



Module Specification

Environmental Challenges

Version: 2023-24, v5.0, 13 Jul 2023

Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	7

Part 1: Information

Module title: Environmental Challenges

Module code: UBGLXD-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt

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 will introduce students you to the science behind key environmental challenges that face humankind during the 21st century.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline syllabus: This module will involve the study of the science behind various key environmental challenges, which may include:

Climate change

Soil use and management

Ecological challenges

Pollution

Flooding

Air Quality

The syllabus of the module will also develop academic writing skills, for instance, with respect to finding and evaluating different types of literature and developing evidenced-based arguments. The syllabus will also provide introductory content surrounding the nature, sampling and collection of environmental data, and different approaches and techniques relating to data analysis. It will also provide content on how important environmental messages and trends can be communicated and visualised using a variety of tools and methods.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will be taught using a combination of lectures, workshops and computer practicals and assessed using a combination of written assignments and a practical portfolio. The lectures will be used to teach the theoretical content of the module, which will be assessed by the written assignments. Practical workshops will be used to develop, and allow for the application of skills, relating to academic writing and the collection, analysis and communication of environmental data.

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

MO1 Demonstrate an understanding of the science behind some key environmental challenges facing humankind in the 21st century and demonstrate critical and reflective engagement with the associated academic and non-academic literature.

MO2 Use evidence and literature to write structured and well-argued academic contributions on key environmental challenges.

MO3 Select and apply appropriate sampling approaches and statistical methods to investigate a defined environmental challenge.

MO4 Analyse, communicate and visualise research data using a variety of tools and methods.

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://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubglxd-30-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubglxd-30-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Portfolio 1: A series of practical exercises that will test the students' understanding of climate change and air quality and their ability to support this knowledge with evidence from peer-reviewed and non-academic literature, and their ability to communicate that knowledge in written form.

Students will have the opportunity to receive formative feedback on their portfolio within scheduled sessions.

Portfolio 2: A series of practical exercises that will test the students' understanding of soils and ecosystems and their ability to support this knowledge with evidence from peer-reviewed and non-academic literature, and their ability to communicate that knowledge in written form. Students will utilise data to explore and analyse the knowledge developed in the lectures.

Students will have the opportunity to receive formative feedback on their portfolio

within scheduled sessions.

Portfolio 3 - of practical work (includes data analysis and visualisation).

The practical portfolio will require the students to undertake project work that will require them to collect and source relevant data, apply statistical and mathematical analysis, and communicate and visualise arising results and observations. Although there will be opportunities for the students to collaborate, the final portfolio will be individually submitted and assessed. The portfolio timeline allows for integration between the tasks and all thematic themes covered in the lectures and the supporting practical workshops. An element of marked engagement activities shall also be included in the portfolio.

Self-guided task materials will be provided to support the practical workshops and students will receive formative feedback on these tasks on completion. These tasks will need to be formally submitted for assessment, as a single portfolio, at the end of the project (taking into account assessor feedback where appropriate).

Resit Portfolio 1 - required to complete and re-submit the portfolio of the the first attempt.

Resit Portfolio 2 - required to complete and re-submit the portfolio of the the first attempt.

Resit Portfolio 3 - required to complete and re-submit the portfolio of the the first attempt.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio 1 comprising a series of practical exercises. 2000 word equivalent

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio 2: Portfolio of practical exercises (2000 words equivalent)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio 3 (2000 word equivalent)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio 1: comprising practical exercises (2000 words equivalent)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio 2 (2000 words equivalent)

Weighting: 33 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio 3 (2000 words equivalent)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Geography [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Geography [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2022-23

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