Course: Sustainable Mobility and Logistics

Organising institution:

Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Faculty/Department/Programme/External partners:

Faculty of Economic & Social Sciences & Solvay BS Department of Business Technology and Operations

Abstract:

This course discusses the positive and negative impact of logistics and mobility on society, economically as well as socially and ecologically. It focuses on how the sector can be organised in a more sustainable way and presents the latest techniques and results from the field.

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Website:

https://caliweb.cumulus.vub.ac.be/caliweb/?page=courseoffer&id=006823&anchor=1&target=pr&language=en&output=html

Mobility, Logistics and Automotive Technology Research Centre http://mobi.vub.ac.be/

Links:

Handbook:

Sustainable Mobility and Logistics, Macharis, C. and J. Van Mierlo (Eds.), VUBPress, 978 90 5718 335 5., 2013

Description:

Logistics and mobility are essential aspects of our society and economy. In addition, they induce a great deal of nuisance, like climate change, congestion and emissions. The key question raised by this course is how logistics and mobility can be organised in a more sustainable way, with account being taken of the system as a whole. Multidisciplinary techniques and methodologies to get a grip on the wide spectrum of sustainability are discussed. The multidisciplinary character is additionally highlighted by the variety of guest speakers who each present their own area of expertise. These experts offer a very coloured picture of the subject, which is necessary to train autonomous students to deal with the broad knowledge field of sustainability. The course is supplemented and illustrated with results from the latest research projects, since sustainability is not a utopia, but practically feasible.

The aim of the course is to enable students to apply the theory of sustainable logistics and mobility in reality and to finally become professionals who will consider sustainability criteria in plenty of projects during their careers.

Therefore, it is essential that they can think independently about the topic. This is put into practice during the course through the performance of a research assignment. The students choose a case study, map the impact and analyse the sustainability of the logistics or mobility system. Finally, they propose solutions that will lead to a more sustainable approach to the case.

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