MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Environment and Society		
Module Code	USSKAB-30-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences	Field	Applied Sciences
Department	HAS Dept of Applied Sciences		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline Syllabus: This module examines how environmental problems and their solutions (Sustainable Development) relate to social, political and economic imperatives. Specifically this module will introduce the following:

Global Environmental Challenges
The history of the human planet. Human population growth. Climate Change. The energy crisis. Ocean challenges. Land Use Change and biodiversity loss. Pollution and waste. Food and farming.

Sustainable Development
What is Sustainable Development? The meaning of the 'three pillars of Sustainable Development' – economic development, social development and environmental protection. Introduction of Sustainable Development models, The Natural Step, Twelve Capitals, and the triple Bottom Line.

Society
Different cultural and religious perspectives on environment. Historical growth of

environmentalism and impact on global societies, economies and politics. Introduction to political ecology. Shaping the agenda and roles of pressure groups and industry at local and national level.

Economics
Introduction to current economic discourse, including concepts such as opportunity costs, entropic scarcity, flow-fund resource matrix, supply and demand social costs and public goods, and approaches to solving environmental problems, such as taxes, tradable permits, tort law, and environmental safety standards.

Policy Making and Implementation
Legislative framework for policy making: Parliament, local authorities, the European Union. The Governmental institutions involved in the implementation of Sustainable Development initiatives (government departments, local authorities, Environment Agency). Global policy frameworks – World Summit on Sustainable Development outputs, Millennium Development Goals and UN Conventions on Climate Change, Desertification and Biodiversity. Scientific controversies – Climate Change, Mining Development and GM case studies.

Teaching and Learning Methods: Scheduled learning: Students can expect to receive a minimum of 66 hours taught material. This will be delivered as interactive lectures and lectorials (44 hours) and tutorials (22 hours).

Independent learning: Students are expected to spend 234 hours on independent learning tasks and preparation of assessments.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be employed. The module will be delivered using online lectures, online videos/resources and online tutorials. Lectures will be used to introduce main concepts and to guide and inform student centred learning while tutorials and workshops will provide students the opportunity to discuss and apply issues in-depth. Student learning will be supported mainly through the University's E-Learning Environment, Blackboard. videos and 'interactive' material will be provided to engage students further. A culture of continuous learning will be developed through the implementation of regular on-line discussion groups which discuss identified topics in-depth. All sessions will be used to inform and provoke the process of critical thinking and awareness required for levels 2 and 3.

The module places considerable emphasis on recognising and using subject-specific theories, paradigms, concepts and principles. The module will introduce the idea of analysing, synthesising and summarising information critically, including prior research. Learning methods include the application of knowledge and understanding to address familiar and unfamiliar problems.

Part 3: Assessment

The Assessment Strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and employability skills, whilst ensuring that the modules Learning Outcomes are attained, as described below.

Assessments are designed to underpin students' learning and skills acquisition in the module and to provide for learning beyond the material delivered in the classroom. Assessments includes both summative (assessment that contributes to module mark) and formative (assessment that does not contribute to module mark) assessment and feedback opportunities.

Component A comprises a single 24-hour online exam which takes place at the end of the year. The paper is a combination of short and longer answer questions equivalent to a 2 hour exam, designed to test both the breadth of the students' subject knowledge (short answer questions), and their understanding of key concepts (longer answer questions). This component will test learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

The Coursework component of the assessment (component B) is made up of two elements. Element one is a reflective report on the student's interpretation of the industrial worldview which requires students to assess the different methods used by companies and, based in part on their direct experiences as consumers, develop their own beliefs, priorities and planned actions towards benefitting society (1500 words, worth 30% of total module marks). Element two is a case study of the GEO-5 Report and its 'Response Options' to the current state of the

environment. In 1000 words (worth 30% of the module marks) students discuss these response options. In a further 500 words the students assess the responses to 'Earth System Challenges'.

Opportunities for formative assessment are embedded in the module teaching and take a variety of forms, including: in class and on-line tests and quizzes, problem-solving workshops, and model answers for past exam questions.

Assessment criteria will be made available to the students in the module guide at the start of the module. All work is marked using the Department's Generic Assessment Criteria, which in turn has been developed with reference to a range of external reference points, including the QAA Code of Practice on Assessment of Students, UWE's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy, and UWE's E-learning policy.

First Sit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Examination (Online) - Component A	✓	40 %	Online examination (24 hours)
Report - Component B		30 %	1500 word reflective report
Written Assignment - Component B		30 %	1000 word extended essay
Resit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Examination (Online) - Component A	✓	40 %	Online examination (24 hours)
Report - Component B		60 %	2500 word reflective report

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:

Module Learning Outcomes	**Reference**
Demonstrate a basic understanding of policy making for Sustainable Development at a National, European and International level	MO1
Discuss the theoretical concept of Sustainable Development with particular reference to economic development, social development and environmental protection	MO2
Describe the political and economic context of environmental policy making with respect to Sustainable Development	MO3
Understand how environmental problems and their solutions relate to political and economic imperatives in relation to Sustainable Development	MO4
Discuss the need for, and barriers to, an interdisciplinary approach to the analysis of environmental problems with particular reference to their social and economic dimensions	MO5
Apply the above economic, social and environmental concepts and methods from the discourse of Sustainable Development in real-world case studies within the context of workshops	MO6

Contact Hours

Independent Study Hours:

Independent study/self-guided study	234

	Total Independent Study Hours:	234
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	66
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	66
	Hours to be allocated	300
	Allocated Hours	300
Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/usskab-30-1.html	

Part 5: Contributes Towards
This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: