



## **Module Specification**

### History and Theory of Urban Planning

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 27 Jul 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** History and Theory of Urban Planning

**Module code:** UBGMNJ-30-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Environment & Technology

**Department:** 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:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The overall aim of this module is to acquaint students with some of the main ideas and theories that have shaped urban and rural spatial planning (focusing especially on the period since the end of the Second World War), and then,

against this background, to examine critically the fundamental justification and purposes of town planning.

**Outline syllabus:** A central part of this module will be two parallel lecture series, one covering urban spatial planning since 1945 and the main ideas and theories that have shaped this, the other examining critically some of the deeper philosophical questions about the justification and main purposes of statutory spatial planning.

The content of the first lecture series will include such topics as: early ideas which shaped the emergence of planning; the post-war settlement; the physical design conception of urban planning that dominated town and country planning in the 1940s and 50s; the critique of physical planning in the 1960s and the emergence of the systems and rational process views of planning; the role of values in planning and the view of spatial planning as necessarily political; communicative and collaborative planning theory; diversity and postmodern planning.

The second lecture series will examine such issues as: the "public interest", Social Justice; Environmental Justice; public participation and the role and concept of community; the 'profession' of town planning, politics and the state. It will explore these ideas through works of contemporary and classical thinkers, and with reference to actual examples in the built environment.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** A variety of learning approaches will be employed in the teaching of this module. As noted above, there will be two parallel lecture series. In addition to this there will be seminars, workshops and site visits. There will be opportunities for both group work and for students to pursue their own interests within the general area of the module at greater depth.

Students will also be expected to engage in independent learning, mainly taking the form of reading, both to prepare for and follow up on the taught sessions.

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

**MO1** Demonstrate a critical understanding of the most significant ideas and theories that have shaped urban planning since 1945

**MO2** Examine critically the arguments for and against the role of the state in planning

**MO3** On the assumption that some role for the state in spatial planning is justified, examine critically the scope of statutory planning and its main purposes

**MO4** Understand and be able to analyse arguments about key concepts including the “public interest”, Social Justice; Environmental Justice; public participation and the role and concept of community; the ‘profession’ of town planning, politics and the state

**MO5** Clearly communicate ideas and arguments about spatial planning, both orally and in written form

**MO6** Identify, clarify, and analyse arguments presented, both orally and in written texts, and be able themselves to construct clear and coherent arguments, and justify conclusions

**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/ubgmnj-30-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmnj-30-m.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The Assessment:

Group Presentation (60 minutes) - working in a group so as to improve the learning experience, students will debate some of the issues studied in the module.

Written Assignment (3500 words) - Coursework. An individual piece of coursework which will allow students to explore the ideas in the module which interested them the most, and aims to link both theoretical ideas and practical planning issues.

Written Assignment (1000 words) Critical Log - there will also be a critical reading log which will give students the chance to reflect on their reading. As well as supporting their preparation for and reflection on seminar discussions, this will provide a useful backdrop for the coursework.

Resit Presentation (15 minutes) - as groupwork is not a learning outcome of the module, the resit shall be an individual presentation. The brief will be written to ensure the assigned learning outcomes are achieved.

Resit Written Assignment (Coursework) - a similar brief to that described above, which may include some topic changes.

Resit Written Assignment (Critical Log) - a similar brief to that described above, which may include some topic changes.

Formative Feedback - Students will receive formative assessment constantly during the module, as all sessions will involve some sort of discussion, debate or reflection. This will be both from their peers and module tutors.

**Assessment tasks:****Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Group presentation (45 mins per group, plus 15 mins questions)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4, MO6

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Coursework (3500 words)

Weighting: 53 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Critical reading log (1000 words)

Weighting: 22 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Individual presentation (15 minutes)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4, MO6

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Coursework (3500 words)

Weighting: 53 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Critical reading log (1000 words)

Weighting: 22 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Urban Planning [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Urban Planning {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay] MSc 2022-23

Urban Planning [Frenchay] MSc 2022-23

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] - Not Running MPlan 2018-19