Operationalising Sustainability

Module Descriptor

Module Code: SUS7OPS

Version: v2.00

Status: Final

Date: 15/07/2024

Summary Module Details

Module Title: Operationalising Sustainability

Module Leaders: Dr Pippa Boyd and Dr Richard Davies

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: 100%

Computer Marked Assessment: 0%

Self-directed Research Project: 0%

Portfolio: 0%

Module Summary

This module will introduce the practices and logics relevant to organisations operating in the built environment sector associated with becoming sustainable. The module will critique a contextual approach to the uptake of sustainable practices for organisations and the leadership and management skills needed. Key areas covered will include future studies and trends around sustainability, visions toward 2050, sustaining a firm's competitiveness over time, HRM practices to sustain a workforce including issues around diversity, inclusion, race, bullying, and sexism. Central to the module will be the theme of change, innovation and adaption to sustain a stakeholder organisation. Attention will also be given to understanding the economic and finance models of today and future alternatives that may impact sustainability on the international stage.

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 help students develop critical capabilities (leadership and management) around how to enact sustainability practices within several operational settings within a built environment organisation.

Module Learning Outcomes

LO1. Understand the different operational settings within a built environment organisation and the associated sustainability challenges.

LO2. Analyse how innovative change can be enacted to improve different operational settings within a built environment organisation in-line with evolving sustainability discourse.

LO3. Evaluate the evolving needs of the built environment organisation, the evolving sustainability discourse and the broader contextual characteristics of the sector.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- Future studies.

- Sustaining organisational competitiveness.

- HRM.

- Economic and financial practices.

- Innovation adoption, diffusion and uptake.

- Leadership and management.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the evolving body of knowledge around sustainably associated with organisations.

Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting	Minimum assessment threshold
LO2	**Assessment 1** Briefing style presentation	1,500 (word count equivalent)	30%	40%
LO1, LO3	**Assessment 2** Case study comparing two sustainability projects, including reflection piece	3,500 words max	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, online Padlet discussion activities for student 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.