



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Researching the City		
Module Code	UBGMFJ-15-2	Level	Level 5
For implementation from	2018-19		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt		
Contributes towards			
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description	
<p>Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Outline Syllabus: Generating ideas for research Research design Research strategies and questions Values and ethical issues in urban planning research Reviewing literature and secondary data sources Questionnaire design, interviews, observation, visual approaches Sampling techniques Data analysis and statistical techniques Digital mapping Concepts and application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</p>	

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Teaching and Learning Methods: Scheduled learning will be split between lectures and associated, hands-on workshops. Lectures will be used to provide the background theories, concepts and examples from research and practice. The workshops will encourage both group and individual reflection on the key themes being discussed. Students will be asked to undertake some preparatory work to help support and underpin these workshop sessions, including elements of reading and personal research. Some of these references will be taken from the reading strategy but, given the dynamic nature of the subject matter and the broad nature of the students' research, additional and bespoke sources will also need to be found.

A key part of the module comprises a compulsory field trip (alternative arrangements will be put into place where necessary). During the fieldtrip, students will receive approximately 30 hours of contact time and will be required to engage with the tasks that they feel are necessary for developing their group research projects.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading to support the lecture sessions and the reading that will be needed to underpin the workshops (as outlined above). The bulk of the independent work will be directed to developing the project work as described below. These sessions constitute an average time per level as indicated in the table below.

Three hours - on average - contact per week for each student. Contact will be in the form of lectures, practicals, tutorial/workshop groups and fieldwork.

Activity (Hours)

Contact time – Class-based sessions (20)

Contact time – field trip (30)

Student-led learning and assessment preparation (100)

Total study time (150)

Part 3: Assessment

Component A requires students to undertake a group-based research project on a chosen theme linked to the scheduled field trip and this will be assessed through a group presentation.

Although the destination of the field trip will vary, a series of issues will be presented to students early on to help them gauge the type of research that would be useful to the stakeholders and interests operating across the city. Students will be placed in groups of 3-4 people and will need to devise a programme of research that will need to be pursued before and during the field trip. Aims and objectives should be appropriate to the time available and should comprise the collection of both primary and secondary forms of data. Topics and approaches will need to be agreed early on in the semester to ensure that health and safety, and ethical research safeguards, are properly followed. Individual group members will be expected to lead and take responsibility for an element of the group's research project although single group marks will be awarded (with moderation, where necessary, to reflect differing rates of individual effort). Presentations will be convened shortly after the field trip.

The assessment forming Component B is underpinned by the contact sessions forming the first part of the module and will provide an important preparatory link to the extended research (via either the Final Year or Independent Project) that will need to be completed during their level three studies. The proposal will require individual students to present a summary of the context surrounding their research, and a specific research question (and a related set of aims and objectives) that they will respond to. An appropriate methodology will also need to be presented together with an indicative timeline for delivery.

Formative work

Component A: Proposals for the group research will need to be agreed by module staff before work can begin. Advice and support will be available before, during and after the field trip.

Component B: Students will be able to discuss and share their research ideas in class. Opportunities for the review of draft work will also be provided. The submitted proposal form will be used in the allocation of project tutors.

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Resit:

Students will undertake an individual presentation based on the work undertaken by the group focusing on their individual input.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		60 %	Research proposal (1500 words)
Presentation - Component A	✓	40 %	Presentation of group research project (approx 30 minutes)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		60 %	Research proposal (1500 words)
Presentation - Component A	✓	40 %	Individual presentation (10 minutes)

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods																			
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Module Learning Outcomes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MO1</td> <td>Search, organise and evaluate academic literature</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MO2</td> <td>Formulate relevant and realistic research questions, based upon academic literature</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MO3</td> <td>Develop, carry out and evaluate a variety of methods appropriate to urban planning research</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MO4</td> <td>Work effectively within groups to prepare and carry out research projects in a range of urban planning topics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MO5</td> <td>Orally and visually present proposals for, and findings of, research projects in a range of urban planning contexts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MO6</td> <td>Utilise geographic information systems and/or digital mapping in the application of urban planning research</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Learning Outcomes		MO1	Search, organise and evaluate academic literature	MO2	Formulate relevant and realistic research questions, based upon academic literature	MO3	Develop, carry out and evaluate a variety of methods appropriate to urban planning research	MO4	Work effectively within groups to prepare and carry out research projects in a range of urban planning topics	MO5	Orally and visually present proposals for, and findings of, research projects in a range of urban planning contexts	MO6	Utilise geographic information systems and/or digital mapping in the application of urban planning research				
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Reading List	<p>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmfj-15-2.html</p>																		