



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT

# **Institutional Quality for Sustainability**

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## Module Descriptor

Module Code: SUS7INQ

Version: v2.00

Status: Final

Date: 15/07/2024

# Summary Module Details

### Module details

**Module Title:** Institutional Quality for Sustainability

**Module Leader:** Dr Hazel Nash and Dr Graeme Larsen

**Module Mode:** Supported online learning

**Semester:** Autumn (UK)

**Level:** 7

**Credits:** 20

**Learning Hours:** 200

### Contact & Study Hours

**Scheduled learning and teaching activities:** 33 hrs (16.5%)

**Guided independent study:** 167 hrs (83.5%)

### Assessment Type

**Coursework:** 70%

**Computer Marked Assessment:** 30%

**Self-directed Research Project:** 0%

**Portfolio:** 0%

## Module Summary

This module will address the issues of standards for sustainability including BREEAM and LEED. It will cover the major regulations, UNSDG, ESD guidance, ISO14001, ethics and how these might be put into practice. Further, the module will at times take a critical view, what should be measured, how and by whom. Challenges around how we might better address issues of quality in the short and long terms around sustainability will be debated. Students will master the key institutional logics around quality which impact sustainability. By the end of the module the students will have a critical understanding of the institutional quality agenda around sustainability.

## Taken on which Programmes

MSc Innovation in Sustainable Built Environments (E)

Postgraduate Diploma Innovation in Sustainable Built Environments (E)

**Core (C) or Elective (E)**

# Module Aim

This module aims to offer students a critical understanding of the institutional quality systems and the relationship between them today and for the future associated with creating a more sustainable built environment.

# Module Learning Outcomes

- LO1. Understand the current institutional quality systems associated with the built environment.
- LO2. Analyse the current and potential institutional quality systems associated with the built environment.
- LO3. Synthesise the short, medium, and long-term institutional quality system options to meet the challenges associated with the changing demands of the built environment.

# Indicative Module Content

## Module topics

- Concept of institutional logics.
- Concepts of quality.
- What to measure; how, when and by who.
- BREEAM.
- LEED.
- UNSDG.
- ISO14001:2015 and other international standards deemed relevant.
- Ethics.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the evolving body of knowledge around sustainability associated with the built environment.

# Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting	Minimum assessment threshold
LO1	<b>Assessment 1</b> Coursework	1,500 words	30%	40%
LO2, LO3	<b>Assessment 2</b> Case study comparing two sustainability projects, including reflection piece.	3,500 words	70%	40%

**Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 50%**

# Key Module Learning Resources

## Core Sources and Texts

The core reading resources within each module will be provided via the specific Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) module pages and within the e-Library. Additional reference material and supplementary resources to support your studies are available through the UCEM e-Library.

## Module tools

Students will have access to study materials, dedicated academic support, student forums, and learning activities via an online learning platform (VLE).

The module page on the VLE is broken down into structured study weeks to help students plan their time. Each week will have a key theme related to the module, drawing upon an evolving set of methods, including flipped learning with interactive workshops and discussions, and online Padlet discussion activities for students unable to attend the live sessions.

Online webinars/seminars led by specific academics can be attended in real time and provide opportunities to consolidate knowledge, ask questions, discuss topics and work through learning activities together.

These sessions are recorded to support students who cannot attend and to enable students to recap the session and work through it with a degree of flexibility. Module forums on the VLE provide further opportunities to discuss topics with other students, complete collaborative work and get extra help from the module team.

## Professional online resources

The e-Library provides access to trusted, quality online resources, selected by subject specialists, to support students' study. This includes journals, industry publications, magazines, academic books and a dissertation/work-based library. For a list of the key industry specific and education resources available please visit [the VLE e-Library](#).

## Other relevant resources

Access is also provided to further information sources that include the British Library and Open University UK catalogues, as well as providing a monthly current awareness service entitled, **Knowledge Foundations** - a compendium of news, research and resources relating to the educational sector and the Built Environment.

The module resource list is available on the module website and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.