



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Researching the City		
Module Code	UBGMFJ-15-2	Level	Level 5
For implementation from	2020-21		
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		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>Overview: A research based module in which students are prepared for subsequent independent study in their dissertation through exposure to GIS mapping techniques, presentation skills and a range of qualitative research methods.</p> <p>Educational Aims: This module provides students with the research skills needed of planners in urban environments. It has an emphasis on digital mapping skills as well as the 'softer' qualitative research approaches that relate to the field. The module's assessment provides a very helpful 'bridge' to their dissertation in the final year. See Learning Outcomes for further details.</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 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 research project on a chosen theme linked to a field trip (to Bristol and possibly elsewhere) and this will be assessed through an individual presentation and submission of a leaflet.

The research will be Bristol based and, although the destination of any additional 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.

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 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.

Resit:

As per first-sit.

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

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

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
	Search, organise and evaluate academic literature	MO1
	Formulate relevant and realistic research questions, based upon academic literature	MO2
	Develop, carry out and evaluate a variety of methods appropriate to urban planning research	MO3
	Work effectively to prepare and carry out research projects in a range of urban planning topics	MO4
	Orally and visually present proposals for, and findings of, research projects in a range of urban planning contexts	MO5
	Utilise geographic information systems and/or digital mapping in the application of urban planning research	MO6
Contact Hours	Independent Study Hours:	
	Independent study/self-guided study	100
	Total Independent Study Hours:	100
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	50
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	50
	Hours to be allocated	150
	Allocated Hours	150

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmfj-15-2.html</p>
--------------	---

Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Urban Planning Practice {Apprenticeship} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][2yrs] CertHE 2019-20
Geography and Planning [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20
Urban Planning [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20
Geography [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MPlan 2019-20
Urban Planning [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20
Geography and Planning [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20
Geography [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MPlan 2019-20
Geography and Planning {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19
Geography and Planning {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19
Urban Planning {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19
Urban Planning {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19
Geography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MPlan 2018-19
Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MPlan 2018-19