



## **Module Specification**

### **Environmental Economics**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Environmental Economics

**Module code:** UBGMJQ-15-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**College:** College of Arts, Technology and Environment

**School:** CATE School of Architecture and Environment

**Partner institutions:** None

**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:** Environmental economics is about how economic activity may affect the environment in which we live through processes of valuation, transaction and industrial transformation.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** This module provides you with theoretical and methodological tools that allow you to apply principles of economics to study how natural resources

can be managed to better achieve policy outcomes. Contemporary environmental problems, such as climate change, sustainable development and transboundary pollution are discussed using the concepts introduced in the first part of the module.

**Outline syllabus:** The module will introduce key concepts from environmental economics: markets; market failures; government regulation; cost-benefit analysis; and will encourage debate over whether the environment represents capital or an asset. It considers strategic interactions, such as Coase theorem; tragedy of the commons; transactions costs and institutions. The module will consider thoughts and practices surrounding the valuing of the environment and will consider, as a result, welfare and public goods economics; efficiency and optimality in allocation; approaches to environmental evaluation; environmental ethics; and sustainable development. Consideration will be given environmental policy instruments and implementation, building upon knowledge developed at level one. In doing so, focus will be directed to common and control policies in different areas, such as water; policy design and implementation; biodiversity; and trade. The application of environmental economics will be aligned to the following domains: water; tropical deforestation and poverty; preservation and conservation; climate change; carbon trading; and international co-operation.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** See Educational Aims and Assessment.

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

**MO1** Apply fundamental concepts, such as market failure, public goods and private goods, household behaviour, transaction costs and willingness to pay to the study of environmental economics.

**MO2** Understand the cost-benefit analysis to apply the main tools used to value non-market environmental goods and to analyse strategic interactions such as the “tragedy of the commons”

**MO3** Apply and clearly communicate the basic concepts of “Environmental Economics” to discuss critical subjects such as water, tropical deforestation and poverty, preservation and conservation, climate change, carbon trading, and international co-operation.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

**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:** Mid-term test - The in-class test will help to evaluate student progress in the middle of the term to get feedback about students' learning. Questions will be reviewed in advance of the test. Questions will be structured in a way that will require students to refer to economic ideas taught in the early part of the term. The test helps students to apply fundamental concepts and tools for environmental economics for MO1 and MO2.

Presentation - An individual presentation to present economic theory and ideas for environmental issues will allow students to be assessed in different ways, outside of pressured test conditions. The presentation will involve students researching from primary and/or secondary sources of a pre-determined environmental management topic for MO3. The presentation will be assessed according to criteria such as clarity of topic, organisation and content of the presentation, quality of delivery and visual materials, and interaction with the audience.

Resit Test and Presentation - a similar brief to that described above, which may include some topic changes.

**Assessment tasks:**

**In-class test (First Sit)**

Description: In-class test (1 hour)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3

**In-class test (Resit)**

Description: In-Class test (1 hour)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [GCET] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

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