



Module Specification

Shaping Cities

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Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Shaping Cities

Module code: UBGMG7-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus, Global College of Engineering and Technology (GCET)

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 will introduce students to a number of key concepts and theories surrounding the making and shaping of space.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline syllabus: The module provides a historical chronology of urban development. This timeline of activity is presented in a global sense via a range of case studies, although particular regard will be given to tracing the history of place in the local region.

Key influences relating to the development of place will be identified. These will include physical factors, such as where the urban form has developed around a river or coastal system. The module will also examine the role of other influences, such as trade, defence, religion, politics and transport. The module will also allow students to consider whether urban growth has occurred organically, or whether an attempt has been made to 'plan' the landscape in some way. This influence could have arisen in response to a certain artistic or architectural style, or from the involvement of planners, architects, engineers or some other kind of professional group. This review will inevitably lead to a discussion into the origins, coverage and philosophy of the global planning profession, with initial insight being provided into the roles and responsibilities of those practising urban planning today. Key concepts and movements will be introduced with examples, such as the Garden Cities agenda of the UK. Students will therefore be expected to engage, and critically reflect, on core planning ideas, their advocates and their outcomes.

The module will allow for a critical discussion on the extent to which a city can be planned with certainty and to the range of drivers that are likely to influence urban development in the future. Alongside the presentation of this urban chronology, the module will allow students to develop relevant vocabulary in the discussion and analysis of urban form. Module assessment allows students to develop competency in document design and the analysis of place through the use of photography, mapping and drawing. As part of this you will be given instruction on drawing elevations, site plans and street/space sections. Additional support will be made available with respect to document layout and design with initial training being provided in core computer-based applications (such as Adobe Indesign).

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Scheduled learning will comprise coursework and lectures, together with practical tasks, guest speakers and possible field visit(s). Lectures will provide a framework for understanding the reading and the key issues covered by the module.

Independent learning will use directed reading via the online reading list and a selection of online resources, including appropriate case studies.

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

MO1 Describe the chronology of urban development in a manner that relates to the disciplines of planning and architecture

MO2 Explain the cultures, contexts, thinking, ideas and movements that have influenced the form and function of towns and cities over time

MO3 Show a sound understanding of the historical and cultural development of urban design and planning and its role in shaping places

MO4 Describe and explain basic concepts and theories of urban design and planning in so far as they relate to understanding place

MO5 Use a variety of methods of communication (visual and written) to analyse and contextualise place

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

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

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Exam - unseen examination that will be held at the end of the module. This assessment tool will enable a wide-range of material to be assessed using a series of short questions. The exam paper will assess students' understanding of the chronology of urban development as well as the key planning ideas that have been presented over time. Draft questions will be periodically released to assist with students' learning and to develop exam technique. This assessment format will help to shape and refine exam technique for subsequent years.

Portfolio - will be developed progressively during the module. The portfolio is an important vehicle for the presentation of knowledge and analysis that will be developed throughout subsequent years of study. Having a visual portfolio could provide an opportunity for students to create something tangible that can be shown employers. The coursework will be locally pitched and will require students to undertake detailed analysis of a series of locations around the city.

Students will need to undertake relevant research and reading to support their on-site observations. Students will be expected to understand and identify some of the key drivers that have been responsible for shaping the form, function and design of the selected area. This analysis will be presented through photography, diagramming, and sketching. Developing these skills at this stage will prove useful for subsequent modules.

Resit Exam - students required to take another 2-hour unseen examination.

Resit Portfolio - a similar brief to that described above, which may include an adjusted topic choice. Full submission of the portfolio is required if not submitted previously. If this is a resubmission, then the brief may ask for a summary task instead.

Assessment components:

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Unseen Exam (2 hours)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio (16 pages of A3)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

Examination (Resit)

Description: Unseen Exam (2 hours)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio (16 pages of A3)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Urban and Regional Planning {Foundation} [GCET] BSc (Hons) 2022-23