

GD107-15 Global Sustainable Development (GSD) Project

20/21

Department

Global Sustainable Development

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Peter Dwyer

Credit value

15

Module duration

14 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module requires students to engage actively in understanding the real-life application of the theories they studied in their other first year modules. The module aims to provide students with opportunities to examine in depth the Economic, Environmental and Social arguments that have been advanced in relation to sustainable transport. In this respect the module's aims align with the QAA's advice that: "Pedagogical approaches that are particularly effective in the context of education for sustainable development tend to have an authentic aspect, enabling students to relate their learning to real-life problems and situations". In groups led by an academic supervisor, each group of 4-5 students will formulate one question for in-depth investigation to produce an output (the format of which can vary) and a presentation by poster to a public forum.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This module requires students to engage actively in understanding the real-life application of the theories they studied in their other first year modules. The module aims to provide students with opportunities to examine in depth the Economic, Environmental and Social arguments that have

been advanced in relation to sustainable transport. In this respect the module's aims align with the QAA's advice that: "Pedagogical approaches that are particularly effective in the context of education for sustainable development tend to have an authentic aspect, enabling students to relate their learning to real-life problems and situations". In groups led by an academic supervisor, each group of 4-5 students will formulate one question for in-depth investigation to produce an output (the format of which can vary) and a presentation by poster to a public forum. The module also aims to strengthen the research skills of students, through a combination of assessed online activities, taught workshops, an assessed reflective journal, field work and assessed online activities, which require them to analyse simple forms of data.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Case studies on sustainable transport will include:

- International best practices in sustainable transport - UK transport with a focus on HS2 - Coventry
 - Warwick University and its masterplan
- Other sessions will cover research skills.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- By the end of the module, all students will be able to demonstrate the following abilities: -- to develop research questions that deconstruct problems related to sustainable development and transport; -- to design a research strategy utilising the most appropriate methods to answer research questions and test hypothesis; -- to discriminate between different types of evidence, and to evaluate them using scientific criteria; -- to deploy a range of intellectual arguments to formulate a coherent and convincing critique; -- to undertake field research including: archival searches, conducting interviews, managing focus groups; -- demonstrate grounded knowledge and understanding of the Economic, Social and Environmental arguments surrounding the problem of sustainable transport.

Research element

Research skills are embedded into the teaching strategy of the module.

Students are expected to develop research questions that deconstruct a major problem and undertake field research including: archival searches, conducting interviews, managing focus groups

Interdisciplinary

This is a core module on the Global Sustainable Development course which adopts an interdisciplinary approach spanning the arts, humanities, social and natural sciences fields in order to engage with the major global challenges facing contemporary society, explore these 'big

problems,' from a variety of perspectives and consider a range of possible solutions.

International

This is a core module on the Global Sustainable Development course which offers a unique trans-disciplinary and international learning experience that allows students to achieve breadth and depth of knowledge.

Subject specific skills

Ability to:

critically assess and analyse sustainability issues that need to be addressed, including real-life examples

use and apply established frameworks and methodologies for analysing the impact(s) of a behaviour or process

generate and evaluate different models of sustainable development to assess their likely impact
actively implement or contribute to changes that promote sustainable development within the scope of own learning experience

engage with real-life problems relevant to sustainable development

use historical knowledge and an understanding of the consequences of past actions to envision how futures may be shaped

identify the importance of empowering individuals and organisations to work together to create new knowledge

employ leadership for sustainable development by challenging assumptions and negotiating alternatives to unsustainable current practices

identify the opportunities to support and develop a progressive and resilient culture that encourages citizens, professions and institutions to put learning into practice

Transferable skills

Written communication skills

Oral communication skills

Working with others

Problem solving

Information technology

Numeracy

Research across various disciplines

Peer review

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	8 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Seminars	10 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (10%)
Project supervision	4 sessions of 30 minutes (1%)
Practical classes	(0%)
Fieldwork	1 session of 3 hours (2%)
Other activity	6 hours (4%)
Private study	116 hours (77%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Research and preparation for workshop and fieldwork

Other activity description

Guest lectures.

Fieldwork: Students will be expected to undertake activities in the field that are conducive to their acquisition of research methods; these could be structured by the module convenors or arranged by the groups.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
Group Research Project 5,000 words or equivalent project length.	50%	
Reflective Journal 1,000 words	25%	
Group Poster Presentation in public forum Poster, plus Q&A.	15%	
Online Test	10%	

Online test

Feedback on assessment

- Online tests: Feedback will be communicated electronically via moodle in the form of automated responses only.
 - Group project: Group supervisions will be dedicated to giving face-to-face feedback on the project. Feedback will be communicated to each student via tabula.
 - Reflective journal individual feedback will be communicated in writing via tabula.
 - Poster Presentation: Face-to-face feedback and written comments on Tabula.
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Availability

Post-requisite modules

If you pass this module, you can take:

- GD315-15 Multilingualism and Sustainable Development
- GD318-15 Multilingualism and Sustainable Development GD315

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UIPA-L1L8 Undergraduate Economic Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-XL38 Undergraduate Education Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-L8A1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-L8N1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development and Business
- Year 1 of UIPA-R4L8 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-V1L8 Undergraduate History and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-C1L8 Undergraduate Life Sciences and Global Sustainable Development
- UIPA-V5L8 Undergraduate Philosophy and Global Sustainable Development
 - Year 1 of V5L8 Philosophy and Global Sustainable Development
 - Year 1 of V5L8 Philosophy and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-L2L8 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-C8L8 Undergraduate Psychology and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-L3L8 Undergraduate Sociology and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 1 of UIPA-W4L8 Undergraduate Theatre and Performance Studies and Global Sustainable Development