MN5514 – MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

MODULE TYPE/SEMESTER: Option (20 credits), Semester 2

MODULE CO-ORDINATORS: Dr Lucy Wishart & Rod Bain

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AIM: This module examines managing natural resources with reference to three interlinked elements. First, there will be an examination of the issues that emerge from the challenges of managing for (1) biodiversity, (2) global climate change and (3) water resources. Second, there will be an examination of management practices and approaches to addressing these challenges, including the use of accounting technologies, certification schemes and reporting initiatives. Third, there will be a consideration of two common challenges that arise for organisations in these contexts, namely: (1) governance and management across different temporal and spatial scales; and (2) commensurability of measurement of impact. The module will also situate developments in managing natural resources in the context of transitions for sustainability.

METHOD OF TEACHING & LEARNING: The module runs in weekly two-hour lecture sessions with fortnightly two-hour seminar sessions. You are also expected to undertake independent study. A field trip will be undertaken to provide an applied context in which students might start to understand the demands that managing natural resources place on organisations. The fieldtrip is planned to take place after the Spring break.

Seminars: Thursdays 10am – 1pm

LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of key concepts in the management of biodiversity, water and carbon
2. Demonstrate understanding of key issues associated with management of natural resources, from the perspective of management and organisations
3. Explain and employ a variety of applications (labelling schemes, whole systems analysis and reporting) to support management of natural resources.
4. Critically reflect on the discussion of the complex ideas underpinning management of natural resources through different forms of communication
CONTACT HOURS & COMMUNICATION

Office Hours: Thursdays (2-4pm). Appointments at other times can be made via email (la24)

Email communication: We will send any additional information concerning the module via the email function in MMS. Please remember to check emails regularly.

WEEKLY OUTLINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date of Seminar</th>
<th>Seminar Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>26 January</td>
<td>Introduction to module, terminology and teaching ethos</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 February</td>
<td>Biodiversity – key concepts and management applications</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9 February 2015</td>
<td>Carbon – key concepts and management applications</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>16 February</td>
<td>Water – key concepts and management applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Water – key concepts and management applications</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Integrating perspectives across topics</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Field trip – details to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>30 March</td>
<td>Issues analysis1: governance and management across scales</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>6 April</td>
<td>Issues analysis 2: commensurability of measurement of impact</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>13 April</td>
<td>Wrap up, synthesis and revision</td>
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ASSESSMENTS:

There are three assessments in this module:

- A self-directed student project (30%) due to be submitted by 12noon on Friday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2015 (week 6); and

- A reflective essay on seminar and social media participation (20%) due to be submitted by 12noon on Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} April 2015 (week 11) at the latest.

- An exam (50%) during the semester 2 Exam Diet.

Each student will receive individual feedback on each assessment as well as a copy of general feedback for each assessment.

SEMINAR PARTICIPATION: Each week some time will be spent exploring relevant literature. All students will be required to give one 5 minute poster presentation to the class on a paper of their choice. This can be a paper from the reading list but we would encourage you to pick another relevant paper for the module which relates to your own interests and project choice. These presentations will begin in Week 2. You will receive formative and peer-review feedback for your presentation.
In weeks 3, 5, 7 – the seminars will be student led. In groups, you will be asked to design and facilitate an hour of interactive material to explore in relation to that week’s key challenge. You will receive formative and peer-review feedback for your facilitation.

Your participation in Seminars will inform your second assessed assignment which asks you to critically reflect on your own preparation, performance and learning experience in seminars.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** This module will have its own blog and twitter handle. We would like you as a group to decide how best to use these to share the content of the course. At the very least each group will be expected to write a 300 word blogpost on their seminar facilitation content and everyone will be asked to provide a tweet-to summarise their poster presentation. You will not be assessed on these elements of the course, however, you will be asked to consider them in your reflective essay.

**RESOURCES FOR THE MODULE:** Materials for the module will be available on the following virtual learning environments:

- **Moodle:** you will find information including
  - module outline,
  - lecture slides,
  - details of seminars (including articles recommended by students),
  - coursework submission sheets,
  - links to PGT Student Handbook,
  - general feedback from coursework (when available)
  - essay bank of questions for exam preparation
- **MMS:** please submit one copy of each assessment via MMS.
- **Electronic Reading List:** master record of resources associated with the module.