

**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

<b>Part 1: Information</b>			
Module Title	Sustainable Futures: Liveable Cities, Liveable Lives		
Module Code	UZSY6W-30-3	Level	3
For implementation from	September 2019		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology
Department	Health and social Sciences		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Sociology BA (Hons) Sociology (with foundation year) BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology (with foundation year) BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology (with foundation year) BA (Hons) Criminology with Sociology BA (Hons) Criminology with Sociology (with foundation year) BA (Hons) Sociology with Psychology BA (Hons) Sociology with Psychology (with foundation year) BA (Hons) Psychology with Sociology (until June 2020)		
Module type:	Project Module		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	N/A		

**Part 2: Description**

As we run headlong toward the cliff-edge of a global ecological crisis, the implications of which are set to re-write the rulebook on life itself, many of us remain strangely detached; even disinterested in confronting the essentially unsustainable nature of our current existences. But we will not be able to remain disinterested for long. The ecological agenda is muscling its way into our consciousness, and into our very practices of living, re-framing our every choice. At the heart of the pressing sustainability challenges we face, lies the contemporary City, and the urban lives we lead within its 'un-natural' boundaries. But the City is also the very place where the greatest resistance to our unsustainable existence is most forcefully and creatively expressed.

But what are the natures and causes of our collective unsustainability, and what futures do they promise? What might sustainable alternatives to living actually look like, and what opportunities and challenges do they present? How can cities, and the people live there, build alternative and sustainable lives for themselves in the 'unnatural' context of the urban landscape?

This module aims to examine sustainability, as an ideology, culture, practice and structure, set in a context of contemporary ecological, socio-economic and political crisis. It aims to examine the challenges and opportunities presented by our current environmental circumstances, as these translate to the lives lived within cities today. The module aims to map and analyse the creative efforts of urban citizens to construct alternative and sustainable lives in the contemporary City. The module offers a range of real world case studies to develop students' critical understandings, culminating in the exploration of real-world sustainability-related interventions in the city-region of Bristol (Europe's first awarded *Green City*). In this way, this module is aligned to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators

### **Indicative Content**

#### ***Critical Engagements with the 'Unsustainable'***

Re-Thinking Nature, Re-Thinking Society  
 The Problem of Anthropocentrism  
 Theorising and Conceptualising Sustainability  
 The Challenges to Ecological Integrity – From the Global to the Local  
 Challenging Growth - Population, Consumption, Production, Distribution  
 Policy, Practice and Sustainability  
 Climate Change  
 Sustainable Development?  
 Energy  
 Mobilities and Transportation  
 Food  
 Health  
 The Problems of Cities

#### ***Case Studies in Sustainable Futures – From the Global to the Urban Local***

The Politics of Sustainability  
 Sustainable Cities  
 The cultures and practices of Sustainability  
 Planning and action for sustainable cities  
 Sustainable communities  
 Sustainable transport  
 Food sustainability in the city  
 The 'Third Industrial Revolution' and The New Materialism – Alternative visions for production and consumption  
 Recycling, up-cycling, and re-making  
 Craftivism - Craft production and consumption for sustainability

### **Part 3: Assessment**


The summative assessment for this module consists of two elements: a 2000 word report focussing on a selected field of 'unsustainability', and a 2500-word case study analysis of a selected field of sustainability-related practice from the city-region of Bristol. The assessment strategy has been designed to enable students to meet the learning outcomes of the module, which include both subject-specific knowledge and skills, and also transferable skills directly aligned to UWE's Strategy on producing Ready and Able Graduates. By requiring students to ground their case study report on an engagement with a real world, enterprising, intervention in the city-region of Bristol, the module directly supports UWE's mission of offering critically-informed and engaged learning for the real world. The module's learning outcomes and assessment strategy support the programme's fulfilment of the relevant QAA benchmarks and have been designed to take account of the level descriptors pertinent to a third year optional module.

The summative assessment will therefore be as follows:

#### **Summative Assessment**

1. 2000 word report focussing on a selected field of 'unsustainability'
2. 2500 word case study analysis on a selected field of sustainability-related practice located in the city-region of Bristol

#### **Formative Assessment**

Students will have the opportunity to discuss plans of their summative assessments with the module leader within the context of the tutorials, and will receive ongoing formative input in the context of group-work, presentation and discussion within the seminar.					
Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)		Component A2			
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)		A:		B:	
<b>First Sit</b>					
<b>Component A</b> Description of each element			<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)		
A1. 2000 word report focussing on a selected field of 'unsustainability'			40%		
A2. 2500 word case study analysis on a selected field of sustainability-related practice located in the city-region of Bristol			60%		
<b>Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)</b>					
<b>Component A</b> Description of each element			<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)		
A1. 2000 word report focussing on a selected field of 'unsustainability'			40%		
A2. 2500 word case study analysis on a selected field of sustainability-related practice located in the city-region of Bristol			60%		
<b>Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods</b>					
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Critically evaluate theoretical and conceptual approaches to understanding sustainability (Assessment A1, A2)</li> <li>2. Apply theoretical and conceptual understandings of sustainability to a range of ecologically-related aspects of contemporary society, and from the global to the local (Assessment A1, A2)</li> <li>3. Identify and analyse the multiple ways in which the forces of unsustainability impact on cities and urban life (Assessment A1)</li> <li>4. Examine and critically account for a range of empirically-rich case study examples (set in the city-region of Bristol) of how active citizens construct enterprising but sustainable lives, practices and spaces in the context of contemporary cities (Assessment A2)</li> <li>5. Effectively communicate, across a range of assessment types, an applied but critical understanding of sustainability (Assessment A1, A2)</li> </ol>				
Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	<b>Key Information Set - Module data</b>				
	Number of credits for this module				30
	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours
300	72	228	0	300	
					

Contact Hours	<p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p><b>Written Exam:</b> Unseen or open book written exam  <b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test  <b>Practical Exam:</b> Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam (i.e. an exam determining mastery of a technique)</p>																														
Total Assessment	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Total assessment of the module:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Written exam assessment percentage</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"></td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	Total assessment of the module:										Written exam assessment percentage				0%	Coursework assessment percentage				100%	Practical exam assessment percentage				0%					100%
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Reading List	<p><b>On-Line Reading List:</b> <a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/13582F37-E996-7E31-A6DA-5DE392290CC9.html?draft">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/13582F37-E996-7E31-A6DA-5DE392290CC9.html?draft</a></p>																														

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

First ASQC Approval Date	17Jan 2018			
Revision CAP Approval Date		Version	1	<a href="#">RIA 12490</a>
Revision Approval Date	29 May 2019	Version	2	<a href="#">RIA 12781</a>