



Tárgytematika

EÖTVÖS LORÁND TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
TÁTK Nemzetközi és Európai Tanulmányok Tanszék
(TÁTK-EU-TANSZ)

2019/20/1

Tárgynév: **Sustainable Cities and Consumption**
Tárgykód: **HUM51**
Tárgyfelelős neve: **Moles Grueso Sergi Dr.**
Tárgy követelménye: **gyakorlati jegy (5)**
Tárgy heti óraszám: **0/2/0**

Oktatás célja:

The aim of this course is to develop and to apply the critical insight of MA students onto scholarly, policy and everyday aspects of consumption, with a focus on the urban environment.

Learning goals. Students are able to map and discuss a wide array of practical and theoretical approaches to sustainable consumption, in the context of their environmental impact and social implications. Moreover, students are able to identify and critique the interests and practices underlying consumption, to weigh the limits and implications of the sustainability discourse and practice. Ultimately students are able to consistently argue what are the critical elements for alternative frameworks to address current socio-environmental crises. Since the course is offered as part of the MA primarily taught in Hungarian, students are not expected to be proficient in English. On the contrary, the course constitutes an opportunity for Hungarian-speaking students to apply their English skills, which are NOT object of evaluation.

Tantárgy tartalma:

The course brings together a wide array of critical insights about sustainable consumption, with a focus on the processes taking place in the urban environment. This is important because sustainability is widely and acknowledged as able to mitigate current socio-environmental crises. Such is the case of public policies, corporate marketing and sectoral instruments. The role of experts and scholars is fundamental to maintain and to transform these conceptual truisms. Hence, the learning goals of this course coalesce in the development of capacities to reflectively engage with the practical limitations and discursive implications of sustainable consumption. The course is an opportunity for students to apply their understanding of the knowledge- and interest-based roots of the sustainability discourse as covered in core courses of the MA in Human Ecology (Humánökológia). It is also an opportunity for other Master's students of the Faculty of Sociology to expand their critical insight on the topic. The group sessions will combine seminars, field- and desk-research, debates and presentations. Student evaluation is based on student participation, both in class and online, to the course debates, and small reports that will be then presented and discussed in the classroom. Since the course is offered as part of the MA primarily taught in Hungarian, students are not expected to be proficient in English. On the contrary, the course constitutes an opportunity for Hungarian-speaking students to apply their English skills. These are NOT an object of evaluation.

Course structure

Date	Title session	Format
10 Sept	0. Introduction	Seminar - Debate
17 Sept	1. Sustainable consumption and Growth	Seminar - Debate
24 Sept	2. Global Governance of sustainable consumption: Regimes	Seminar - Debate



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Tantárgy tartalma:

1 Oct	3. Mainstream/EU policies and politics: efficiency and performance	Seminar - Debate
8 Oct	4. Corporate Social Responsibility, legitimate marketing and greenwashing.	Seminar - Debate
15 Oct	5. Entrepreneurial cities (smart cities, cities for consumption)	Possible field visit
22 Oct	6. Sustainability labels and standards for products and buildings. (EU, , LEED,....).	Seminar - Debate
29 Oct	Break (Alternative session to be allocated elsewhere: Waste management: what we know and what we don't)	Break
5 Nov	7. Cultures of consumption, Social Practice theory	Student presentations - Debate
12 Nov	8. Collaborative and entrepreneurial consumption	Student presentations - Debate
19 Nov	9. Buildings as policy and political artefacts	Possible field visit
26 Nov	10. Sectoral standards for consumer goods (e.g. Fairtrade and Organic)	Student presentations - Debate
3 Dec	11. The roles of activists, NGOs and experts	Student presentations - Debate
10 Dec	12. Reflection and engagement: from niches to Regime	Open Discussion/ Presentation of student papers and discussion

Számonkérési és értékelési rendszere:

Evaluation will be based on:

- Classroom and online discussion on readings (the latter may be written comments or questions submitted prior to the group session, but also may include blogs, Wikipedia entries or other forms of reporting that are adequate to the student's professional development goals);
- Student presentations and contribution to classroom and online debates;
- Group report, which may be based on a case study or using another format agreed with the instructor;
- Written peer review of presentations and reports.

