



Module Specification

Social Value and Sustainability for Business

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Social Value and Sustainability for Business

Module code: UMOT6W-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Business School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Organisation 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: Business ethics and sustainability are central to contemporary management. In this module we consider the potential social value of business and organisations and question ‘what is the purpose of business? It is simply to generate profits and satisfy shareholders? Or does it have a greater responsibility to the environment and society in which it operates?’ In examining this, we will introduce students to theories and practices of business ethics and social responsibility in local, national, and global contexts. This module will allow students to fully

appreciate the implications of ethical and unethical decision-making in an increasingly complex environment; tackling personal, organisational, societal, and global ethical dilemmas.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The overall aim of this module is to encourage students to question basic assumptions that underpin much of our work, organisations and society and to look beyond profit motives in organisations. The aim is to encourage them to consider the importance of social value and sustainability in organisations.

We will provide an understanding of the theoretical approaches to business ethics and will encourage application of these theories to work, organisations and society through practical, real-life examples and research into workplace ethics. Student will critically reflect and analyse business behaviour through this process.

This module assumes no prior knowledge of social value, business ethics or corporate social responsibility and sustainability. It aims to better prepare students for the ethical challenges that they themselves may face in their future careers.

Outline syllabus: An indicative list of topics covered in the module:

1. Philosophy and Theories of Ethics
2. The Role of Consumers in Social Value and Sustainability
3. The Role of Workers - Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity
4. The State and Business
5. Inequality and The Distribution of Wealth
6. Fairness and The Supply chain
7. Decision Making, AI and Big Data
8. The Environment and Sustainability
9. Globalization and Global Citizenship

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module uses taught sessions to provide an overview of topic areas, but emphasis is placed on practice and participation where

problems/case studies/presentations/discussions generate insight into the usefulness of theoretical approaches.

Preparation and independent study involves students using a range of reading material such as books, journals and professional publications to deepen their understanding of the concepts introduced during taught sessions, where student can also participate and practice techniques. Extensive use is made of VLE enabling students to access course materials, lecture slides, useful research links, announcements, discussion boards and e-mail.

The Module will utilise lectures and seminars to teach content, and will engage in interactive seminar activities, videos, case studies and academic research to develop students knowledge and understanding and improve their analytical and evaluative skills.

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

MO1 Demonstrate an understanding of the arguments, ideas and techniques relevant to social value and sustainability concepts, challenging the goals and activities of traditional business

MO2 Critically evaluate the key arguments, assumptions and abstract concepts to make judgements and create solutions that relate to social value and sustainability

MO3 Demonstrate an appreciation of the individual's role as global citizen, and the uncertainty, ambiguity and the limits of knowledge and challenges when developing socially responsible and sustainable business.

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/umot6w-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umot6w-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Students will develop an academic poster to demonstrate their learning on the module. Students will have creative control as to how they present their poster. The assessment will allow students to demonstrate all 3 learning outcomes of the module; In designing their poster they must include the relevant concepts from the module and evaluate these concepts, drawing out key arguments to develop creative solutions to the ethical issues in their poster. The assessment will also ask students to reflect on their own role within the world of social value and sustainability and how it impacts their life.

The poster has been chosen as it allows students to take ownership of the assessment, think creatively and draw on their personal strengths in the development process. This module will be a core module on multiple programmes and thus the creativity inherent in the assessment will complement other.

In order to design out plagiarism, the assessment will form a key part of weekly seminars; students will bring their ideas to the seminars and planning and preparation will take place here. Furthermore, the assessment will involve a reflexive and evaluative element, drawing on students own experiences.

Assessment is designed to build in the student's individual experience in relation to the syllabus and supporting them in submitting an authentic assessment in line with university assessment policies. The overarching aim is to ensure it is the student's original work that is being submitted.

Assessment tasks:

Poster (First Sit)

Description: Poster presentation - 2500 words

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Poster (Resit)

Description: Poster presentation - 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:

Business and Management {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Business Management and Marketing {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Business and Management [Phenikaa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [Villa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [BIBM] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business Management and Marketing [Phenikaa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business Management and Marketing [Villa] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business Management with Marketing {Dual} [Taylors] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business Management and Marketing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

International Business Management [UFM] BA (Hons) 2025-26

International Business Management [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

International Business Management [HELP] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [HELP] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Business and Management [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26