SUS520 • Climate Risk & Adaptation

School of Sustainability & Urban Systems • Graduate • 6 ECTS

Overview

Analyze climate risk and adaptation decisions using scenario planning, risk models, and accountability tools. Students assess impacts, prioritize interventions, and design monitoring plans that connect policy choices to measurable resilience outcomes.

LOGISTICS

Credits: 6 ECTS
Level: Graduate
School: School of Sustainability & Urban Systems
Prerequisites: None listed
Tags: climate, risk, adaptation
Meeting time: Weekly seminar + scenario lab
Instruction mode: Risk models and accountability: adaptation plans that can be audited

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
- Develop climate risk scenarios and explain model limitations
- Design adaptation strategies with measurable accountability
- Communicate risk trade-offs to stakeholders clearly
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ASSESSMENT

Components
- Coursework: 60%
- Final project: 40%

Assessment is based on scenario analyses, adaptation plans, and a final briefing.
Strong
work includes explicit uncertainty, sensitivity notes, and measurable
implementation steps.

WEEKLY PLAN

Schedule
Week 1: Week 1
  - Risk framing: hazards, exposure, vulnerability
Week 2: Week 2
  - Scenario planning: narratives and quantitative models
Week 3: Week 3
  - Adaptation strategies: what works, when, and for whom
Week 4: Week 4
  - Accountability: measurement and reporting

Extended outline
- Risk framing: hazards, exposure, vulnerability
- Scenario planning: narratives and quantitative models
- Adaptation strategies: what works, when, and for whom
- Accountability: measurement and reporting
- Equity and governance constraints
- Final: adaptation plan + monitoring and evaluation outline

POLICIES & RESOURCES

- Be careful with claims: mark uncertainty and limits.
- Equity is part of correctness: consider distributional impacts.
- Academic integrity: cite models, data sources, and references.

Suggested resources
- Scenario planning template
- Monitoring plan rubric
- Stakeholder communication checklist