



GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Course code	<i>MNG248</i>
Compulsory in the programmes	<i>Compulsory</i>
Level of studies	<i>Undergraduate</i>
Number of credits	<i>6 ECTS (48 in-class hours + 6 consultation hours + 2 exam hours, 104 individual work hours)</i>
Course coordinator (title and name)	<i>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jonathan Boyd</i>
Prerequisites	-
Language of instruction	<i>English</i>

THE AIM OF THE COURSE:

This is one of first courses in the undergraduate programme paving the foundation of the thinking around the modern world the students will have to develop their lives and work around. The key purpose of the course is not only to present the challenges of the global world and how these are undressed in the UN Sustainable Development Goals but also to discuss how these challenges can present various opportunities for future personal and professional development and innovation.

Futures Thinking is a multidisciplinary method for thinking constructively and creatively about the future, starting from the assumption that the future is not something that will happen *to* us tomorrow but is being created *by* us today. Students will be introduced to the major changes that will occur in the next 10, 20 or more years, including global warming, inequality, global health, and the future of work, among others. In each area, students will understand how experts have created scenarios to cope with uncertainty, identify dynamics, develop policy choices, assess alternatives, and ultimately, make decisions. Students will be immersed in Futures Thinking through discussing and debating influential reports – for example, by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the OECD, the United Nations, and McKinsey Global Institute. Students will then work collaboratively to assess the potential local impact of these global trends and evaluate local examples of Futures Thinking.

MAPPING OF COURSE LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES (OBJECTIVES) WITH DEGREE LEVEL LEARNING OBJECTIVES (See Annex), ASSESMENT AND TEACHING METHODS

Course level learning outcomes (objectives)	Degree level learning objectives (Number of LO)	Assessment methods	Teaching methods
CLO1. Students will be familiar with the methods of 'futures thinking' and scenario approaches to problem solving		Presentations	Lecture
CLO2. Students will understand the basics of key global issues facing governments, businesses, and individuals		Exam Presentations	Lecture
CLO3. Students will interpret and critically assess key influential reports about future scenarios from international organisations and research institutions		Presentations	Seminar
CLO4. Students will place global issues in a local context and evaluate local responses and decisions on these issues		Presentations	Seminar

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

The ISM University of Management and Economics Code of Ethics, including cheating and plagiarism are fully applicable and will be strictly enforced in the course. Academic dishonesty, and cheating can and will lead to a report to the ISM Committee of Ethics. With regard to remote learning, ISM remind students that they are expected to adhere and maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting.

COURSE OUTLINE

Topic	In-class hours	Readings
An overview of global challenges: factors, risks, causes, interrelatedness	4	[1]
Introduction to Futures Thinking	4	[2] [3] [4]
Future of the Planet	3	[5]
Future of Global Health	3	[6] [7]
Future of Food	3	[8] [9] [10]
Future of Global Inequality	3	TBA (Reading + Documentary film)
Future of Democracy & Human Rights	3	TBA (Reading + Documentary film)
Future of Work & Money	3	[11]
Future of Truth	3	TBA (Reading + Documentary film)
The challenge and opportunities brought by global challenges	3	TBA
The Role of Business	4	TBA
The Role of Social Entrepreneurs	4	[12]
The Role of Philanthropy	4	TBA
Questioning Being: Issues in relation to the individual	4	TBA (Reading + Documentary film)
	Total: 48 hours	
CONSULTATIONS	6	
FINAL EXAM	2	

FINAL GRADE COMPOSITION

Type of assignment	%
<i>Group Components</i>	
Documentary synopsis group presentation	10
Reading synopsis group presentation	10
Local initiative group presentation	25
<i>Individual Components</i>	
Midterm exam	25
Final exam	30

Total:	100
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DESCRIPTION AND GRADING CRITERIA OF EACH ASSIGNMENT

1. **Documentary synopsis group presentation (15%):** Students will – in small assigned groups – provide an oral presentation of approximately 15 minutes in length on an assigned documentary film. Presentations will be assessed on the basis of: quality of delivery, quality of presentation slides, demonstration of knowledge, critical thought, and connection to course content.
2. **Reading synopsis group presentation (15%):** Students will – in small assigned groups – provide an oral presentation of approximately 15 minutes in length on an assigned written report or article. Presentations will be assessed on the basis of: quality of delivery, quality of presentation slides, demonstration of knowledge, critical thought, and connection to course content.
3. **Local initiative group presentation (25%):** Students will – in small assigned groups – provide an oral presentation of approximately 30 minutes in length on a local (Lithuanian) example of 'futures thinking' of their choosing that reflects that particular week's theme. Presentations will be assessed on the basis of: quality of delivery, quality of presentation slides, demonstration of knowledge, critical thought, and connection to course content.
4. **Midterm exam (25%):** A multiple-choice exam will assess students' knowledge of the first five weeks of course material.
5. **Final exam (30%):** A multiple-choice exam will assess students' knowledge of the last seven weeks of course material.

RETAKE POLICY

The retake exam will assess knowledge of the entire course's content and be worth 55% of students' final grade.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

None

REQUIRED READINGS/DOCUMENTARIES

- [1] Global Challenges and Global Cooperation, <https://globalchallenges.org>
- [2] A guide to using futures thinking to help drive corporate resilience and transformational innovation, can be accessed [here](#)
- [3] Marina Gorbis (2019) 5 Principles for Thinking Like a Futurist, can be accessed [here](#)
- [4] Hans Rosling et al (2018) Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World--and Why Things Are Better Than You Think
- [5] Future Earth, <https://futureearth.org>
- [6] Healy J. A Case For The Future Of Global Health. *Harvard Public Health Review*. Summer 2015;7
- [7] <https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org>
- [8] Four Futures of Food: Global Food Outlook Alternative Scenarios Briefing, can be accessed [here](#)
- [9] Stuart Farrimond (2019). The future of food: what we'll eat in 2028, can be accessed [here](#)
- [10] Accenture (2017) The Future of Food. Can be accessed [here](#).
- [11] Future of Work: Forecasting Emerging Technologies' Impact on Work in the Next Era of Human-Machine Partnerships. Can be accessed [here](#).
- [12] Hany H Makhoulf (2011). Social Entrepreneurship: Generating Solutions To Global Challenges. *International Journal of Management & Information Systems*
- [13] Bigham, J. et al (2016) The Evolving Role of Philanthropy in Global Problem Solving JCR, can be accessed [here](#).



ADDITIONAL READINGS

TBA