

Course syllabus

Circular Retail and Sustainable Consumption Cirkulär handel och hållbar konsumtion

TFRE55, 3.0 credits, G1 (First Cycle)

Valid for: 2026/27

Faculty: Faculty of Engineering LTH

Decided by: PLED I

Date of Decision: 2025-12-12

General Information

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements: First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Language of instruction: The course will be given in English

Aim

The course aims to ensure that participants understand and can practically work with how retail companies can create profitable circular business models. The course provides an insight into the fundamentals of logistics and basic knowledge of its importance in the transition to circular services (such as second-hand, repair, and rental) to promote more sustainable consumption. The course also offers an introduction to circular commerce and sustainable consumption. Teaching methods include analyzing real cases of retail companies' logistics networks.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a passing grade the student must

- understanding of the fundamentals of logistics,
- have basic knowledge of the role of logistics in retail companies with a focus on both strategic and operational issues,

- understanding of the relationship between customer service, environmental impact and profitability in retail,
- have insight into the role, opportunities, and challenges of logistics for circular consumption.

Competences and skills

For a passing grade the student must

- be able to explain important logistical concepts,
- describe material and information flows within the retail companies' logistics network for circular retail,
- identify circular logistics networks where sustainability falls short, and propose practical solutions for improvement.

Judgement and approach

For a passing grade the student must

- demonstrate awareness of considerations associated with decisions in logistics networks for circular services (second hand, repair, rental),
- use critical and creative thinking around logistics-related challenges in circular trade,
- evaluate benefits, challenges, and trade-offs with different approaches for circular services with regard to customer utility, environmental aspects, and profitability.

Contents

- The fundamentals of logistics: Value creation, strategic and operational perspectives.
- Basics of the circular economy: Trade-offs in terms of customer service, environmental impact, and profitability
- Designing the retail logistics network for circular services: infrastructure, nodes, flows, processes, capabilities and partnerships.
- The course includes lectures and case studies.

Examination details

Grading scale: UG - (U, G) - (Fail, Pass)

Assessment:

Approved preparation and active participation in two case study seminars. Compulsory attendance may occur in certain parts.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Modules

Code: 0125. **Name:** Group Assignment 1.

Credits: 1.5. **Grading scale:** UG - (U, G). **Assessment:** Approved preparation task and presentation in group **The module includes:** The students work in groups of three and select a retail company on their own. They focus on a selected product and circular service and use secondary material (company reports, news articles, etc.) to map and analyze opportunities and challenges for the circular logistics network. They present this in writing and orally at a seminar.

Code: 0225. **Name:** Group Assignment 2.

Credits: 1.5. **Grading scale:** UG - (U, G). **Assessment:** Approved preparation task and presentation in group **The module includes:** Students are assigned a real-life case (anonymized company; specific product category and circular service). The

students work in groups of three and propose changes in the logistics network for the transition to circular retail. They present this in writing and orally at a seminar.

Admission

The number of participants is limited to: No

Reading list

- Weetman, Catherine: A circular economy handbook for business and supply chains : repair, remake, redesign, rethink. London : Kogan Page, 2017, ISBN: 0749476753.

Contact

Course coordinator: Joakim Kembro, joakim.kembro@tlog.lth.se

Examiner: Joakim Kembro, joakim.kembro@tlog.lth.se

Course administrator: Ida Åström, ida.astrom@lth.lu.se