

## Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development

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|----------------|---------------------------|
| Module Code:   | DEV7026-B                 |
| Academic Year: | 2018-19                   |
| Credit Rating: | 20                        |
| School:        | School of Social Sciences |
| Subject Area:  | Development               |
| FHEQ Level:    | FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)    |

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

### Contact Hours

| Type           | Hours |
|----------------|-------|
| Lectures       | 22    |
| Seminar        | 8     |
| Directed Study | 170   |

### Availability Periods

| Occurrence | Location/Period                                 |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| BDA        | University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan) |

### Module Aims

This module aims to develop an advanced understanding of sustainable development from economic, social and environmental dimensions, the global and national policy discourses on measurement and indicators, and implementation challenges and the roles of state and non-state actors and corporate social responsibility.

### Outline Syllabus

Sustainable development- from WCED 1987 to New York 2015; economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development; critical perspectives on alternative theories; sustainability as inter-temporal fairness; critical perspectives and thematic discussions to include a range of relevant topics such as: the green economy; sustainability

and human rights perspectives and protecting the rights of future generations; social dimensions of sustainability - inclusion, inequalities, indigenous people, displacement; global commons, climate change, the principle of equal but differentiated responsibilities; critical perspectives on Sustainable Development Goals; ethics of sustainability; challenge of responsibility - who should act, and why; citizen, state and corporate; potential and limitations of corporate social responsibility; ideological and ethical critiques of sustainability; science and sceptics of sustainability; the role of innovation and how to harness new approaches for behavioural and social change; sustainable cities; challenges and future directions. The roles and significance of gender are further examined in a gender laboratory.

### **Module Learning Outcomes**

*On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...*

- 1 Show advanced understanding of concepts and theories of sustainable development;
- 2 Critically examine ideological, ethical and institutional perspectives on sustainable development and the concepts of justice & responsibility including those based on rights (including those of future generations and non-human living organisms) and their implications for the role of individuals, the state and corporate organisations;
- 3 Critically examine the link between sustainability and well-being and existing and new indicators and their relevance to Sustainable Development Goals agenda;
- 4 Analyse complex issues underpinning the narratives of sustainable development and its implementation;
- 5 Critically examine the ethical dilemmas and issues related to special countries (such as small islands, coastal regions; land-locked countries), population groups (including gender dimensions and rights of indigenous people) or species and renewable and non-renewable resources;
- 6 Apply and critically comment on quantitative and qualitative approaches to sustainability;
- 7 Develop and critically reflect on a case study portfolio conduct research and communicate your ideas in writing.

### **Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**

Teaching will be research-led. Lectures develop the key concepts, theories and alternative models of sustainable development and practice and will contribute to achieving learning outcomes LO1 - 6. Debates and discussions in class explore complexities and ethical dilemmas (LO's 1, 2, 4 and 5). You will work in small groups on case studies (including where possible on sustainable enterprises or on CSR initiatives of FTSE 100 companies or national or local governments or NGOS) but develop individual portfolios (contributing to achieving LO 7).

A significant component of assessment is by an essay that requires you to research and critically evaluate current literature (LO's 1 - 6).

All students on this module are required to participate in the Gender Immersion Lab activities (8 hours) and complete a written reflective research report as part of that activity.

### Mode of Assessment

| Type      | Method     | Description                              | Length          | Weighting | Final Assess' |
|-----------|------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Summative | Coursework | One essay or written piece of work .     | 2800-3000 words | 80%       | Yes           |
| Summative | Coursework | And a Gender reflective research report. | 1000-1200 words | 20%       | No            |

### Legacy Code (if applicable)

### Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).