



Module Specification

Field Study in Physical Geography

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Field Study in Physical Geography

Module code: UBGMVN-15-1

Level: Level 4

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: This module provides students with study material across a range of geographical methodologies, data collection and manipulation techniques, cartography, field skills acquisition and quantitative analysis of place-specific information.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The central aim is to provide students with an opportunity to develop and use skills in designing, collecting, interpreting and presenting spatial data.

Outline syllabus: The module's syllabus will include the following themes:

Introduction to the geography of the field site.

Introduction to literature research and review.

Using mapping resources to develop knowledge and gain understanding of an area prior to field work.

Recording and presenting spatial information.

Collecting, analysing and presenting data describing aspects of the natural environment.

Using theoretical understanding of natural processes to interpret field observations.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: In advance of the fieldtrip, students will receive a total of 15 hours contact time to help them prepare for the fieldtrip. This will be in the form of a combination of lectures introducing them to the topics under investigation and practical sessions that help them develop an understanding of the field site along with a selection of key skills.

In addition, students will learn how to utilise the resources available from the university library in order to develop an understanding of issues related to the fieldtrip.

On the fieldtrip, students will receive a total of approximately 35 hours contact time

and will be required to engage with a series of practical exercises that require them to perform key fieldwork skills such as the recording of spatial information, the collection and analysis of data, and the interpretation of field observations. They will then be required to present their findings from each of the practical exercises.

Scheduled learning on this module includes lectures, practical classes, tutorials, and residential field work.

Independent learning includes time engaged with reading, practical completion, case study preparation and assessment preparation and completion.

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

MO1 Identify and utilise relevant literature and data, including cartographic, to develop prior understanding of a defined field site.

MO2 Demonstrate skills in note-taking, academic writing and referencing.

MO3 Work independently, and in groups in designing and executing field data collection strategies

MO4 Recognise different approaches to, and good practice in, field sampling design

MO5 Apply selected data analysis techniques

MO6 Present the outcomes of desk and field study in oral, written and graphic forms

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 100 hours

Face-to-face learning = 50 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmvn-15-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmvn-15-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Assessment:

Group Presentation - will develop the students' ability to record and present spatial information and collect, analyse and present data describing aspects of the natural environment. The students will also use a theoretical understanding of natural processes to interpret field observations. This assessment is performed during the course of the field trip. The group presentation of approximately 4 pieces of work drawn from practicals completed during the module run.

Online Assignment - will ensure that the students prepare thoroughly for the field trip. Students will be required to complete a Library Skills Portfolio that will include resources, and embedded exercises, associated with the searching and evaluation of literature, note-taking, and referencing. One of the exercises will comprise a time-limited online test. The portfolio will enable students to become familiar with the library and its resources and will help them gather relevant preparatory material in advance of their field study. This preparatory material will include key texts, relevant data, and mapping.

Resit Presentation - a resit assessment brief will be provided that allows students on an individual basis to achieve the learning outcomes of the assessment, including any lessons learnt from team-working.

Resit Online Assignment - a similar brief to that described above, which may include a summary of changes from any previously submitted portfolio.

Formative feedback will be available weekly generally as part of programmed classes. Formative feedback will also be available at various points throughout the field trip.

Assessment tasks:

Online Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Library Skills Portfolio

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Group Fieldwork Presentation (equivalent to 2000 words)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: Yes

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

Online Assignment (Resit)

Description: Library Skills Portfolio

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Individual Fieldwork Presentation (equivalent to 2000 words)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Geography [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23