



Module Specification

Housing and the Built Environment

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Housing and the Built Environment

Module code: UZVYBD-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: University Centre Weston

Field: Health, Community and Policy Studies

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: The module introduces you to the properties of houses and other buildings by virtue of their construction and materials used. You will therefore consider how houses are constructed from foundations to roof, and will also develop a familiarity with the services electricity, drinking water and drainage. Consideration is made of sustainability and emerging technologies in construction.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Health and safety risks associated with dwellings will be assessed and a range of options available within the law to Environmental Health practitioners to achieve compliance and improvement is fundamental to this module. The specific risks of multi occupied dwellings and their control through regimes such as licencing will also be covered with an emphasis on fire safety. The complexity of housing tenure including its history, regulation and investment challenges will be discussed, particularly around issues in the private rented sector and the impacts on the health and wellbeing of tenants.

The module will incorporate practical inspections, evaluation of plans, and monitoring techniques to assess the suitability of buildings, and to ensure that risks to the health and safety of current and future occupants are controlled.

Outline syllabus: Subjects included in the module are:

Construction materials and techniques (foundations, floors, walls, roofs, etc.);

Tenure;

Sustainable construction;

Housing Act 2004;

Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS);

Fire safety;

Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and licensing.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Assessment Strategy

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

MO1 Demonstrate knowledge of past, present and emerging construction materials, techniques and building services

MO2 Undertake a Housing Health and Safety Rating System assessment of an existing dwelling

MO3 Understand and apply housing legislation relevant to an Environmental Health practitioner

MO4 Demonstrate an understanding of strategic approaches to housing interventions

MO5 Demonstrate an understanding of housing tenure and occupancy

MO6 Understand and evaluate the breadth of legislation, guidance and legislative options that apply to fire safety

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 210 hours

Face-to-face learning = 90 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: The Assessment Strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and generic key skills, whilst ensuring that the Learning Outcomes are achieved.

Assessment task A – Report based on Housing Inspection

You will undertake a housing inspection using the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS), and will produce a detailed report identifying the major hazards found. The report will include an electronic record of the inspection and will also incorporate a statistical analysis of the major hazards. This will result in the classification of the hazards by using the HHSRS statistical formulae or algorithms. The report will detail construction techniques and materials, an area survey, HHSRS assessment and potential legal action. This assessment is controlled through tutorials based on the housing inspection.

Assessment task B – Essay

You will complete an essay which reviews and evaluates current standards of fire safety legislation and guidance in relation to both single and multi-occupied dwellings.

Students are able to discuss formative work and obtain feedback in assignment tutorials within the module.

Assessment tasks:**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Fire safety essay (1500 words)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO6

Report (First Sit)

Description: Report based on Housing Inspection (2000 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Fire safety essay (1500 words)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO6

Report (Resit)

Description: Report based on Housing Inspection (2000 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Public and Environmental Health [UCW] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Public and Environmental Health [Sep][FT][UCW][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Environmental Health Practitioner {Apprenticeship-UCW} [Sep][FT][UCW][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Public and Environmental Health [Sep][PT][UCW][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22