Explanation Themes and sub-themes in the Course Planner

Contents

Topic: Sustainability

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals

Sub- themes	Explanation
No Poverty (1)	End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
No Hunger (2)	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
Good Health and Well-being (3)	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
Quality Education (4)	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
Gender Equality (5)	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
Clean Water and Sanitation (6)	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
Affordable and Clean Energy (7)	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
Decent Work and Economic Growth (8)	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (9)	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.
Reduced Inequalities (10)	Reduce inequality within and amongst countries.
Sustainable Cities and Communities (11)	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
Responsible Consumption and Production (12)	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
Climate Action (13)	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
Life Below Water (14)	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
Life on Land (15)	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (16)	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
Partnership for the SDG's (17)	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.

On the physical, cognitive and/or social development of children and adolescents, and the influence of hereditary and environmental factors there on.

Sub-themes	Explanation
Infants	0 to ~18 months
Toddlers	~1,5 to ~5 years
School age	~5 to ~12 years
Adolescents	~12 to ~24 years
Dysfunctional Development	On psychiatric and/or physical developmental disorders
Language Acquisition	How does one learn a language?
Cognitive Development	On the development of perception, attention, memory, reasoning, etc.
Social Development	On the development of emotions and establishing relationships.
Family	
School	
Pedagogics/Education	
Physical Development	
Preterm Birth	On the cause and effect of preterm birth.
Addiction	On youth and addictions
Juvenile Delinquency	
Bullying	
Migration and Refugee Issues	On the effects of migration and being a refugee on cognitive and social emotional development.
Other	

Sub-themes	Explanation
Inclusivity	Concerns inclusion in society for everyone, with extra attention for disadvantaged groups.
Gender	Deals with issues related to biological sex, sex-based social structures such as gender roles, or gender identity.
Discrimination	The unwarranted differentiation between people based on the groups, classes or other categories to which they belong.
Activism	Addresses civil activities that aim for societal change.
Open Science	Concerns a(n) (innovative) way of doing science in which the diverse qualities of scientists are acknowledged, and both the practicing and results of science are communicated to society in an open manner.
Diversity	Pays attention to the differences amongst people, how these should be dealt with, and what these differences have to offer.
Migrants in Society	Concerns the cultural differences between groups and persons, and how these differences manifest themselves in society.
Other	

Sub-themes	Explanation
Alter-globalism	Is the neoliberal way of globalisation the right way of globalisation? Is there not too much attention for economic interest rather than sustainability?
Diplomacy	How to achieve a goal through skilful negotiations between groups?
Imperialism	About the pursuit of a state to gain power in other parts of the world by controlling or conquering territories.
Migration and Refugee Issues	Backgrounds, problems and solutions related to refugee flows.
Postcolonialism	On the cultural and humanitarian consequences of colonialism. Denouncing the practices of past and present.
Relatedness of Goods	About the relationship between globalisation and issues in which flows of goods play a role.
Connectedness of Ideas	About the relationship between globalisation and issues in which flows of ideas play a role.
Affiliation of Capital	About the relationship between globalisation and issues in which flows of capital play a role.
Connectedness of People	About the relationship between globalisation and issues in which flows of people play a role.
World Citizenship	What does it mean to be a global citizen? What do you need to be a good global citizen?
Other	

On human bodily and mental processes in healthy and clinical populations. How do these processes influence each other and how do external factors (such as pathogens) influence these processes?

