

# **Module Specification**

# Sustainability in the Built Environment

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### **Part 1: Information**

**Module title:** Sustainability in the Built Environment

Module code: UBLMR4-15-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

**UWE credit rating: 15** 

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: Faculty of Environment & Technology

**School:** FET Dept of Architecture & Built Environ

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes

Outline syllabus: Module themes will include:

Background and drivers for sustainable development: this will explore the

development of the sustainability agenda, different conceptual models of sustainable development and the key trends in society that affect, and are affected by, the built environment.

Implications of sustainable development for the development process: this will explore a number of aspects concerning the impact of development on the wider environment and how this is mitigated including systems thinking, environmental management systems, responsible sourcing, waste management and corporate social responsibility.

Sustainability at the neighbourhood scale: this will examine how sustainable neighbourhoods are planned and designed, the relationship between neighbourhoods and sustainable behaviours as well as the types of features that such neighbourhoods may possess drawn from example neighbourhoods and accreditation methods.

Sustainability at the building scale: this will examine different aspects of sustainable buildings, their features, performance and accreditation including examples of buildings from the residential and commercial sectors.

Infrastructure: this will explore different types of infrastructure and their role in achieving sustainable built environments, including energy, water, transport and waste as well as social and green infrastructure.

## Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

**Teaching and learning methods:** Students will receive 30 hours of contact time delivered in five blocks fortnightly. This will be in a range of formats, including lectures, tutorials, workshops and support via e-mail.

Distance learning students will have access to recorded lectures and a 1 hour webinar conducted fortnightly via Blackboard Collaborate;

The amount of time spent on activities in this module is shown below:

Hours

Scheduled Teaching and Learning 30
Independent Learning 100
Assignment Preparation and Completion 20
Total Study Time 150

Scheduled Teaching and Learning includes:

Lectures will be used to provide the background theories, concepts and examples from research and practice.

Workshops will be used to consolidate this material and allow students to apply this knowledge in different scenarios and critically evaluate examples from practice.

Students will work in groups and discuss their ideas in class to facilitate peer critical evaluation.

Directed study will be used to encourage independent learning and the use of academic literature and evidence.

Independent Learning includes:

Time engaged with directed study and other essential reading, assessment preparation and completion.

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

**MO1** Demonstrate their understanding the concepts of sustainable development and how these relate to the built environment.

**MO2** Articulate the key drivers and trends affecting the built environment and how these relate to the concepts of sustainable development.

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**MO3** Demonstrate their understanding of the different measures or features in

the built environments that contribute to their sustainability at different spatial

scales including infrastructure, neighbourhoods and buildings and their

limitations.

MO4 Critique the mechanisms through which sustainable built environments are

delivered including legislation and targets, accreditation schemes and

environmental management systems.

MO5 Critique the current practices of built environment professionals in terms of

sustainable development.

MO6 Utilise different forms of evidence from research and practice in the

development of ideas.

Hours to be allocated: 150

**Contact hours:** 

Independent study/self-guided study = 120 hours

Face-to-face learning = 30 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at

readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ublmr4-

15-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** The Assessment:

Report (2000 words) - a report that explores the guiding principles for the delivery of

a sustainable development.

Students are asked to imagine that they are developer submitting a proposal to the

local (or municipal) authority outlining their vision for a single building development of

a piece of brownfield land. The local authority has specified that the development

must be sustainable and has asked the developer to submit six guiding principles for

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the development.

The report will be assessed according to the following criteria: Identification and explanation of guiding principles; provision of appropriate examples of how the guiding principles could be achieved; The extent to which existing research and evidence have been utilised and analysed to justify and critically evaluate the guiding principles; Effectiveness of referencing and range of and quality of literature sources; quality of report in terms of standards of literacy, presentation and communication.

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

Formative feedback - will be carried out during workshops. Tutorials will be provided to review assessments prior to submission.

#### Assessment tasks:

### Report (First Sit)

Description: Report (2000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

### Report (Resit)

Description: Report (2000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

### Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Construction Project Management [Distance] MSc 2023-24

Construction Project Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Construction Project Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Real Estate Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Real Estate Management [Distance] MSc 2023-24

Real Estate Management [Frenchay] MSc 2022-23

Real Estate Management [Distance] MSc 2022-23

Construction Project Management [Distance] MSc 2023-24