Kötelező irodalom:



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Kötelező irodalom:

Students are expected to engage with at least one piece of literature in the preparation for each group session. These can be chosen from the list below. Those materials that are not available online will be provided by the instructor. Alternative readings and materials can be chosen to suit the course projects and career development plans of students.

Session 0. 2030- SDG 12- Responsible Consumption and Production- Ted talks. A selection of Ted talks to understand more about sustainable consumption and production. The twelfth sustainable development goal for 2030.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dR0dzsFjXc>. Also watch one of the full versions excerpted in the video (their links are available in the video description)

Session 1. Edward A. Comor, Introduction to Consumption and the Globalization Project: International Hegemony and the Annihilation of Time, International Political Economy Series (Basingstoke [England]; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).

Optional: Erik Swyngedouw, "Apocalypse Forever?: Post-Political Populism and the Spectre of Climate Change," *Theory, Culture & Society* 27, no. 2–3 (May 24, 2010): 213–32, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0263276409358728>.

Session 2. Excerpts (to be provided) from: Pamela S. Chasek, David Leonard Downie, and Janet Welsh Brown, *Global Environmental Politics*, Seventh edition, Dilemmas in World Politics (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2017).

Session 3. Kim Talus, "Environment and Energy: On a Bumpy Road Towards a Clean Energy Future," in *EU Energy Law and Policy: A Critical Account* (Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 2013), 175–211.

Session 4. Frances Bowen and J. Alberto Aragon-Correa, "Greenwashing in Corporate Environmentalism Research and Practice: The Importance of What We Say and Do," *Organization & Environment* 27, no. 2 (June 2014): 107–12, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1086026614537078>.

Session 5. David Harvey, "From Managerialism to Entrepreneurialism: The Transformation in Urban Governance in Late Capitalism," *Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography* 71, no. 1 (1989): 3, <https://doi.org/10.2307/490503>

Session 6, 8 and 10. Online materials from proponent organizations. Review of theory of change supporting some of the standards. News about social and environmental conflicts resolved and generated.

Session 7. Elective readings (to choose at least one): Alan Warde, "Consumption and Theories of Practice," *Journal of Consumer Culture* 5, no. 2 (July 2005): 131–53, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1469540505053090>. Elizabeth Shove and Gordon Walker, "What Is Energy For? Social Practice and Energy Demand," *Theory, Culture & Society* 31, no. 5 (September 1, 2014): 41–58, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0263276414536746>; Loren Lutzenhiser, "Through the Energy Efficiency Looking Glass," *Energy Research & Social Science* 1 (March 2014): 141–51, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2014.03.011>; Tim Jackson, "Consuming Paradise. Towards a Social and Cultural Psychology of Sustainable Consumption," in *The Earthscan Reader in Sustainable Consumption* (London; Sterling, VA: Earthscan, 2006), 367–95.

Session 9. Dvora Yanow, "How Built Spaces Mean. A Semiotics of Space," in *Artifacts and Organizations Beyond Mere Symbolism*, ed. Anat Rafaeli and Michael G Pratt, 2013, 368–86. Optional: Kathryn B. Janda and Marina Topouzi, "Telling Tales: Using Stories to Remake Energy Policy," *Building Research & Information* 43, no. 4 (July 4, 2015): 516–33, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09613218.2015.1020217>.

Sessions 11 and 12. Inspirational readings: Swyngedouw, "Apocalypse Forever?"; Simon Guy and Steven A. Moore, "Introduction: The Paradoxes of Sustainable Architecture," in *Sustainable Architectures: Cultures and Natures in Europe and North America*, ed. Simon Guy and Steven A. Moore (New York: Spon Press, Taylor & Francis Group, 2005), 1–12.

Session 12. Attari, David H. Krantz, and Elke U. Weber, "Statements about Climate Researchers' Carbon Footprints Affect Their Credibility and the Impact of Their Advice," *Climatic Change* 138, no. 1–2 (September 2016): 325–38, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-016-1713-2>; Edward A. Comor, Conclusions: Seedbeds for Sustainable Consumption, in *Consumption and the Globalization Project: International Hegemony and the Annihilation of Time*, International Political Economy Series (Basingstoke [England]; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008);