GD207-15 Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System Term 1

26/27

Department
Global Sustainable Development
Level
Undergraduate Level 2
Module leader
Wes Lin
Credit value
15
Module duration
10 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The module draws on Warwick’s world leading research – especially those involved in the university's Global Research Priority on Food – to deliver subject and analytical knowledge, as well as research and communication skills, to equip students with a multi-disciplinary toolkit for positive participation in the creation of more sustainable food systems.

Module web page

Module aims

The module aims to examine the relationship between Food and Sustainability using theories and methods from the sciences, social sciences and humanities

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.

This module explores key issues connected to global food systems and the social aspect of food security, sustainability and sovereignty. Key topics include freshness, quality of food, care and childhood malnutrition, insects and alternative protein.

Learning outcomes

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

- Apply a ‘Food Systems’ approach to the identification, research and analysis of broadly conceived sustainability issues, emerging in food production, processing and consumption
- Evaluate the contrasting technical and governance responses proposed for issues generate by global food needs
- Employ visual mapping of food systems for analytical purposes in creating a mixed media campaign
- Apply a critical understanding of key concepts, particularly food security, sovereignty and sustainability in analysis of food systems
- Where relevant, reflect on and evaluate personal and collective food consumption choices in relation to sustainable development concerns

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Specific reading list for the module

Research element

Healey & Jenkins (2009) propose that Research-led-teaching design should consider four discrete opportunities. This module has been designed to include three of these opportunities:

1. Research-led learning, where the module syllabus is developed from current research in relevant fields, being based on contemporary and/or seminal, peer reviewed and other high quality research literature. As such, all knowledge for student engagement will be consciously and specifically chosen for its merits in reference to broader academic understanding.

2. Research-tutored learning, where students engage actively in discussing high quality, contemporary and seminal research literature, as well as working progress academic work.

3. Research-based learning, where students use developing methodological skills to create original knowledge of their own. Students produce innovative, evidence-based, suggestions for a Visual Campaign.

Interdisciplinary

This is an optional 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. Specifically, this module draws on Warwick’s world leading research to deliver subject and analytical knowledge, as well as research and communication skills, to equip students with a multi-disciplinary toolkit for positive participation in the creation of more sustainable food systems. The module examines the relationship between Food and different interpretations of Sustainability, using theories and methods from the sciences, social sciences and humanities

International

This is an optional 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. The module aims to equip students with the ability to evaluate contrasting responses proposed by societies across the world to problems created by a need to feed the planet.

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

Sustainability: understand and explain consequences of the Climate Emergency
Professionalism: Planning and organising
Information Literacy: Independent and rigorous research and analysis
Problem Solving: Issue identification and proposing responses
Communication: Designing mixed media Visual Campaign for change and advocacy
Ethical Values: Reflect on personal behaviours viz sustainability

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Private study	63 hours (42%)
Assessment	60 hours (40%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Reading and research in preparation for workshops.

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			
Group Visual Campaign	50%	30 hours	No
Visual Campaign Group Project. Students work in groups to identify a sustainability concern using a food systems approach, and develop a Visual Campaign as an intervention to address the specific nature of the issue as they diagnose it.			
Reassessment component			
Visual Campaign Viva			Yes (extension)
Students will summarise their campaign and then be questioned about the research, analysis and design, including their individual contribution. Will be based on learning time used for the Visual			

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification

Campaign itself and requires no additional preparation.

Assessment component

Food Systems Analysis	50%	30 hours	Yes (extension)

Students are required to use their knowledge of food system analysis, including the process of mapping, to critically reflect on a food system of their choice, and develop appropriate interventions that respond to emergent concerns.

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided via tabula; individual face-to-face feedback sessions will be offered to each student; moodle will be used where appropriate.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 2 of UIPA-L1L8 Undergraduate Economic Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-XL38 Undergraduate Education Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-L8A1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-L8N1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development and Business
- Year 2 of UIPA-R4L8 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-V1L8 Undergraduate History and Global Sustainable Development
- UIPA-C1L8 Undergraduate Life Sciences and Global Sustainable Development
    - Year 2 of C1LA Life Sciences and Global Sustainable Development: Biological Sciences
    - Year 2 of C1LB Life Sciences and Global Sustainable Development: Ecology
- Year 2 of UIPA-V5L8 Undergraduate Philosophy and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-L2L8 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-C8L8 Undergraduate Psychology and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-L3L8 Undergraduate Sociology and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 2 of UIPA-W4L8 Undergraduate Theatre and Performance Studies and Global

Sustainable Development

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 2 of UDIA-H1L8 Undergraduate Design and Global Sustainable Development