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GREENBRIDGE Instructions for the on-line platform self-learners

Green Skills - 1.1 Introduction to Sustainability and Environmental Ethics

1. Introduction

This document has been created to help you navigate the online learning platform and make the most of your self-learning experience. Inside, you will find guidance on how to follow the course step-by-step, complete activities, watch the video lessons and check your progress through quizzes and reflections.

The aim of this guide is to support you as you build the green skills needed for today's workplaces. You do not need advanced technical knowledge to begin. Each module includes clear explanations, practical examples from real jobs and simple tasks that help you connect what you learn to the profession you are preparing for.

Use this document as your personal roadmap. It will show you what to expect in each module and how to approach learning activities confidently and independently. Take your time as you navigate the platform and discover how learning about sustainability and environmental ethics can create new possibilities for your future.

2. Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, you will have a solid understanding of sustainability and why it matters in vocational education and training, also in the labour market. You will be able to explain key principles of environmental ethics and confidently bring them into your classroom practice. You will learn how to integrate sustainability concepts into your own subject area in practical and accessible ways, while applying interactive, learner-centred teaching methods that inspire awareness, reflection, and action among VET learners. You will also develop the ability to use and embed teaching resources that help your students build confidence in adopting sustainable practices.

3. How to study each module

Each module offers a brief introductory video, online reading materials and simple activities designed to help you connect what you learn with real-world sustainability issues and ethical considerations.

Follow the steps in the order presented to get the most out of the course.



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3.1. Module 1 - Foundations of sustainability

Duration	Content	Additional materials
3 min	Watch the introductory video for Module 1	Video is integrated into the module page
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 1.1 - Introduction to sustainability and sustainable development	Optional: Explore further the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from the official website
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 1.2 - Connection between sustainability, circular economy, and SMEs	Think of SMEs in your country that implement sustainability practices. Optional - Explore further the Circular Economy Action Plan and the European Green Deal .
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 1.3 - Good examples of sustainability practices implementation in companies	Review the good case practices shown in the module; note one relevant to your sector

3.2. Module 2 - Environmental ethics – principles and practices

Duration	Content	Additional material and preparation
3 min	Watch the introductory video for Module 2	Video is integrated into the module page
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 2.1 - Introduction to environmental ethics and key principles	Reflect how your sector addresses each of the four principles of environmental ethics
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 2.2 - Practices of environmental ethics - actions, policies, and lifestyles choices	Optional – explore further some of the actions or policies in the subtitle
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 2.3 - Good examples of integration of environmental ethics principles	Review the good case practices shown in the module; note one relevant to your sector

3.3. Module 3 - Education for sustainability and environmental ethics – pedagogy and practice

Duration	Content	Additional material and preparation
3 min	Watch the introductory video for Module 3	Video is integrated into the module page
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 3.1 Active learning for sustainability and environmental ethics	Review the proposed approaches, choose one, and outline a strategy for integrating it into your teaching practice.



9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 3.2 - Visual and digital tools for teaching sustainability and environmental ethics	Select 2 or 3 virtual and digital tools that can be embedded in your teaching practice Optional – test one of the tools presented in the subtitle
9 min	Read the content of Subtitle 3.3 - Student-led projects and action plans	Design a lessons plan for student-led project (the noted relevant good case practices can be integrated in this task)

4. Guidance for reflective activity and quiz

At the end of the course, you will complete a Reflective Activity and a Final Course Quiz. These will help you check what you have learned and think about how to apply it in real VET and workplace situations linked to sustainability and environmental ethics.

4.1. Reflective Activity – How to Approach It

1. Take a short moment to think about your learners and the sectors they will work in.
2. Consider the sustainability challenges they are likely to face and ethical dilemmas they may face while solving them.
3. Answer the reflective questions honestly - there are no right or wrong answers.
4. Focus on one real example from your teaching or training context.
5. Write in short, clear sentences - the goal is to support your own planning, not to produce a perfect text.
6. Keep your notes - they can help improve your future lessons, projects, and discussions with colleagues.
7. Remember that this activity is designed to help you transfer course ideas into practical action for greener practice.

4.2. Final Course Quiz – Tips for Success

1. The quiz includes multiple-choice questions about key points from each module (three pillars of sustainability, policy documents, etc.).
2. You can re-read any part of the course before taking it.
3. Try to answer based on your understanding rather than memorisation.
4. If you miss a question, review the related topic and try the quiz again.
5. The quiz helps confirm that you are ready to use these concepts in your daily work and training activities.



5. Conclusion

By completing this course you have explored the foundations of sustainability, understood the guiding principles of environmental ethics and discovered practical ways to embed these concepts into vocational education and training. You have seen how the three pillars of sustainability environmental, social and economic interconnect, also how circular economy provides actionable strategies to turn ethical commitments into measurable outcomes. Through inspiring examples from SMEs and global companies, you have witnessed how sustainability and ethics can drive innovation, resilience and long-term value in real-world settings.

As VET educators, your role is pivotal. By fostering active, student-led learning, integrating ethical reflection and applying project-based approaches, you are equipping learners with the mindset and skills they need to navigate the sustainability challenges of their future workplaces. Using digital and visual tools, simulations and collaborative platforms, you can make abstract concepts tangible, empowering students to make informed, responsible decisions.

The impact of your work extends beyond the classroom. Every discussion, project and ethical decision you guide your learners through helps build a generation of professionals who value sustainability, justice and environmental responsibility. Stay curious, embrace innovation, and take pride in the difference you make - not only in your students' careers but in the broader communities and ecosystems they will influence.