GD108-15 Living with Water

25/26

Department
Global Sustainable Development
Level
Undergraduate Level 1
Module leader
Jonathan Clarke
Credit value
15
Module duration
10 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This interdisciplinary module will stimulate students to engage with a variety of contemporary issues surrounding sustainable management of water resources, explored through international case studies that extend conventional conceptions of social, environmental and economic sustainability. This lens also provides opportunities for further examination of the history, geo-politics, culture and governance frameworks that relate to water and sustainable development, as well as reflecting, evaluating and envisioning adaption strategies connecting to water and future climate change. In doing so, it draws from the University of Warwick's wider expertise in this area and establishes a foundation of knowledge and analytical skills for other GSD modules.

Module web page

Module aims

Challenges around water represent many of the most urgent concerns for promoting global sustainable development. The module will explore how these emerging concerns are exacerbated by a rising global population, development trends and a changing environment, before reflecting upon how we can formulate holistic solutions and pathways to a more sustainable future for living with water.
Such an approach is advanced through a varied programme of lectures, featuring guest speakers

from diverse backgrounds and problem-based seminars that explore the emerging challenges through international case studies. The assessment begins with an individual research report, which seeks to assess/appraise a global water challenge, from a national or sector-specific perspective. The group project will engage students in producing a collaborative ‘manifesto’ that will highlight a global water problem, which in turn informs an individual policy brief that aims to promote a solution or solutions to

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.

1. Civilisation- Water, Agriculture and the City
2. The Water Cycle, Environment and Habitats
3. Water Quality, Contamination and Sanitation
4. Living without Water- Drought and Survival
5. Water and Culture
6. Water Politics, Security and Migration
7. The Water, Energy, Food Nexus (WEF)
8. A Flooded Future
9. Infastructure, Climate Change and the Anthropocene
10. Climate Adaption Strategies

Learning outcomes

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

- Upon completion of this module, students will be able to: · Articulate the key international, sustainable development challenges that relate to water; · Critically appraise existing methods of water management, based upon published evidence; · Research, appraise and evaluate emerging approaches to sustainable water management; · Communicate a sophisticated understanding of water issues relating to the wider global challenges of sustainable development, such as health, inequality and survival; · Formulate a sustainable pathway for addressing a key global water challenges in the future.

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Specific reading list for the module

Research element

Research skills are embedded into the teaching strategy of the module. Students are expected to research, appraise and evaluate emerging approaches to sustainable water management;

Interdisciplinary

This is an optional 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 an optional 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

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Seminars	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	130 hours (87%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Research and preparation for seminars

Other activity description

External visit: Possible visit to locally exemplar water facilities (e.g. Severn Trent)

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 A3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Participation Reflection Contribution to seminars and activities	10%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Individual Assessment 1 Individual Research Report	40%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Individual Assessment 2 Individual Policy Brief	50%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Detailed feedback for all assignments will provided via Tabula. In addition to this, presentations \r\nwill be given verbal feedback by tutors at the time.

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UIPA-L8A1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development