



## **Module Specification**

### **Current Issues in Applied Sciences**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Current Issues in Applied Sciences

**Module code:** USSJQE-30-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Applied Sciences

**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:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The focus of the module is on major global challenges and the potential and realised contribution of applied scientists in responding to these challenges to create a more sustainable and equitable world. There will be a particular focus on collaborative, multi-disciplinary scientific endeavour, facilitating

contribution and co-creation from the diverse student group who will take this module.

On successful completion of the module students will have experience of the collaboration, innovation and enterprise needed to protect our people and planet.

**Outline syllabus:** Module content is contemporary and so subject to change, but will cover significant challenges to the health of people and planet e.g. climate change, air and water quality, healthy ageing and disease and the impact of scientific research, practice and policy in combating these challenges.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module is taught as a mixture of theoretical and practical sessions. Theoretical sessions are interactive and latest research informed, including input from e.g. the Healthtech Hub and the Bristol Robotics Laboratory. Practical work is professional practice oriented and takes place both in the laboratory and in the field. Teaching methods encourage students to become investigative and reflective practitioners.

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

**MO1** Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of the impact of key developments in the Applied Sciences on future sustainability of people and planet .

**MO2** Obtain and synthesise multiple lines of multi-disciplinary evidence to propose solutions to complex challenges.

**MO3** Present and defend evidence-based scientific arguments in both written and oral formats.

**MO4** Critically evaluate current scientific research, advanced scholarship and professional practice.

**MO5** Demonstrate competence and progressive development in core and advanced experimental, technical and research skills.

**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](https://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk) via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/F99D4DCC-6545-39B4-2663-2DE60A5D2C7C.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment Task 1

For Assessment Task 1 students create and present a poster based on a contemporary research paper of their choice and are questioned on their poster during a 30 minute viva voce assessment. The viva will allow in-depth discourse with the assessors and demonstration of skills in presenting, innovation and influencing. Formative activities underpinning this assessment include bespoke sessions on poster creation and presentation skills. Students also receive individual support from the module team on the selection of an appropriate research article of interest.

Assessment Task 2

Assessment Task 2 is a 1500 word review of a contemporary challenge facing our people and planet. Students will be allowed to select a topic, in consultation with academic staff, to suit their interests and degree specialism, but it is expected that all approved topics will be multi-disciplinary. This assessment will develop a critical awareness of a key issue and recognise and apply conflicting theories, paradigms, concepts and principals to develop innovative solutions. Students will be supported in this assessment by a meeting with academic staff to discuss suitability of topic and

to direct the student on first steps.

Students will be expected to discuss their evidence-based viewpoints within the framework of the United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals and to demonstrate a critical awareness of the complexity and multi-disciplinary approaches required to address global challenges.

### Assessment Task 3

Assessment Task 3 is a 1500 word summary report covering five topics, selected by the student from the syllabus; evidencing a critical understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of the applied sciences and crucially, how these topics relate to their chosen field of interest. Students are supported in this assessment by interdisciplinary group work sessions facilitated by researchers at the forefront of their field.

#### **Assessment tasks:**

##### **Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Scientific poster presentation with 30 minute oral defence.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

##### **Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: A 1500 word review of a contemporary challenge facing our people and planet.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

##### **Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: A 1500 word summary report.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4, MO5

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Scientific poster presentation with 30 minute oral defence.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: A 1500 word review of a contemporary challenge facing our people and planet.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: A 1500 word summary report.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4, MO5

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Biomedical Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2020-21

Environmental Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2020-21

Biological Sciences [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs]  
MSci 2019-20

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Biomedical Science [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Biomedical Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Environmental Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Environmental Science [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs]  
MSci 2018-19

Environmental Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MSci 2018-19

Biomedical Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MSci 2018-19