

Syllabus 'Be the Change in Sustainability' / CHE, NL



Do you want to make a contribution to a world with no poverty, reduced inequalities, good working conditions and climate action? You can be the change as a person and a professional in sustainable development. In this minor you get a broad view on sustainability and you are able to put this in practice by organizing an activity to promote sustainable behaviour for a community in Ede, Amsterdam or go for two weeks to another European city. You do this with students from different cultural and professional backgrounds, which makes this a great learning experience!

Name of Institution: CHE / Ede Christian University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands)

Course Number/Name: Be the change in Sustainability

Place in year: 1st of Sept - middle of Nov

Number of Contact Hours (full semester total): 420

Number of Credits (or EC, please specify): 15 EC

Prerequisites for the course: 2 years of Higher Education

Length of the course (in weeks): 10

Instructor Name(s):

- Hylkje Algra (hfalgra@che.nl)
- Tineke de Groot
- Jody de Blois

What are you going to do?

This minor consists of three parts:

1. Foundations for sustainable development:

You learn more about the broad spectrum of sustainable development and how you as a professional can be part of a solution. You discuss with students from all over the world what this means for your personal and professional life. How does a student from South Korea view gender equality? How necessary is climate action according to a student from Rwanda?



2. Healthy communities:

You work as a group to organize an activity to promote healthy or sustainable behaviour for a vulnerable community. You do this in close collaboration with this community to get to know their struggles, needs and strengths. In this way, you can organize an activity that will help to leave no one behind! You can choose to do this in Ede or Amsterdam or go for two weeks to another European city.

3. Cultural Encounters:

Within this program you work in an intercultural project group, you describe and interpret the cultural encounters within this team and you reflect personally and professionally on these intercultural experiences.



Reviews from students

'I had to get out of my comfort zone. By doing that, I learned a lot in contact with people who are different from me. In the news I hear about refugees and everyone has an opinion. Now I could get in contact with them and that makes it more personal.'

'If I think about sustainable development, I feel motivated, but also overwhelmed. It was good to be able to do something practical to make a small contribution towards a more sustainable and inclusive world.'

Classes and assignments

1. Foundations for sustainable development:

You follow classes, guest lectures, interdisciplinary group discussions and field trips to broaden your view on sustainable development.

In the end you give a group presentation and you write a personal position paper

2. Healthy communities:

You follow classes, do community visits and make practical arrangements to organize your activity.

In the end you give a presentation or show a movie.

3. Cultural Encounters:

With your group you follow classes and have lots of cultural experiences together. This can be in the classroom, but also outside in the forest.

Learning Outcomes

1. Foundations for sustainability: You analyse a problem related to sustainability and come up with a solution related to your profession and your personal qualities.
2. Healthy communities: You develop an activity to promote healthy or sustainable behaviour in close collaboration with the target group in order to 'leave no one behind'.
3. Cultural encounters: You describe cultural interactions, collaborate interculturally and reflect on your experiences.

Textbooks used

- Rimanoczy I. (2020) The sustainability mindset principles. A guide for developing a mindset for a better world.
- Meyer, E. (2016) The culture map.
- Articles related to Intervention Mapping, targeting behavior change.