COURSE:

Environmental issues and sustainability efforts can open many opportunities for businesses—product innovation can lead to first-mover advantage, environmental product differentiation can open new markets, green sourcing and waste reduction can reduce operating cost, etc. At the same time, they can present significant challenges—governments and communities are imposing higher standards on pollution, resource exploitation, etc.

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the sustainability challenges and opportunities facing supply chains today. We will look at some of the factors that are contributing to the adoption of sustainability strategies, such as legislations that are penalizing negative environmental and social impacts, and society's expectations of business in terms of health, human rights, and the environment. The supply chains today cannot be concerned only with creating shareholder value; their performance is also measured in terms of social, environmental and economic impact.

KEY CONCEPTS:

- Sustainability concepts and frameworks
- Scarce resources
- Environmental legislation
- Sustainable design of products
- Renewable energy
- Closed-loop supply chains
- Facilities and locations decisions
- Transportation decisions
- Supplier management
- Strategic sustainability implementation.

CLASS FORMAT:

- Lectures
- Case discussions
- Guest speakers
- Movie clips

MAJOR DELIVERABLES:

- Group case assignments
- Group project
- Individual submissions
- Test
- Class participation