter is very affordable and there is a wide offer of Airbnb, hostel or hotel possibilities in Antwerp.

Deadline for application through your home university is **15 Feb 2024**.

Administrative fees: The per student fees for participation is 185 Euros and applies to both online and in person participation. If the number of participating students from your home university exceeds 15, then the participation fee halves to 92 Euros per student.

Special offer to the University of Hamburg for the 2024 i-week: 20 student places for free.

More information:

[I-week website](#)

[I-week 2023 10 anniversary celebratory video](#)

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Annex: Preliminary programme for 2024 edition of i-week (subject to change)

Time CET	Online Friday 1 March	Online Friday 8 March	Online Friday 15 March	Online Monday 18 March	Online Tuesday 19 March	Online Wednesday 20 March	Online Thursday 21 March	Online Friday 22 March	Time CET	
9.00				plenary session	Parallel sessions	On campus activity/ green impact challenges	plenary session		9.00	
10.00				Break	Break		Break		10.00	
10.15				plenary session	Parallel sessions			plenary session	10.15	
11.15				Break	Break			Tutor session group work	11.15	
11.30				plenary session	Cultural mix and match			Green impact challenges	Lunch	11.30
12.00				Tutor session group work						Tutor session group work
12.30									12.30	
13.00	Kick-off	Intercultural cooperation	Introduction sustainability and tutor session creativity	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	CEO debate	13.00	
14.00	by I-week team	Guido De Wilde Peter Verhezen	Luc Van Liedekerke Peter Verhezen Ekaterina Ivanova		Parallel workshops				14.00	
15.00				Group work with feedback	Break	Group work with feedback	Group work	Awards green impact + Closing wrap-up	15.00	
15.15					Parallel workshops					15.15
15.30									15.30	
16.15									16.15	
17.00									17.00	