Sub-themes	Explanation
Mind-body problem	Are mind and body fundamentally different and distinct or not?
Philosophy of Mind	On the ontology and nature of the mind and mental states.
Consciousness	
Cognition	On perception, attention, memory, decision making, etc.
Thinking	
Mindfulness	On how mindfulness affects our function and performance.
Mental health	
(Psycho)pathology	On the cause and effects of disease and/or mental disorders.
Public health	Public health in the broadest terms.
Ageing	On the physical, mental and/or social effects of ageing.
Evolution/heredity	
Nature-Nurture	On the debate on innate versus acquired characteristics.
Growth and Development	On physical and/or mental growth and development.
Metabolism	
Nutrition	On the processes and mechanisms by which an organism gains nourishment.
Infections	On pathogens and our immune responses.
Medical Humanities	An interdisciplinary perspective on health and medicine.
Other	

Topic: Digitalisation

Sub-themes	Explanation
Algorithms	Learn more about the workings and implementations of mathematical and procedural problem solving and reasoning.
Bias and Discrimination	How is it possible for logical ways of reasoning to function in exclusionary ways? How do societal patterns of in- and exclusion influence the functioning of algorithms?
Big Data	How to do research with datasets that cannot be overseen by humans and hands-on research methods? How can algorithms help to manage such datasets?
Data Visualisation	How to make patterns in big datasets visible? What are the methodological and affective challenges of visualising data?
Data, Information, Knowledge	When and on the basis of what do algorithms produce knowledge and when do they not?
Digital Methods	Digital experimental methods comprise exploratory methods, recognise patterns and predict futures.
Filter bubbles	Does our consumption of digital material on social media confirm our ways of thinking and feeling? How is it possible to come across divergent opinions?
Human Computer Interaction	Interaction between humans and machines is ongoing. How are we influenced by the machines around us and how do we influence machinic functioning?
Future of Work	What does automation and digitisation mean for the futures of work? Jobs will disappear, change and be created as the result of machines and machine learning.
Platforming	Commercial platforms play an increasing role in companies, education, and society at large. What are the challenges of this development?
Programming	Programming languages are aimed at giving instructions to computers. Because we as humans increasingly communicate with each other via computers, being able to write software or read a programming language is also becoming increasingly important.
Surveillance	Camera's record our movements and our clicks on mobile phones and laptops are also being recorded. Data about our whereabouts is stored often without our awareness. (Why) is this a problem?
Other	

Topic: Technology and society

Sub-themes	Explanation
Smart Cities	About information and communication technology and living in a modern city.
Social Medias / Fake News	About sharing knowledge and experiences via online platforms, and the risks of disinformation.
Robotics	The science, engineering and technology that makes machines that can substitute human actions
Nanotechnology	Small, smaller, nano. Where are we, where is the technology going?
Biotechnology	About biological and technical knowledge, and their application in practice.
Changing Labour Market	The labour market is changing. How? Why? To where?
Knowledge Infrastructure	How do we generate and disseminate knowledge in a structural way?
Privacy/Cybersecurity	Is our privacy still safe? How do we protect our systems and sensitive information from digital attacks?
Communities	About groups of people and their connections.
Life Long Learning	Learning never stops! On education and continuing personal development.
Other	

Sub-themes	Explanation
Complex Issues	Issues are called complex when they are comprised of many elements and do not belong to one discipline or specialisation only. How can you contribute to such issues?
Conceptual thinking	Concepts unite empirical and theoretical elements, and cut out biophysical, social or cultural phenomena. Learn about the logical or creative power of concepts.
Creativity	How are scientists, scholars, and students creative? Do such academics ask new questions? Do they combine existing disciplinary knowledge? Or something else?
Integration	Interdisciplinary scientists, scholars, and students engage in the practice of integration. They use techniques from e.g., logic to build more comprehensive understandings on the basis of existing disciplinary knowledge.
Social Relevance	Scientists, scholars, and students ask and answer questions to help advance science and scholarship, and to solve societal issues. How is your knowledge socially relevant?
Metaperspective	All science and scholarship implies a perspective on science and on the topic of research. Become aware of your own metaperspective and of that of others.
Reflection on Science	What is science and scholarship? And why are these important practices? What are different traditions of reflection on science and scholarship, and which one do you prefer?
Collaboration	The lonely intellectual no longer exists at universities world-wide. But how to collaborate successfully either within your own discipline or across disciplinary boundaries?
Making Connections	Develop your connective skills and become a bridge builder within and outside academia, and between academic and other professional specialisations.
Science Communication	Learn or reflect on how to translate scientific knowledge and insights, or discoveries and perspectives to non-academic audiences without losing detail or nuance.
Other	

