



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Sustainable Futures: Environment and Society in an Age of Crisis		
Module Code	UZSY6W-30-3	Level	6
For implementation from	September 2020		
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		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description	
<p>Whilst the precise nature and implications of the ecological crisis are yet to be fully determined, there can be no doubt that we do in fact face a global ecological crisis. From the United Nations to local councils, from protest groups to consumers, an emerging sense of urgency, even emergency, is establishing itself. Though climate change appears the most pressing of environmental challenges, pollution, waste, bio-diversity loss and resource depletion are all advancing to a point of outright unsustainability. It is also the case that this crisis is brought about by human action. It is essentially a consequence of modernisation, and in particular the industrialisation that has accompanied it, allied to an international political system that reinforces competition between countries rather than cooperation.</p> <p>This module explores the causes, nature, forms and consequences of ecological crisis, with particular regard to the relationship between the environment and society. It will examine the implications of ecological crisis for our everyday lives, and for society more generally, and will explore what might (and might not) be done to bring about</p>	

positive change in the interests of sustainability. The module will pay particular attention to the role that cities play in both the problem of, and solution to, ecological crisis. The module offers a range of real-world case studies to develop students' critical understandings, culminating in the exploration of 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, and contributes to the city-region's *Our Future* plan for sustainability

Indicative Content

Critical Engagements with the 'Unsustainable'

Re-Thinking Nature, Re-Thinking Society
 The Problem of Anthropocentrism
 Theorising and Conceptualising Sustainability
 The Challenge of High Carbon Societies
 Climate Change
 Energy
 Pollution and Waste
 Resource Depletion
 Mobilities and Transportation
 Bio-diversity loss and the food crisis

Case Studies in Sustainable Futures –

Governance and the Environment
 Green Politics and Protest
 Environmental Justice
 Sustainable Cities
 The cultures and practices of Sustainability
 Tackling Climate Change
 Tackling Pollution and Waste
 Sustainable transport
 Food sustainability in the city
 Sustainable Consumption
 Recycling, up-cycling, and re-making
 Craft production and consumption for sustainability

Generic Graduate Skill	Specific strand (eg presentation) - Optional	Introduced	Practiced	Evidenced
1. Communication	Participation in group-based discussion, and production of high quality end of module report	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Professionalism	Attendance and Engagement in shared learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Critical Thinking	2 X Report –based Assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Digital Fluency	Researching information, and production of module assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Innovative and Enterprising	Exploring the nature of, and generating innovative solutions to environmental crisis, specifically in relation to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	contemporary urban environments			
6. Forward Looking	Sustainability focus of the module is inherently future-facing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Emotional Intelligence		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8. Globally Engaged	Exploring environmental crisis on a global scale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Part 3: Assessment

Summative Assessment




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

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 final year optional module.

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:	
	100		
First Sit			
Component A Description of each element	Element weighting (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%		
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)			
Component A	Element weighting (as % of component)		

Description of each element																																					
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Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods																																					
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critically evaluate theoretical and conceptual approaches to understanding sustainability (Assessment A1, A2) 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) 3. Identify and analyse the multiple ways in which the forces of unsustainability impact on cities and urban life (Assessment A1) 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) 5. Effectively communicate, across a range of assessment types, an applied but critical understanding of sustainability (Assessment A1, A2) 																																				
Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Key Information Set - Module data</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">Number of credits for this module</td> <td style="border: 2px solid black;">30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th>Hours to be allocated</th> <th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th> <th>Independent study hours</th> <th>Placement study hours</th> <th>Allocated Hours</th> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">300</td> <td style="color: red;">72</td> <td style="color: red;">228</td> <td style="color: red;">0</td> <td style="color: red;">300</td> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Key Information Set - Module data												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	
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Contact Hours	<p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p>Written Exam: Unseen or open book written exam Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test Practical Exam: 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"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Total assessment of the module:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Written exam assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </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>On-Line Reading List: https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/13582F37-E996-7E31-A6DA-5DE392290CC9.html?draft</p>																																				

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First ASQC Approval Date	17Jan 2018			
Revision CAP Approval Date		Version	1	RIA 12490
Revision Approval Date	29 May 2019	Version	2	RIA 12781
Revision Approval Date	4 March 2020	Version	3	