

SEEP COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course title:	Service Learning I			
Teacher(s):	Manuel Scholz-Wäckerle			
Course credit:	ECTS: 2.5		Hours per week: varies	
Semester	S1	S2	▶ S3	S4
Teaching method(s):	group projects in the city of Vienna, individual coaching, stakeholder cooperation			
Type(s) of evaluation:	Exam		▶ Written report	
	Participation / Presentation		▶ Group project	
	Other:			
Short course description	<p>The course bridges theory and practice in the context of the social ecological transformation. Students are encouraged to use their creativity, experiences and knowledge in order to develop their own particular transformation project in the Austrian context (city of Vienna). The project shall have an interdisciplinary fundament in theoretical perspective and shall work within a science-society interface in practical terms. The transmission and persistence of a progressive approach to the social ecological transformation shall get achieved and enhanced via dynamic stakeholder dialogues, opening as well as enabling of public discourses on transforming social ecological relations, emergence of novel institutions, meso units, collectives or assemblages as well as education for sustainable development.</p> <p>The course offers students the opportunity to understand different perspectives of sustainability via an experience based learning approach/service learning method.</p> <p>The method of service learning or learning by engagement represents a distinctive form of experiential learning. It represents one of the most promising methods promoting education for sustainability as it is an alternative teaching approach where students are confronted with real-world problems and try to find solutions cooperating with partners such as communities, NGOs and companies. Service Learning integrates a service activity into academic curricula and is based on the concept of "learning by doing". Students learn and develop through engaging in concrete projects by meeting the needs of communities and making personal experiences, embedded in an academic learning environment where they can reflect upon their actions.</p> <p>Service learning fosters autonomous operation of students to address a problem or need in society. Students shall design particular solution concepts for urban challenges in the local area.</p> <p>Coaching includes four phases - "Preparation, Action, Reflection and Evaluation" and will be supported via the lecturers.</p> <p>The particular format of the course trains amongst others problem-solving skills, conflict resolution skills, networked thinking, teamwork and organization skills.</p>			

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Topics (summary keywords)	Depending on Project
Selected readings:	n/a

Short bio of teacher:

Manuel Scholz-Wäckerle is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Socioeconomics. His research focuses on evolutionary political economy, institutional economics, degrowth and technology, and agent-based modelling (micro-meso-macro). Manuel holds a doctoral degree in the social and economic sciences from Vienna University of Technology. He is a council member and research area coordinator in the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (<https://eaepe.org/>).