Module Specification

Decolonising Environmental Management

Version: 2023-24, v4.0, 17 May 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Decolonising Environmental Management

Module code: UBGMPU-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Environment & Technology

Department: FET Dept of Geography & Envrnmental 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 unit responds to a growing acceptance among governments and the general public of the need for more environmentally harmonious societies and the failure of traditional development paths to meet a number of basic human needs. It recognises that many environmental challenges relate to inequalities within societies and between the global North and South. Therefore, the unit focuses on multiple scales, from the very local to the global.

The module considers the political-economic context of such challenges in terms of values, contexts, paradigms, strategies, discourses and concepts. It may question some of our fundamental assumptions about the causes of environmental degradation in the Global South and the possible solutions. We will discuss a number of responses by which such challenges are being met in a range of different socio-economic systems within the Global South.

Features: Module Entry Requirements: 60 credits at level 2

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

In addition the educational experience may explore, develop, and practise but not formally discretely assess the following: working as a team member; time management.

Outline syllabus: The syllabus includes:

Theme 1: Political ecology: the philosophical approach to the module
Why decolonise environmental management?
The population-environment debate
Misinterpreting environmental realities in the Global South
Environmental policy-making in the Global South
Participatory decision-making in the Global South
Indigenous solutions to environmental management problems
Managing communal property resources
Climate change: The implications for environmental management

Theme 2: Managing urban environments in the Global South:
Environmental conditions in rapidly growing urban centre
Planning responses to urban environmental pressures.
Governance and the role of participatory agents in tackling environmental urban issues.
Improving urban resilience in the face of global climate change

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Scheduled learning on this module includes lectures, student presentations, small group breakout discussion groups and large group summary discussions.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion.

The unit will be delivered using lectures and discussion groups.
Materials will be supplied to students either in the week before or during the lecture which becomes the basis for small group analysis and discussion. Groups then reconvene to summarise and critically analyse the main findings from the sub-groups.

Students will receive – on average - 3 hours of contact each week.

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

Activity:
Contact time: 72 hours
Assimilation and development of knowledge: 98 hours
Exam preparation: 30 hours
Coursework preparation: 100 hours
Total study time: 300 hours

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

MO1 Explain how western colonial societies impacted upon environment and management systems in their colonies

MO2 Challenge the received wisdoms that perpetuate stereotypical images of the state of the environment and the impact of population upon it in the Global South

MO3 Discuss the complexities that exist between pre-modern societies, and their environments

MO4 Critically evaluate the benefits and problems associated with participative management and research of the environment in the Global South

MO5 Critically evaluate the environmental issues facing rapidly growing cities in the Global South and the range of responses to enable them to improve their resilience in the face of those pressures

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 via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmpu-30-3.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Group Presentation: Students will present in small groups with numbers determined by cohort size and arrangement. Students must be prepared to answer successfully up to 10 minutes of follow up questions generated by their presentation. Group marks will be given, varied if necessary (in line with the group working policy) based upon differences in contribution/execution. Assessment will take place in term time, as the mutual sharing of this information is a key part of the learning experience. Will test the ability of the students to design and implement a small-scale research project which utilises a range of skills developed over the course of the academic year. Feedback for the presentation may include advice on the relevance of selected case-study material and the structure of the presentation.

Written Assignment - Essay. Will test student knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and theories encountered on the module. Will test the student's ability to respond to produce logical, focused answers to questions.

Resit Group Presentation - will generally follow the same format as the first attempt. Tutors have the discretion of allowing individuals who were active in a group, but missed the presentation, to present their work as an appendix to the initial group presentation rather than forming part of a new group. as long as group-working skills were clearly shown.

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

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Presentation (10 mins + 10 mins questions)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

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

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Essay (2,000 words)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation (10 mins + up to 10 mins questions)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

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

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay (2000 words)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Geography [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2020-21

Geography [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Geography {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20