



## **Module Specification**

### **Urban and Sustainable Design Principles**

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 25 Jul 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Urban and Sustainable Design Principles

**Module code:** UBGMQM-15-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**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:** See Learning Outcomes.

**Outline syllabus:** The Importance of Place:

It includes an outline of the key objectives of the aspect of planning and place-making and sustainable urban design.

### Analysing Places:

This part of the module introduces established techniques for recording and analysing existing built environments and the public realm, ranging from the work of the English urbanist Gordon Cullen, through to that of the American geographer Kevin Lynch. This focuses on graphics-based techniques for analysing built environments that can be undertaken by people with a non-design background and involve the systematic appraisal of an existing place, using:

Plans

Annotated drawings

Notation systems

Photographs

### Places in the Past:

This part of the module provides a historical perspective of the evolution of places. It includes an overview of:

The design of settlements in the past

The emergence of city planning

The role of design in the modern town and city

### Planning Places:

This section provides a review of how place-making has been a central objective of the UK's planning system as it evolved during the twentieth century, as a response to perceived inadequacies in the quality of existing developments. It starts with a review of the evolution of design-based guidance and the objectives that have shaped the role of sustainable urban design within the emerging UK planning system, including the NPPF.

### Shaping Places:

This unit identifies agreed and established best practice principles in the making of sustainable places and urban design.

### Guiding Places:

This part of the module examines a range of urban design strategies, in the form of

publications that aim to address the issue of making places at various spatial scales, from the large village, small towns through to city centres, and from site specific Design Briefs to Masterplans.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** Scheduled learning via on-line module materials and links to additional learning resources.

Independent learning includes essential reading, assessment preparation and completion. Independently managed group based learning will also be required.

Contact time: 0hrs

Assimilation and development of knowledge: 80hrs

Assessment: 70hrs

Total: 150hrs

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

**MO1** Understand how settlements have been shaped and evolved

**MO2** Appreciate and apply a range of methods for analysing and evaluating the visual and physical character of existing places

**MO3** Critically reflect upon and articulate some of the ways in which urban designers can positively intervene in the development and regeneration process and help create sustainable places

**MO4** Contribute in a meaningful and confident way to design-centred debates and discussions

**MO5** Understand how design quality in the creation of the built environment can be encouraged and evaluated

**MO6** Appreciate design quality issues and the principles of place-making

**MO7** Demonstrate and appreciate the key concepts and principles of urban design and sustainable development

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 150 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk) via the following link

<https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmqm-15-m.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment is based on a single design portfolio whose aim is to get students to:

Analyse and critically review the design qualities of an existing urban environment that is familiar to them against identified criteria.

Produce sustainable urban design principles for a site within the chosen study area.

Create a design for the future development of this site.

Reflect upon the application of the design principles in practice.

In this way, students get the chance to put into practice both the theory and methods explored in the module and learn through this process of application.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Report** (First Sit)

Description: An illustrated report (3500 words max)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

**Report (Resit)**

Description: An illustrated report (3500 words max)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: