Module Descriptor

Title	Creating Sustainable Business		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	BUSN08062	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	M Khan		

Summary of Module

This module provides you, the student, with an understanding of how human activities such as industrialisation, globalisation, urbanisation, and consumerism have impacted natural resources and ecosystems. You will explore pressing global challenges like climate change, pollution, deforestation, carbon emissions, and loss of biodiversity.

Focusing on the role of businesses and organisations, the module highlights strategies for minimising environmental impact while maintaining ethical and sustainable profitability. You will evaluate theoretical concepts of business ethics and sustainability, exploring the social, economic, and environmental impacts of business operations. You will learn to apply management tools, frameworks, and guidelines designed to reduce negative effects and enhance positive outcomes.

This module will help you to obtain some key graduate attributes that will be important in your

academic, personal, and professional development. These include enhancing your knowledge base, problem solving, cultural awareness, ethical awareness, communication skills, collaboration with others, time management, resilience and research skills.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☒	**Hybrid**[2] ☐	**Online**[3] ☐	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☒ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☐ Paisley	☒ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☐	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Assess how business practices contribute to environmental and social issues.
L2	Apply ethical principles to support responsible decision-making in business contexts.
L3	Demonstrate an understanding of core principles, including environmental impact, ethics, corporate social responsibility and sustainability.
L4	Analyse emerging sustainability trends and challenges, considering their implications for business practices.
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Demonstrate and/or work with a knowledge of the scope, defining features, and main areas of sustainable business. Understand a defined range of core theories, concepts, principles and terminology. Awareness and understanding of some major current issues within business ethics and sustainability.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** Apply knowledge, skills and understanding in using a range of skills, techniques, practices and/or materials associated with the business ethics and sustainability
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Undertake analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues that are within the common understandings of business ethics and sustainability Use a range of approaches to formulate and evaluate evidence-based solutions/responses to defined and/or routine problems and issues relating to the triple bottom line.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Use a wide range of routine skills and some advanced and specialised skills associated with business ethics and sustainability, for example: Convey complex information to a range of audiences and for a range ofpurposes. Use a range of standard ICT applications to process and obtain data.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities in business ethics and sustainability and triple bottom line Manage resources within defined areas of work.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours. Students on a Graduate Apprentice programme will undertake the following teaching, 9 weeks of 2-hour lecture/Core content delivery online sessions and 3 weeks of 3 hour on campus workshops (dates for on-campus sessions to be confirmed each term) The teaching and learning approach for this module emphasises interactive and discussion based methods. Dedicated contact hours are used to engage students in class-wide and group discussions about relevant business issues. Active participation is encouraged, with students expected to review module materials in advance and come prepared to discuss key topics during sessions.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: *Crane, A. & Matten, D. (2019). Business Ethics. Oxford: Oxford University Press *Margaret Robertson (2021) Sustainability Principles and Practice 3rd edition Details of further resources, including textbooks, journals and online resources will be identified at the beginning of each delivery in the module handbook and made available via VLE
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

The university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. In this module, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner.

It may be difficult to pass the assessment associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach out to check how things are going and offer support if we observe that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Management, Organisations People**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Management, Organisations and People
Moderator	K McQuade
External Examiner	C Manning
Accreditation Details	N/A

Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Class Test (40%)
Assessment 2
Poster Presentation with Q&A (60%)
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Class Test	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	40	

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Poster Presentation with Q&A	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	60	

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Included graduate attributes in the summary. Made minor wording changes to the summary.	12/12/24	M Khan
Removed the word "critically" from Learning Outcome 1 to ensure alignment with Level 8		

language. Added standardised statements on equality and attendance.		