



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 organize the 11th edition of the I-Week! The I-Week will be held from Monday 18 March to Friday 22 March 2024 from, 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 or on campus (with a few sessions organized online for everyone). All sessions will be livestreamed for all international



students to follow at home using a central 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 onwards to later in the afternoon each day. 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 in the week 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 Thursday, a **CEO debate** is organised with several CEOs from national and international companies which put sustainability high on their agenda.

Students are divided in **international groups of around 6 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 with a dedicated professor per group will be planned.

On Wednesday, students will be part of an **interdisciplinary day** in which business and non-business students and speakers come together to discuss one central topic from different angles.

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) with peer review , which can affect your individual grade	Presentation: 22 March 2024, CET 13:00-15:30 Paper: At latest 29 March, 2024, CET 14:00
Individual assignment (20% of your grade)	At latest 29 March 2024, CET 14:00
Self-reflection on intercultural competences (mandatory but not graded)	Once before i-week and once after i-week, at the latest beginning of April 2024

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



Attendance (mandatory, might affect your grading)	Whole period
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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 National Chenghi University gets 15 places for free as an introductory offer for the 2024 iweek.** For additional participants, the per-student fee is 185 Euros and applies to both online and in-person participation. If the number of participating students from the student's home university exceeds 15, then the participation fee halves to 92 Euros per student.

More information:

[I-week website](#)

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

Henrich Brunke: henrich.brunke@uantwerpen.be

Professors & assistants of the I-Week: iweek@uantwerp.be



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	On campus - K001 Monday 18 March	On campus - K001 Tuesday 19 March	On campus - K001 Wednesday 20 March	On campus - K001 Thursday 21 March	Online Friday 22 March	Time CET	
9.00				Plenary session	Plenary session	Interdisciplinary day (incl. lunch) Topic: PFAS		Group work	9.00	
10.00				Break	Break					10.00
10.15										10.15
10.30				Plenary session	Plenary session				Plenary session	10.30
11.15				Break	Break				Break	11.15
11.30										11.30
11.45				Plenary session	Plenary session				Plenary session	11.45
12.00										12.00
12.30				Lunch	Lunch				Lunch	12.30
12.45										12.45
13.00							Lunch		13.00	
14.00	Plenary on Sustainability	Plenary on Responsible leadership	Plenary on Intercultural cooperation				CEO debate	Presentations	14.00	
15.00					Parallel workshops				15.00	
15.30				Group work with feedback		Group work with feedback	Closing wrap-up		15.30	
16.00							Break		16.00	
17.00									17.00	
18.00 to 20.00				Visit Antwerp with international students (incl. food)			Philippe De Woot award Eric Archambeau (incl. reception)		18.00 to 20.00	