



Module Specification

Introduction to Environmental and Public Health (Online)

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Introduction to Environmental and Public Health (Online)

Module code: UZVRT7-15-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Health, Community and Policy Studies

Module type: Standard

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: The syllabus includes:

Philosophical and theoretical perspectives on health, illness, public health and

environmental health, including epistemological and ontological arguments and social theories of subjectivity/objectivity, induction/deduction, structure, agency, human nature and modernity.

Philosophical perspectives on community and society: community organisation; group and organisational theory; political ideology (individualism, collectivism, communitarianism, market capitalism).

Political and ethical values in environmental and public health: for example, beneficence, equity, social justice, altruism, interdependence, social responsibility, harm principle, freedom, risk.

Contributions of primary academic disciplines to environmental and public health, specifically sociology, ecology, psychology, education, political science, economics and biomedicine.

Historical and geographic trends and developments: evolution of the environmental and public health field; rise and prominence of biomedicine and scientific rationality; national and international political developments (including WHO and UN); global environmental and public health trends.

Determinants of health and illness: national and international trends; cultural, social, environmental and political contexts; key health drivers.

Inequalities in health, healthcare, opportunity and social status: social justice; rights and freedoms; local, national and international classification and social stratification (occupation, income, ethnicity, race, culture, religion, generation, age, gender, sexuality, opportunity and ability); political and ethical debates on inequality.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching is delivered in the format of online lectures, as audio podcasts or video capture, using appropriate software (for

example, Adobe Presenter, PowerPoint), online seminars and other web-based activities. Online seminar activities engage student-centred active learning techniques using online, Blackboardbased discussion platforms (for example, Collaborate or equivalent) and blogs.

Essential, indicative and supplementary online learning materials and resources are also provided via Blackboard, with links to online library resources.

Contact Hours:

This is a distance learning module; there are no face-to-face contact hours. Directed learning is provided for each module, more detail of which is provided in the online Module Handbook and on the module Blackboard site. Students are supported via on-line communication (for example, e-mail, collaborate). Approximately 30 hours of directed study (for example, online lectures, seminars) are delivered via Blackboard.

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

MO1 Theoretical, philosophical and conceptual foundations of environmental and public health, derived from the natural, social, human and environmental sciences

MO2 Determinants of health and illness, particularly in relation to social, environmental and political contexts

MO3 Political values and ethical frameworks in environmental and public health

MO4 Historical and geographical trends in the development of environmental and public health

MO5 Health and social inequalities as determinants and consequences of health status and experience

MO6 Health risk and surveillance from epidemiological and social science perspectives

MO7 Environmental and public health ethics, rights and accountabilities

MO8 Contributions of different sectors, institutions and professions to environmental and public health

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 120 hours

E-learning/online learning = 30 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/uzvrt7-15-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzvrt7-15-m.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Assessment Strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and generic key skills, whilst ensuring that the module's Learning Outcomes are attained. Full details can be found in the Module Handbook and on the module's Blackboard site.

For this module, students must undertake one assignment with a controlled conditions element. The assignment assesses all of the module's Learning Outcomes. All assignment details are published on the module's Blackboard site on commencement of the module.

For the assignment, students must write a 3000 word essay that critically analyses a contemporary environmental or public health issue and evaluates its relevance to health and social inequality. Students are also required to undertake an online viva, as the controlled conditions element, where they are asked to reflect upon the essay/issue. The essay is submitted via Blackboard by the deadline published on the Blackboard site at the beginning of the module. Tailored reading materials required to prepare for the assignment are provided at the start of the module via Blackboard.

The controlled conditions viva is undertaken after submission of the essay and asks the student to reflect upon the choice of topic, the experience of researching the topic and its perceived relevance to the students' overall programme/award and /or professional practice/experience. The viva, lasting approximately 30 minutes, is undertaken via webcam.

Opportunities exist for formative assessment in the module, through Blackboard collaborate sessions and individual feedback.

Assessment tasks:**Online Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Online live reflective viva

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: 3000 word essay

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Online Assignment (Resit)

Description: Online live reflective viva

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 3000 word essay

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: