

## **PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY**

*Assistant Professor: Jochen Eckart, Ph.D.*

Welcome to the course concepts and principles of sustainability. I'm really happy to have you here in this course. My name is Jochen Eckhardt. I'm, as you maybe can hear from my accent, not an American. I'm coming from Germany. I have a quite interdisciplinary background. I have a Master of Science in urban planning, and I have a PhD In civil engineering. And exactly this interdisciplinary background is what I would like to bring into the course. Really looking on the topic of sustainability from different perspectives.

am part of the Water Research Groups here at the Patel College of Global Sustainability. And I'm doing a lot of work, in particular, in the area of green infrastructure, resilient communities, and integrated water management. We are doing, in particular, a lot of [INAUDIBLE] and international research, so I hope I can bring some of this experience to you in this class.

This course is one of the four core courses of our M.A. program in global sustainability. And it's designed, really, to give you the skills you need to be successful in the green economy. So what my course is with concepts and principles, in particular, critically discuss and understand the key terms and principles of sustainability. As a professional, you really must have the depth and the knowledge to defined and talk what sustainability means, what the principles and concepts are about. This is one thing the course will provide for you.

The second thing is, we really try to work on trying to bring these concepts and principles of sustainability down to something more tangible, coming from the broad concept, to what does it really mean for tangible action on the ground. So we would like to understand how principles can guide actual action in the ground.

And this is, I think, where we get the most out of this course, if really if you are able to critically talk about is, able to understand different perspectives. And to be successful, be active. We have a lot of interactive elements in this online course. We have discussion boards. Participate. React to your students. Look on something from different perspectives.

I'm confident that the course concepts and principles of sustainability would meet your academic and scholastic expectations. So I'm really happy to welcome you for this course, and looking forward to work with you. Please always feel free to contact me, write me any comments, suggestions, ideas you would like to discuss. I'm looking forward to work with you.