

Module code: MOD007818		Version: 2 Date Amended: 09/May/2024	
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1. Module Title			
Sustainable Social Work			

2a. Module Leader			
Paul Evans			

2b. School			
School of Allied Health and Social Care			

2c. Faculty			
Faculty of Health, Medicine and Social Care			

3a. Level			
6			

3b. Module Type			
Theory and practice (fine graded)			

4a. Credits			
30			

4b. Study Hours			
300			

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

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

Climate change and environmental degradation are realities faced by the entire planet and by every society. This crisis, in development for many decades, comes on a background of rampant global inequality and disenchantment with the neo-liberal project. Locally and globally there is heightened realisation that this existential crisis is affecting particularly those who are already in vulnerable and oppressed situations. Natural disasters, draughts, floods and loss of land deepen poverty, social inequality, displacement and forced migration, and affect life particularly in the most marginalised communities and social groups.

You'll build on insights from Contemporary Issues in Social Work by exploring the structural and environmental origins of poverty. You'll critically analyse the modernist/ neo-liberal thinking on society and the environment, and the eco-centric/ ecosocial perspective advocated as alternative. We'll discuss the social, transnational and political implications of this perspective and the position social work can take at micro, mezzo and macro levels.

To prepare for this challenge in your professional life, content will be based on experiential and active learning, critical thinking, teamwork and co-production, and social action. In particular, we'll draw on community social work (as introduced in year 1). You'll also build on the knowledge developed in Research - Evaluating knowledge and evidence in practice by engaging in participator methodologies to learn to network with the community and to facilitate inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural community participation in problem solving.

6b. Outline Content

1. Sustainability and social work & history of social work engagement with the environment, SDGs, global and national frameworks and debates
2. Paradigms and theoretical models framing the understanding of individuals in their social and natural environments
3. Issues of social inequality and rights, and their link with environmental injustice
4. Critical analysis of social work environmental practice and methods at micro, mezzo and macro levels
5. New and transferable sustainability competences supporting action and problem solving, including participatory and community involvement methods
6. Self-reflective and team work skills

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	Critically analyse the relationship between climate change, sustainability and social work in local and international contexts, and how this is linked to social justice, equality and rights-based practice
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a critical understanding of social work action at micro, mezzo and macro levels using new theoretical and research perspectives
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically apply collective, interdisciplinary and community-based methods to tackle the effects of social inequality on the climate vulnerability of individuals and communities
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate skills in community engagement, participatory project development, and reflection and self-awareness as a basis for continuing professional development

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	18	1-4	Tutor-led presentations 6 x 3h Wk 1,3,5,7,9,11
Other teacher managed learning	18	1-4	Co-facilitated participatory workshops 6 x 3h Wk 2,4,6,8,10,12
Student managed learning	264	1-4	Teamwork, library, independent study
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1,4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
2,000 word equivalent Group presentation of a community-action project developed based on participatory teamwork					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	2,3	50 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
2,000 words Individual critically reflective autobiography focused on own relationship with nature, encouraging the student to identify transferable insights to working with individuals and communities.					

<p>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*).</p> <p>In addition, students are required to:</p> <p>(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above</p> <p>(b) pass any pass/fail elements</p> <p>[* 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]</p>					
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