



## **Module Specification**

### Researching Physical Geography

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Researching Physical Geography

**Module code:** UBGLYG-30-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**College:** Faculty of Environment & Technology

**School:** FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Geography and Environmental Management

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** Not applicable

**Features:** Module Entry Requirements: 60 credits at Level 1

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes

**Outline syllabus:** The syllabus has a substantive applied project/fieldwork element to enable students to undertake physical geography research in field locations, building towards their final year dissertation.

Introduction to the physical geography research process

Critically reviewing academic literature

Formulating research questions

Research design and data collection

Data analysis

Practicing research in physical geography

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Scheduled learning on this module includes lectures, tutorials, project supervision, workshops and fieldwork.

Independent learning includes time engaged with essential reading, research project preparation, research project completion, assessment preparation and assessment completion.

Students will receive – on average - 3 hours' contact time per week. This will be in a range of formats, including weekly keynote lectures, tutorial or computer-based sessions, virtual discussion groups and support via e-mail.

The amount of time spent on activities in this module is shown below:

Activity (Hours)

Contact time (72)

Fieldwork (78)

Assimilation and development of knowledge (100)

Assessment preparation (50)

Total study time (300)

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Search, organise and critically evaluate academic literature

**MO2** Formulate relevant and realistic research questions based upon academic literature

**MO3** Develop, critically evaluate and carry out a variety of methods appropriate to physical geography research

**MO4** Work effectively within groups to prepare and carry out research projects in a range of physical geography topics

**MO5** Produce academic papers reporting the findings of research projects in a range of physical geography sub-disciplines

**MO6** Orally and visually present proposals for, and findings of, research projects in a range of physical geography sub-disciplines

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubglyg-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubglyg-30-2.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The Assessment

Fieldtrip Group Presentations - (45 minutes for a group of 3)

Presentations will be assessed according to the following criteria: Effectiveness of review of literature and/or field observations; Scientific rigour of research methodology and/or presentation of results; Visual clarity and organisation of presentation; Quality of delivery and response to questioning; Individual preparation towards group presentations in advance of field trip (evidenced by a completed portfolio of preparation work)

Projects – (2000 words) Two separate mini research project reports. Reports will be assessed according to the following criteria: Effectiveness of review of literature; Scientific rigour of research methodology; Quality of interpretation and discussion; Standard of literacy and presentation

Resit Presentation - as the resit takes place after the fieldtrip, it is not possible to run it as a group assessment, however the brief for the individual presentation will ensure all learning outcomes have been achieved.

Resit Projects - a similar brief to that described above, which may include some topic changes.

Formative work: Students will receive feedback on their research plans both before and during the field trip. Only a selection of the presentations that students complete on the field trip contribute towards the summative assessment. Students will receive feedback after each presentation designed to improve performance on the remaining presentations.

Students will have the opportunity for feedback on the findings of their mini research projects during project supervision tutorials.

### **Assessment tasks:**

#### **Project (First Sit)**

Description: Mini research project report 1 (2000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

**Project (First Sit)**

Description: Mini research project report 2 (2000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Group Fieldtrip Presentations (45 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO6

**Project (Resit)**

Description: Mini research project report 1 (2000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

**Project (Resit)**

Description: Mini research project report 2 (2000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4, MO5

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Individual Presentation (15 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO6

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Geography [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2021-22