

Sustainability in Textiles and Fashion

Hållbarhet inom textil och mode

7.5 credits

Ladok Code: AE1HB1

Version: 1.0

Established by: Committee for Education in Business and Working Life 2024-10-30

Valid from: Spring 2025

Education Cycle: First cycle

Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation): Textile Management (G1F)

Disciplinary Domain: Social sciences

Prerequisites: Approved on the course Textile Basics 5 credits and 20 credits in Textile Technology or Design courses along with at least 60 credits approved within the program or equivalent.

Subject Area: Leadership, Organisation and Management

Grading Scale: Fail (U) or Pass (G)

Content

The course aims to provide students with an understanding of sustainable development, including key concepts and perspectives that are common in the sustainability discourse within textiles and fashion. Initially, sustainability is presented from a historical perspective, while key concepts and models relevant to sustainable development within textiles and fashion are introduced. After the initial historical overview and introduction of key concepts and models, the course covers the actors involved in sustainability work within textiles and fashion, and how responsibility is distributed among companies, organizations, consumers, and governments. Finally, the course highlights how sustainability can be viewed from multiple perspectives, as well as how context affects innovation, design, technology, and definitions, as well as ways to express, measure, and achieve sustainability.

During the course, students will participate in practical, experimental, and theoretical activities that develop their skills in designing, collecting, processing, and analyzing information on sustainable development within a limited timeframe. The students will also have the opportunity to reflect on textile and fashion consumption and apply visual and oral communication related to sustainability.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- 1.1 Describe and discuss sustainable development within the textile and fashion industry from a historical and theoretical perspective,
- 1.2 provide examples of how sustainability can be viewed from different perspectives and explain how these perspectives relate to contexts and roles within the textile and fashion field,
- 1.3 using the course literature, describe contexts and situations within the textile and fashion industry where ethical issues may arise.

Skills and Abilities

- 2.1 Search for, collect, evaluate, and critically interpret information related to sustainable concepts, product development, and design processes within textiles and fashion,
- 2.2 practically explore alternative concepts related to sustainability ideas such as circularity, sustainable aesthetics, and slow fashion,
- 2.3 using the course literature and from a design and lifecycle perspective, analyze how sustainability requirements affect products, processes, and operations within textiles and fashion,
- 2.4 identify and explain how systems for verification, assessment, labeling, and monitoring of products and processes within the textile and fashion industry reflect specific aspects of sustainable development,

2.5 collaborate with other students representing different areas of expertise within textiles and fashion.

Evaluation ability and approach

3.1 With the support of the course literature, evaluate and problematize ethical and moral issues that may arise in a professional role within a globalized textile and fashion industry.

3.2 based on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, assess and problematize the impact that a business in the textile and fashion industry has on its surroundings, and

3.3 discuss how sustainability considerations drive change and skill needs within the textile industry.

Forms of Teaching

The teaching is based on lectures, practice based (experimental) workshops, and seminars.

The language of instruction is English. However, instruction in Swedish may occur.

Forms of Examination

The course will be examined through the following examination elements:

Written individual examination

Learning outcomes: 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.4 och 3.2-3.3

Credits: 3

Grading scale: Fail (U) or Pass (G)

Workshops: Written, visual and oral presentations and discussions of designs and materials developed in groups

Learning outcomes: 1.1-1.3, 2.1-2.5, 3.1 och 3.3

Credits: 4.5

Grading scale: Fail (U) or Pass (G)

To receive a grade of "Pass" for the whole course, a passing grade is required for all examination components.

If the student has received a decision/recommendation regarding special pedagogical support from the University of Borås due to disability or special needs, the examiner has the right to make accommodations when it comes to examination. The examiner must, based on the objectives of the course syllabus, determine whether the examination can be adapted in accordance with the decision/recommendation.

Student rights and obligations at examination are in accordance with guidelines and rules for the University of Borås.

Literature and Other Teaching Materials

Ellen MacArthur Foundation. (latest edition). *Circular design for fashion*. Ellen MacArthur Foundation Publishing.

Fletcher, K. (latest edition). *Sustainable fashion and textiles: design journeys*. Second edition Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.

Gwilt, Alison. (latest edition). *A Practical Guide to Sustainable Fashion*. London: Bloomsbury Visual Arts.

Henninger, C. E., Alevizou, P. J., Goworek, H., & Ryding, D. (latest edition). *Sustainability in Fashion: A Cradle to Upcycle Approach* (1st ed.). Springer International Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-51253-2>

Kahoush, M (2023). *Sustainable fibre toolkit 3*. SST, Stiftelsen Svensk Textilforskning.

United Nation (UN). (2015). *Transforming the world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld/publication>

Additional course literature and other teaching materials are provided/informed about via the learning platform (max 400 pages).

Student Influence and Evaluation

The course is evaluated in accordance with current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås in which students' views are to be gathered. The course evaluation report is published and returned to participating and prospective students in accordance with the above-mentioned guidelines, and will be taken into consideration in the future development of courses and education programmes. Course coordinators are responsible for ensuring that the evaluations are conducted as described above.

Miscellaneous

The course is part of the Bachelor's Programmes at the Swedish School of Textiles.
This syllabus is a translation from the Swedish original.