



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD003659	Version: 2 Date Amended: 12/Jun/2019
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1. Module Title
Planning Principles and Concepts

2a. Module Leader
Nezhapi-Delle Odeleye

2b. School
School of Engineering and the Built Environment

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

The discipline and profession of planning is characterised by its multi-disciplinary nature. Theory and practice from the social sciences and other areas of scholarship are integrated into a critical understanding of space and place which enables planners to conceptualise and respond to the many and varied challenges and opportunities posed by the wider environment including the global scale. This module introduces students to the central concepts which define contemporary practice and research in spatial planning, encouraging the development of a conceptual framework to underpin their understanding of the purposes and nature of spatial planning. The social, economic, political and environmental contexts for planning, including their theoretical approaches, are studied through a series of cross-cutting concepts drawing on the multi-disciplinary foundations. This is developed into an exploration of theories of planning and the nature of planning as a process and as a profession. The relationship between theory and practice is explored through the examination of contemporary issues, themes and debates, illustrating the dynamic nature of the relationship, as each is shaped by and shapes the other. Students are encouraged to draw on examples from their own disciplinary backgrounds and to explore perspectives from other disciplines in order to develop a critical and reflective approach to their studies, and ultimately to their professional practice.

6b. Outline Content

- Spirit and purpose of planning – plans, planning, planners
- Evolution of spatial planning – key influences
- Space, systems, hierarchy, complexity
- Sustainability, sustainable development, sustainable communities
- The public, public interest, rights, social justice, equity, responsibility
- Community, locality, neighbourhoods, networks
- Globalism
- Place, meaning of place and placemaking
- Heritage, amenity and significance
- Mobility, accessibility, connectivity
- Theoretical perspectives in planning
- Recurring themes in planning

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the multi-disciplinary foundations of planning and their contribution to contemporary spatial planning practice.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Apply concepts and approaches from planning theory to debates and issues in contemporary spatial planning practice.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Formulate and present an integrated view of planning in relation to its key areas of knowledge
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Abstract from and reflect critically on a range of multi-disciplinary material, both in writing and in discussion

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	12	1,2,4	3 hours per week over 1 trimester comprising, on average, lectures totalling 1 hour with linked workshops and seminars
Other teacher managed learning	24	1,2,4	3 hours per week over 1 trimester comprising, on average, lectures totalling 1 hour with linked workshops and seminars
Student managed learning	114	1,2,3	9.5 hours per week over 1 trimester.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1 2 4	60 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
2400 words.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	1 3 4	40 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
1600 words equivalent.					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]