



Module Specification

Environmental Assessment

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Environmental Assessment

Module code: UBGLXM-15-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

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: Excluded combinations: UBGMBW-15-M EIA

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: In addition to the Learning Outcomes, the educational experience may explore, develop, and practise but not formally discretely assess the following:

Team work

Scheduling and recording work tasks

Outline syllabus: The syllabus includes:

Role of statutory bodies in environmental management and promotion of sustainability in the UK.

Origin and evolution of EIA practice; history, development. Driving forces for EIA implementation such as World Bank, UN, EU and varying implementation world wide.

EU and UK legislative framework and requirements for EIA in relevant legislation.

Environmental monitoring methodologies, interpretation of environmental data and the development of environmental information; quality assurance of environmental data and information.

Components of EIA process; scoping, impact assessment; reporting; decision making, review of Environmental Statements, including best practice in undertaking EIAs.

Public consultation and participation in environmental decision making in developed and developing countries.

EIA and environmental management and planning in developing countries.

Case studies of EIA in practice in the UK and other countries.

Overview of Strategic Environmental Assessment and planning for sustainability in new developments.

Application of the Habitats Directive and the role of Appropriate Assessment.

Sustainability in the construction and development industry.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Nominal hours:

Directed learning (lectures, workshops): 36 hours

Directed independent learning: 36 hours

Independent research: 38 hours

Assessment: 40 hours

Students will undertake learning in several ways that interlink.

Scheduled learning will comprise practical tasks, field visit(s) and group work to support the independent learning and coursework and lectures. 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.

Independent learning based on online resources covers essential technical content that students must engage with to be prepared for their professional lives. That material leads into case studies that are undertaken partly in independent study time and partly in group work in class where critical discussion and evaluation provides feedback. These case studies also link to other case studies in class time.

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

MO1 Critically interpret and evaluate relevant legislation associated with the application of Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment

MO2 Formulate an approach and plan of study for an impact assessment, including recommending appropriate EIA techniques, public participation and

consultation provisions and presentation of findings in line with government and international best practice guidance

MO3 Critically evaluate a wide range of approaches to promoting sustainability, both statutory and voluntary and understand their inter-relationships

MO4 Understand and apply best practice principles to approaches that aim to incorporate sustainability into all stages of the project life-cycle from project conception and Strategic Environmental Assessment, through EIA and land use planning, to construction, operation and business management, including decommissioning and re-use of sites and materials

MO5 Contextualize environmental assessment legislation and best practice in a particular country

MO6 Critically evaluate environmental monitoring data and information, and apply appropriate quality assurance in environmental assessment

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

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

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Formative Assessment:

In class discussions of practical exercises, including field visits, which develop lecture material within the context of case studies. The exercises will focus on real developments.

Summative Assessment:

Environmental Statement Report - practical task based on a real development proposal. Answers will be assessed according to the following:

Critical appraisal of the environmental impacts of the development.

Reference to and incorporation of best practice approaches.

A professional standard of report presentation.

NTS Rport - A report to develop a Non-Technical summary based on the whole module of learning. It is vital that students are able to write in a technical and non-technical way, synthesizing technical information for a variety of audiences for their future professional work. This will be evidenced in the first part of their report by their producing an individual EIA Non-technical summary of a development proposal case study for coursework with a additional critical appraisal of the case study development. Answers will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Relevance of the content of the answer to the question set.

Structure and organisation.

Evidence of background reading.

Clarity, coherence and depth of argument.

Standards of literacy and presentation.

Resit

As above

Assessment tasks:**Report (First Sit)**

Description: NTS Report (2000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Report (First Sit)

Description: Environmental Statement Report (1000 words), plus the development of maps (equivalent of 1000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4, MO6

Report (Resit)

Description: NTS Report (2000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Report (Resit)

Description: Environmental Statement Report (1000 words), plus the development of maps (equivalent of 1000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Environmental Management [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Environmental Consultancy [Frenchay] MSc 2023-24

Environmental Consultancy [Frenchay] MSc 2022-23