Form: Community Engaged Learning

Community Engaged Learning (CEL) is a process in which students, teachers and community partners learn from each other about issues of shared concern, see
https://www.uu.nl/en/education/community-engaged-learning

Form: Honours

For honours students Utrecht University

Form: Entrepreneurship

Sub-themes	Explanation
Business, Finance & Management	Classic business courses to gain knowledge on finance, business models, marketing, management, and the like.
Innovation & Startup	Roll up your sleeves! Action-oriented education around innovation, startups and/or intrapreneurship.
Societal Impact	Committed to impact the world in a positive way? These courses take the SDGs as their starting point and/or deal with social entrepreneurship, sustainable entrepreneurship or cultural entrepreneurship.
Skills & Challenges	Challenge-based learning and education aimed at training entrepreneurial skills. Learning by doing.
Other	

Form: Creative

Learn how to use creative or artistic methods as a way to obtain scientific or scholarly knowledge and insights, or to capture such knowledge and insights in text or image.

Sub-themes	Explanation
(Cultural) diversity	In what ways do people from different cultures differ from one another? And how are those differences mobilised in interpersonal exchange?
Multiculturalism	Learn about the benefits of describing cultural differences and making them productive in science, scholarship and society.
Intercultural communication	Learn how to analyse communication across cultural difference and to be mindful or strategic in such communication.
Cultural/national identity	How do people identify with a certain country or a particular culture? What counts as typically 'Dutch', for instance?
World Citizenship	Are we citizens of a certain country, or are we rather inhabitants of a continent or of entire the world? How are theses different identifications (dis)advantageous for interpersonal exchange?
The other	We are all human beings, but we do differentiate between the 'self' and the 'other'. Do we do this by creating hierarchies or on an equal footing?
Stereotyping	Analyse what it entails to make hierarchical difference in text, image, or interpersonal contact by essentialising someone's individual preferences or cultural background. How does this work at the level of groups or populations?
Tolerance	Differences between oneself and others can also be acknowledged and tolerated. What are the (dis)advantages of such a strategy?
Inclusion	Organisations, for example, may decide to increase their internal diversity by attracting minorities. How to do this and or what reasons?
Intercultural sensitivity	Develop an intuition for the differences between your own cultural backgrounds and those of others. Communicate and analyse with an eye for difference.
Self-awareness	How are you positioned in the world and how does that positioning influence the ways in which you approach others, do research, and give advice?
Reflection	Learn to reflect on differences between people, within and between cultures, and on your own position.
Switching Perspective	Learn to assume someone else's position in academic and societal contexts. What do you learn about your own position when having switched to someone else's?
Awareness of one's own culture ('bubble')	Are you in a political, ideological, or identitarian bubble? What are its liberating aspects and when does a bubble become restrictive?
Other	

Competence: Open Science

Sub-themes	Explanation
Scientific literacy	In times of 'fake news' it is more important than ever to separate the wheat from the chaff. But who does one increase the scientific literacy of a people?
Research ethics and integrity	Scientists and scholars comply with certain regulations about researching with people and animals, and about reporting about such research. How do such norms and values look, and why are they important?
Co-creation	Scientists and scholars do not just collaborate amongst themselves. They also collaborate with other professionals and with an even more general audience so as to gain knowledge and insight. How does co-creation work?
Information literacy	We live in an information society. But are we equipped to deal critically and creatively with the huge amount of data, information, and images with which we are now confronted?
Science and society	Science and scholarship are influenced by society, are a part of society and are positioned in the midst of it. How do science and scholarship, and society mutually influence one another?
Other	