



Module Specification

Environmental Assessment

Version: 2026-27, v3.0, Approved

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Environmental Assessment

Module code: UBGMKA-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

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: This module focuses on international good practice for assessing the impacts of a development or infrastructure project on the environment. It considers the role of statutory bodies, stakeholders and the public in the process of impact assessment and how requirements differ across a range of geographies.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module is designed to give learners a broad understanding of the principles and practice of environmental impact assessment. We consider best international practice and specific requirements of UK and EU legislation. This knowledge is a key skill for careers in environmental management. Transferable skills developed include collation and synthesis of technical reports and databases, and practice in non-technical and visual communication for wider audiences.

Outline syllabus: Topics covered are likely to include, but not limited to:

The origin and evolution of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Approaches to EIA legislation in the EU, UK and elsewhere.

The EIA process, including screening, scoping, impact assessment and monitoring and evaluation.

Approaches to engagement and consultation (statutory consultees, stakeholders, public).

Planning and managing an EIA project.

Describing, assessing and communicating environmental impacts.

Distinguishing EIA, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and other types of Environmental Assessment.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Lectures will provide a framework for understanding the reading and key issues covered by the module. They will also explore a range of critical issues such as problems and issues in the application of EIA and environmental management techniques in the UK and elsewhere. In-class group work will aim to develop interpretive skills and deepen confidence in application of principles. 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 Critically interpret and evaluate relevant EIA legislation and guidance.

MO2 Formulate a plan of study for an impact assessment, including recommending appropriate assessment techniques, stakeholder engagement and the presentation of findings in line with government and international best practice guidance.

MO3 Synthesise, evaluate and appropriately communicate, the conclusions of environmental assessment outputs in relation to statutory requirements and international good practice.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmka-15-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmka-15-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module is assessed by one written assignment.

Written assignment - A plan of study for scoping or an evaluation of a screening opinion . This assessment will require either evaluation of a development proposal to determine if an EIA is required (and on what basis) and preparation of an outline for scoping, including a stakeholder engagement strategy or an evaluation of a screening opinion.

Resit Written Assignment - resubmission to the same brief as for the first attempt.

Formative feedback is provided weekly in response to weekly tasks relating to the assessment brief. Additional formative feedback will be available at various stages throughout the module for students to meet with the module tutor to check progress and enhance final assessment performance.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Written evaluation (2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written evaluation (2500 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:

Environmental Management {Apprenticeship-UWE}[Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [GCET] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [GCET] DipHE 2024-25

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [GCET] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Environmental Management {Apprenticeship-UWE}[Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Geography [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Environmental Management [Frenchay] - WITHDRAWN BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Environmental Management [Frenchay] - WITHDRAWN BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Environmental Management [Frenchay] - WITHDRAWN BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Environment and Sustainability [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Geography [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26