GD210-15 Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System Term 2

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 focuses on issues relating to environmental pillar of food sustainability and security, featuring the current practices, governance, metrics and available technological solutions. It also covers food economics. Key topics include UK current food security policies, how climate change affects the food system, food safety, use of pesticides, GM food and more.

Learning outcomes

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

- Upon completing this module students will 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.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to articulate and analyse scholarly concerns surrounding food security, sovereignty, and sustainability.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to independently locate, interpret synthesize and evaluate academic and other credible research and analysis to critically respond to essential topics and questions.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to appreciate the potential of mixed media campaigns for advocacy and engagement, and have some experience of designing these.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to recognise and appropriately apply contrasting disciplinary approaches to the investigation and analysis of contemporary food systems, on a variety of scales.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to evaluate contrasting responses proposed to problems created by a need to feed the planet.
- Upon completing this module students will be able to think consciously about their contributions to the creation of collective knowledge, and the learning of others, through the medium of oral discussion.

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, evaluate and synthesize academic and other credible research and analysis to critically respond to essential topics and questions.

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. he 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

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	Optional
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)	
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)	
Fieldwork	(0%)	1 session of 5 hours
Other activity	10 hours (7%)	
Private study	113 hours (75%)	
Total	150 hours	

Private study description

Reading and research in preparation for workshops.

Other activity description

Regular weekly lectures, talks and film screenings.

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 A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Group Task 15 Minute group presentation	50%		No
Reassessment component			
Individual Presentation			No

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Written Assignment Assessment Choice: 1x 2500 word food systems analysis OR 1x 2500 word problem-based task.	50%		Yes (extension)

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

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