

IM334-15 Regenerative Futures: Pathways to Planetary Wellbeing

25/26

Department

Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Carla Washbourne

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

'Regenerative Development' is an emerging area of research and practice, enabling healthy and flourishing social and ecological systems. Moving away from a system where humanity and nature work against each other, to a paradigm where humans thrive as part of nature. From nature-based flood management to new bio-based materials, regenerative approaches are inspired by and work with the evolving, self-organising and self-healing potential of ecological systems. This module explores the potential that regenerative approaches have to transform areas as diverse as food production, construction, manufacturing, product design and urban planning and how technical, policy and social shifts can support these changes into the future.

This module develops postgraduate students' theoretical, methodological and practical skills to enable humanity to thrive, in the context of pressing environmental challenges. As environmental crises deepen, disciplines and practices respond by integrating new concepts, frameworks and methods into their ways of thinking and intervening in the world.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module applies a transdisciplinary approach to explore how regenerative development engages with complex social-environmental-technological challenges from diverse perspectives. It will introduce concepts and methods derived from: environmental science, engineering, innovation studies, science and technology studies, political ecology, art and design.

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.

Projected lecture and seminar themes include:

- Understanding regenerative development
- Regenerative systems
- Working with nature: ecological and bio-inspired approaches:
 - o Food and fuel
 - o Materials and products
 - o Art and design
 - o Engineering and construction
 - o Policy and society
- Ecoliteracy: crafting stories of regenerative futures
- Regenerative development: a critical appraisal

The course will combine the introduction to a range of theoretical and methodological approaches to regenerative development with the discussion of cases and examples.

Learning outcomes

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary issues and key transdisciplinary debates around global environmental challenges.
- Critically reflect upon the relevance of regenerative approaches for achieving sustainable futures, using theoretical frameworks and practices from across a range of disciplines.
- Critically examine responses to future global and local environmental challenges faced by contemporary societies (e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss)
- Apply knowledge to examples and analyse selected cases of regenerative approaches to environmental concerns.
- Apply theories of regenerative development to concrete disciplinary, and professional contexts
- Identify innovation in regenerative approaches and their significance for tackling emerging environmental and social challenges

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Interdisciplinary

This module aims to enable students to:

- Develop an inter- and transdisciplinary-informed understanding of contemporary environmental concerns and responses
- Demonstrate a strong capacity to connect different approaches to regenerative development across diverse social, disciplinary and professional contexts

Subject specific skills

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

- Understand a diversity of theories and practices of regenerative development
- Critically appraise regenerative responses to environmental and social issues
- Apply theories of regenerative development to concrete disciplinary, and professional contexts
- Identify innovation in regenerative approaches and their significance for tackling emerging environmental and social challenges

Transferable skills

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

- Think critically, creatively and independently in relation to a particular thematic area of the student's choice;
- Meet regular deadlines;
- Demonstrate time-management skills;
- Demonstrate problem solving skills;
- Demonstrate independent learning skills;
- Participate in class discussions;
- Demonstrate and practice presentation skills;
- Present and report on group discussions;
- Experience and participate in both individual and team-based activities.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Total	150 hours

Type	Required
Private study	123 hours (82%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Prescribed/additional reading and self-directed study for formative and summative assessments.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Final coursework	100%		Yes (extension)
Formative			
Short case study presentation midway through the term. Compulsory for module completion, but does not contribute to the final grade.			
Summative			
Written assessment of 2000 words.			
In a disciplinary or professional context of interest. Choose between:			
- Present and analyse a case study that takes a regenerative approach. - Present and critique a theoretical framework related to regenerative development.			

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Class / Group work: Verbal feedback provided in class for each group for formative case study presentation, further aggregate/general verbal feedback also provided in class.

Summative coursework: Written feedback will be provided to students.

Availability

There is currently no information about the courses for which this module is core or optional.