

Module code: MOD011058	Version: 2 Date Amended: 01/Sep/2025
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1. Module Title
Sustainable Finance and ESG

2a. Module Leader
Vijay Tohani

2b. School
School of Economics, Finance and Law

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Business and Law

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module explores the intersection of finance and sustainability, focusing on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles. You'll gain a deep understanding of climate change science and its financial implications, the evolution of responsible investing, and key regulatory frameworks. The module covers various aspects of ESG investing, including environmental, social, and governance factors, and their application at country, sector, and company levels. It also examines green and sustainable finance, the role of financial technology, and the importance of engagement and stewardship in ESG investing. Through a blend of theoretical knowledge and practical applications, you'll be equipped to navigate the rapidly evolving landscape of sustainable finance and contribute to the transition towards a low-carbon economy.

6b. Outline Content

The indicative content for the module includes the following:

Section 1: Introduction to ESG Investing

- Understanding the context for different approaches to responsible investment and specifically, consideration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.
- An appreciation of the underlying factors and issues within ESG investing.
- How ESG fits within a broader sustainability context and global initiatives.

Section 2: Green and Sustainable finance

- Understand what is meant by 'green' and sustainable finance.
- Describe how different types of financial services strategies, activities, products and services can support the development of green and sustainable finance, the transition to a low-carbon economy and the quality and functioning of the natural and natural systems.
- Explore the role of financial technology in supporting the growth of green and sustainable finance.

Section 3: The Environmental Factors 1

- An appreciation of environmental factors, impacts, megatrends and approaches to environmental considerations at country, sector and company levels.

Section 4: The Social Factors

- An appreciation of social factors, systematic relationships and approaches to social considerations at country, sector and company levels.

Section 5: The Governance Factors

- An appreciation of governance factors, key characteristics and considerations.

Section 6: The ESG market, Engagement and Stewardship

- ESG within the context of engagement and stewardship. Putting it all together. An appreciation of the ESG market; key drivers, challenges, risks and opportunities.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Bloomberg Terminal access for ESG scoring in practice.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically analyse the development and current state of sustainable finance and ESG investing, demonstrating a thorough understanding of their evolution from niche concepts to mainstream financial practices.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Evaluate and compare various sustainable finance and ESG investing strategies, including their implementation in real-world scenarios and their impact on firm and fund performance.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Apply key tools, models, and frameworks used in sustainable finance and ESG investing to assess investment opportunities and risks, with a particular focus on climate finance and impact investing.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Interpret and critically assess ESG performance metrics and disclosures, demonstrating an understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with ESG data and reporting standards.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers

Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	14	1-4	1 hour Tutor-led Workshop (1hr x 11 weeks) Screencast or equivalent (20 minute maximum) x 10 weeks minimum
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	1 hour Student led Workshop (1 hr x 12 weeks)
Student managed learning	124	1-4	Learning activities provided and explained on Canvas and assessment preparations
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
MCQs and Long Form Question					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*). In addition, students are required to: (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above (b) pass any pass/fail elements [* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]
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