



Module Specification

Environmental Assessment

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Environmental Assessment

Module code: UBGMKA-15-2

Level: Level 5

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

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

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 focuses on the tools and methodologies for assessing the impacts of a development or infrastructure project on the environment. It considers the role of statutory bodies in environmental management and the promotion of sustainability across a range of geographies, including Oman, the Middle East, the US, Europe and the UK.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: Students will learn about the origin and evolution of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the driving forces behind its implementation, such as the World Bank, the United Nations, and the European Union.

Students will examine the relevant application of legislation in their locale and be supported in comparing this with frameworks elsewhere.

They will be introduced to a selection of tools and methods for investigating certain types of impact, and be guided as to the significance of the arising results.

Students will explore the role of environmental monitoring and be given tasks to help them interpret environmental data.

Students will hear about the importance of quality assurance in relation to environmental data and information and be introduced to the key stages for undertaking an environmental assessment.

As part of this students will explore the contributions arising from stakeholder engagement and the professional groups and bodies that are typically involved in conducting an environmental assessment.

Reference will also be made to other assessment tools, such as Strategic Environmental Assessment (for policy, plans and programmes) and Appropriate Assessment (for protecting and managing habitats).

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Scheduled learning will comprise coursework and lectures, together with practical tasks, field visit(s) and group work to support your independent learning. 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 problems and issues in the application of EIA and environmental management techniques in the UK and elsewhere.

Independent learning will use directed reading via the online reading list and a selection of online resources, including appropriate case studies.

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 assessment (such as Environmental Impact Assessment)

MO2 Formulate an approach and plan of study for an impact assessment, including recommending appropriate assessment techniques, stakeholder involvement and the presentation of findings in line with government and international best practice guidance

MO3 Synthesise, and appropriately communicate, the conclusions arising from an environmental assessment

MO4 Contextualize environmental assessment legislation and best practice in a particular country

MO5 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/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module is assessed by two equally weighted tasks.

Written assignment - an academic essay responding to a current relevant discourse.

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.

Report - comprises an individual report that will assess writing and reasoning skills.

It will enable students to build on skills developed at level one and prepare a

foundation for activity at level three. The type of report required is typical of that

required in practice and will provide students with something tangible that can be

shown to employers. The task allows students to write in a technical and non-

technical way, synthesizing technical information for a variety of audiences. This is a

core competency for somebody operating in this field. The coursework requires

students to prepare an individual non-technical summary report of a development

proposal case study that will be passed to them for review. Group activity is used in

the lead up to the preparation of the report and will require students to undertake a

piece of technical writing that they can obtain feedback on.

Resit Written Assignment - shall resubmit their essay to the same brief as for the first attempt.

Resit Report - shall resubmit their report to the same brief as for the first attempt.

Assessment components:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Academic essay (2,000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Report (First Sit)

Description: Individual report (2500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay (2,000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Individual report (2500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Environmental Management [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Not Running
BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Not Running
BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc
(Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [Feb][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc
(Hons) 2021-22

Environmental Management and Practice {Foundation} [Oct][FT][GCET][4yrs] BSc
(Hons) 2021-22