



## **Module Specification**

### **Working Across Systems and Agencies**

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 30 May 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Working Across Systems and Agencies

**Module code:** UZVYLS-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 School of Health and Social Wellbeing

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Not in use for Modules

**Field:**

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** Yes

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module focuses on the complex systems and multi-agency context in which public health operates. Learners will examine public health through the lens of complexity theory (systems theories), and health behaviours and inequalities as deep rooted and wicked issues (structural and contested issues). The module will explore how systems thinking and working collaboratively with a wide stakeholder network is needed to understand the system dynamics and understand the

components, in order to create change. The module will provide the opportunity to understand these system dynamics and the tools and ways of working that will enhance collaboration and co-production to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** To introduce learners to the role of systems thinking and collaborative working to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

To introduce learners to system dynamics and complexity theory, and how to work collaboratively to understand and disrupt the status quo.

To explore ways of working that facilitate a collective effort, sharing of resources and shared approach to tackling wicked issues.

**Outline syllabus:** The syllabus for the module will typically include:

With reference to the historical and organisational context, an overview of the key features of public policy sectors, fields, issues - and their inter-dependencies.

The application of systems and multi-agency working in the learner's local field of operation; the boundaries of jurisdiction, accountability, and purpose; and opportunities for collaboration.

Understanding the rationale for systems-level and multi-sectoral agency practice for population health improvement.

Key concepts and theoretical perspectives on systems, partnerships, networks, coalitions and related areas (including systems-thinking and co-production).

Evidence and methods for evaluating work across systems and agencies in the context of population health improvement and reducing health inequalities.

Reflection and evaluation of one's own interpersonal skills and skills in adapting to different situations through, for example, negotiation, influencing, diplomacy,

mediation, and facilitation.

Methods to establish and sustain effective working relationships with local partners in order to bring about positive outcomes in the health and wellbeing of the local population.

Approaches for working collaboratively with colleagues across a broad range of partnership organisations to identify local needs, develop capacity, agree priorities, and deliver on action plans for joint health improvement programmes or services across the area.

To support the syllabus, case studies are drawn upon with regard to (for example) food, housing, transport, social care, area regeneration, and community safety issues.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module is taught through a combination of formal lectures and interactive group sessions, including workshops and seminars. It is supplemented with self-directed study via online tasks, exercises and tailored reading. The module team is available throughout the period of the module to provide individual advice on module content and assessment. The module is supported by an online discussion forum.

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

**MO1** Demonstrate critical understanding of the role of organisational systems and multiple agencies in the promotion of population health.

**MO2** Critically evaluate the challenges of working collaboratively within organisational systems and across agencies and boundaries

**MO3** Apply theory, concepts, evidence, and interpersonal skills to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities in systems and multi-agency contexts

**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://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/2A6A0A55-63F7-D2F7-E153-7AD66C6F1FE7.html?lang=en&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/2A6A0A55-63F7-D2F7-E153-7AD66C6F1FE7.html?lang=en&login=1>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Written Report: maximum 3000 words

In order to demonstrate an ability to apply learning to real world practice, this written assignment will take the form of a 3000-word report, typically on a contemporary systems-level and/or multi-agency issue, including the context, relevance to population health, evaluation of responses, and critical reflection on the role of public health practitioners.

Learners will be provided with formative feedback on draft sections of the report as they progress through the module.

**Assessment components:**

**Report (First Sit)**

Description: Written Report (maximum 3000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Report (Resit)**

Description: Written Report (maximum 3000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Public Health {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23