



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Environmental Law, Policy and Society		
Module Code	UBGMJ9-30-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2019-20		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Overview:</b> The United Nation's Goals for Sustainable Development provide a comprehensive and holistic insight into the challenges affecting the world today and the type of outcomes that need to be secured moving forward. This module builds from this context, and the science and evidence that underpins it, by critically examining a selection of tools, controls and incentives that have been introduced and applied to help offer some resolution.</p> <p><b>Educational Aims:</b> See Learning Outcomes</p> <p><b>Outline Syllabus:</b> By taking a case-study approach, and by using examples from across the world, the module offers historical and contemporary perspectives into the development and application of policy and law. In doing so, it considers the type of environmental concerns that have been targeted, including climate change, energy production, species and habitat protection, air and environmental pollution, and food and water safety. You will also learn about the general principles and assumptions that underpin the application of policy and legislation, such as the concepts of subsidiarity and proportionality. The need for taking precautionary, and risk-based approaches, to certain environmental challenges will also be outlined. The module considers the groups and activities that policy and legislation are likely to target and offers reflection on the type of drivers, and the kind of body or institution that is likely to be charged with bringing actions forward. The module refers to political, social and economic concepts to facilitate discussion, and appropriate critique, on the most appropriate methods for designing, implementing and evaluating both policy and legislation. Students will be exposed to the mechanisms and practices for</p>

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assessing the value and impact of policy and legislation and to the barriers and challenges that policy makers and legislators typically encounter. These include the matters of cost, public and business acceptability, and the extent to which breaches are monitored and enforced.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:** See Assessment

### Part 3: Assessment

The module is assessed by two components, Components A and B. Both of these are equally weighted.

Component A comprises a two-hour seen exam that will be based around definitions, concepts and theories. The paper will require students to complete a series of short-answer questions and to write an essay. Students will be offered past question papers / example questions to help with their preparation. An examination is considered the best assessment tool for delivering against the learning outcomes and will help to develop examination technique at level one.

Component B involves a role-play exercise around a chosen environmental theme. The role-play will help to facilitate and highlight the wide-ranging views and opinions that discussions over the formulation and application of policy and law typically generate. While being a simulation, the assessment will introduce you to the type of debates that are commonly conducted in real-life. The interactivity of the assessment is well-suited to achieving the learning outcomes and will reinforce skills in communication. As a result, it will be a useful assessment to showcase to employers.

Each role-play participant will be given a specific perspective and position that they will need to research in advance of the assessment and defend during the role-play exercise. The component includes two elements of assessment.

The first element comprises a written statement of 500 words that each participant will need to prepare in advance of the role-play assessment. This will allow each role play participant to understand the stance of fellow participants. Once students have each of the participant statements they can then prepare lines of argument to either support or challenge the position of each participant from the context of their allocated perspective. Statements will need to be supported by appropriate references. The second element will comprise the role-play through which students will be asked to present their basic position and then partake in a debate with other participants. In total, students will be asked to speak for up to ten minutes. Students will receive individual marks for both the statement and role play exercise.

The resit to Component A will require students to take a similar seen examination. Given the difficulties of replicating the role play exercise, the resit will require students to prepare a ten-minute presentation that should outline their allocated position / perspective and provide critical reflection on how this would sit with the stances of others. A statement of 500 words will need to be prepared to support the presentation.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Set Exercise - Component B		25 %	Role-play participation statement (500 words)
Presentation - Component B	✓	25 %	Participation in role-play exercise (ten mins per person)
Examination - Component A		50 %	Seen examination (2 hours)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Set Exercise - Component B		25 %	Role-play participation statement (500 words)
Presentation - Component B	✓	25 %	Participation in role-play exercise (ten mins per person)
Examination - Component A		50 %	Seen examination (2 hours)

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<b>Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods</b>																	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>Module Learning Outcomes</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>Reference</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Define the key features of environmental law and policy and the concepts and theories that can underpin its development</td> <td>MO1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Identify some of the groups, bodies and institutions that have been responsible for introducing environmental policy and law, and to consider the arguments surrounding the most appropriate tier for this activity to occur</td> <td>MO2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recognise the environmental challenges where policy and legislation have been, or could be, introduced</td> <td>MO3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outline the tools, policies and mechanisms that are used to assess the environmental impact of a project, plan or policy, and the environmental performance of a business or organisation</td> <td>MO4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recognise the role of community and stakeholder groups in the development and application of environmental law and policy</td> <td>MO5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Critically consider the barriers and challenges that can affect the delivery and implementation of environmental policy and legislation, including cost and public acceptability</td> <td>MO6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Explain the processes by which environmental policy and law can be appraised and evaluated, with a view to improving intended delivery and implementation</td> <td>MO7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Module Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Reference</b>	Define the key features of environmental law and policy and the concepts and theories that can underpin its development	MO1	Identify some of the groups, bodies and institutions that have been responsible for introducing environmental policy and law, and to consider the arguments surrounding the most appropriate tier for this activity to occur	MO2	Recognise the environmental challenges where policy and legislation have been, or could be, introduced	MO3	Outline the tools, policies and mechanisms that are used to assess the environmental impact of a project, plan or policy, and the environmental performance of a business or organisation	MO4	Recognise the role of community and stakeholder groups in the development and application of environmental law and policy	MO5	Critically consider the barriers and challenges that can affect the delivery and implementation of environmental policy and legislation, including cost and public acceptability	MO6	Explain the processes by which environmental policy and law can be appraised and evaluated, with a view to improving intended delivery and implementation	MO7
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Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p><a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html</a></p>																

<b>Part 5: Contributes Towards</b>
This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: