Centre for Alternative Technology

IN COLLABORATION WITH

University of East London

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, COMPUTING & ENGINEERING

Programme Awards and Titles:

MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (MSc SA)
PGDip Sustainability and Adaptation (PGDip SA)
PGCert Sustainability and Adaptation (PGCert SA)
Short Course in Sustainability and Adaptation

Programme Handbook

Academic Year 2019-20

[Version 1.0, September 2019]
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Document Control
This document is updated annually and is available for students to download from the CAT website.

The principal author of this Student Handbook is Tim Coleridge, with editing by Martin Skelton, Frances Hill and Adrian Watson.

A Glossary in Appendix G explains terms and abbreviations used.

Please inform the Student Support team (student.support@cat.org.uk) if you are aware of any inaccuracies or changes that may be needed to this document.
1. **INTRODUCTION & WELCOME FROM THE CEO**

The Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) at the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) would like to extend a very warm welcome to the programme and hope that you find your studies here to be of the highest value.

Thank you for choosing to study with CAT and I would like to extend a warm welcome to you at the beginning of your studies with us. I hope you will find your time as a CAT student intellectually rewarding as well as professionally beneficial.

I’m delighted and honoured to be leading the work of an internationally renowned environmental charity. I passionately believe that we can create a better world where we live in an environmentally sustainable way – for the benefit of people and planet.

CAT’s unique role in demonstrating and teaching practical environmental solutions to a changing planet is more important than ever before. Our Zero Carbon Britain project has shown that society has the technology needed to rise to the challenge of climate change – but there is a big gap between the decarbonisation targets adopted by global leaders and the action needed to achieve this.

As the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation become ever harder to ignore, CAT’s ability to promote holistic, practical and evidence-based solutions to the problem becomes ever more important. CAT and the GSE have a long tradition of teaching sustainability in an enriching and solutions-focused way.

For over 40 years people have taken their experience at CAT and used it to become ‘change makers’ in their workplaces, communities or personal lives. I hope you have a fulfilling time here at CAT and that your studies equip you with the skills, knowledge and insights to play your in role in creating a sustainable society.

Have a great time and enjoy the experience.

Best wishes,

**Peter Tyldesley**

Chief Executive Officer, CAT
1.1. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CAT, GSE AND UEL

The integrated MSc Sustainability and Adaptation programmes, comprising MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA); MSc Sustainability and Adaptation in the Built Environment (SABE); MSc Sustainability and Adaptation Planning (SAP) seek to build on the current collaborative partnerships between CAT and UEL.

The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT), Machynlleth, Powys is an environmental charity and these programmes are owned and managed by CAT. The programme content and academic standards are monitored and controlled by UEL.

These programmes follow all the rules with respect to a UEL-validated programme offered by a third party, and a formal Memorandum of Co-operation came into operation from March 2014 and was revised and extended in December 2018.

1.2. CAT & GSE: AREAS OF EXPERIENCE / EXPERTISE

The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT), Machynlleth, Powys, is an environmental charity and visitor centre demonstrating practical solutions for sustainability. CAT’s activities have covered all aspects of green living: environmental building, eco-sanitation, woodland management, renewable energy, energy efficiency and organic growing for over 40 years, however due to the evidence emerging about the urgency of environmental change, CAT is now changing focus and striving to become a centre for teaching adaptation transformation by building on its past and embracing this new direction for the future.

The CAT site is a unique and valuable practical demonstration centre with a range of examples of sustainable solutions such as the use of hemp and binder as a building material. CAT has an array of installed renewables systems. These include: photovoltaic displays; solar thermal; a micro-grid; demonstration off-grid systems and renewable grid-connected systems; several hydro-electric systems; a water-balanced funicular railway, an air-source heat pump; a community heat main; a display of working biomass heaters and boilers, and a range of small to medium sized wind turbines. CAT also has black water treatment via two reed bed systems, compost toilets as well as low-flush systems, an off-mains water supply, and an extensive organic garden that can be explored.

Day-to-day activities include:

- An educational visitor centre which is open 7 days a week, with 7 acres of interactive displays.
- A free information service, answering enquiries on aspects of sustainable living.
A Graduate School, offering a range of postgraduate degrees in environmental architecture and renewable energy.

Residential and one-day courses for the general public, as well as more specialised courses for builders, engineers, electricians and plumbers.

Provision of curriculum-based education to visiting schools, colleges and universities.

Hosting of residential education trips for schools and colleges in the unique eco-cabins.

Carrying out educational outreach work, including teacher training and school visits.

Publishing books on key environmental issues and their solutions.

Running a successful volunteer programme for those that want to gain hands-on experience.

Having a growing network of supporting members who receive CAT’s quarterly magazine Clean Slate and an invitation to an annual conference.

Access to a vegetarian restaurant and on-site eco-shop, including mail-order service.

CAT is also responsible for the following projects:

- ZeroCarbonBritain – a series of research reports looking at a directional scenario for reducing the UK’s greenhouse gas emissions to zero within 20 years.

- Coed Gwern – 15 acres of sustainably managed woodland, which is home to a range of courses, as well as being monitored and managed for biodiversity.

See CAT website - **What We Do?**

The Graduate School of the Environment at CAT currently offers six post-graduate programmes, all of which are validated by UEL:

- MArch Sustainable Architecture (MArch);
- MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA);
- MSc Sustainability and Adaptation in the Built Environment (SABE);
- MSc Sustainability and Adaptation Planning (SAP);
- MSc Sustainability in Energy Provision and Demand Management (SEPDM);
- MSc Green Building (GB)

The GSE also offers MSc programmes in Sustainable Food and Natural Resources (SFNR); Sustainability and Ecology (SE) and Sustainability and Behaviour Change (SBC) which are validated by Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU).
Many of the teaching spaces used by the GSE are situated in the award-winning Wales Institute for Sustainable Education (WISE) building at CAT, which has transformed the teaching environment and student experience in many ways. The building’s success has been credited through receipt of a RIBA Award in 2011, as well as the Dewi-Prys Thomas prize in 2012, which is given to the scheme having contributed most to improving the Welsh environment or our understanding of it over the period 2009 to 2012.

In June 2011, CAT was awarded the Ashden Award for Training in Sustainable Technologies. The Ashden Awards are the world’s leading green energy awards and CAT won for its achievement in training and inspiring people to work in green technologies through a range of postgraduate and professional courses.
2. INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAMME

The integrated MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA) programme concentrates on a wide range of current environmental issues. It is based and run at the Centre for Alternative Technology and offers a unique combination of academic study with practical experience that will equip you with skills that are becoming increasingly important. Students must attend the Centre to complete ‘on-site / residential’ modules, while ‘distance-learning’ module delivery is offered concurrently. Flexibility is offered for ‘blended learning’ options.

2.1. KEY PROGRAMME FEATURES: SUSTAINABILITY & ADAPTATION

The Programme Leader is Tim Coleridge (tim.coleridge@cat.org.uk)

The programme content and operation is validated by UEL. For the general regulations of the University as a whole visit: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Manual-of-General-Regulations

The key features of the Sustainability and Adaptation programme are:

- A credit-based modular programme leading towards a higher degree;
- The option of discrete awards (post-graduate certificate and post-graduate diploma) for students who do not wish to, or are unable to, undertake the complete Masters programme;
- An integrated and flexible programme offering transfer arrangements to related specialist MSc programmes run by CAT;
- A programme run by CAT, which has a long pedigree of active environmentalism, development, appraisal and practical experience of efficient, low-impact and novel buildings and renewable energy systems;
- A range of exceptional external speakers who contribute to CAT’s delivery of the programmes. These including leading thinkers in sustainability, renewable energy, and building technologies.
- A programme offering the flexibility of ‘on-site block residential’ and ‘distance-learning’ delivered concurrently, ‘blended’ learning options, and the opportunity to remain in employment whilst studying;
- A programme available by full-time or part-time study with flexibility of transfer offered between modes of study;
- Block delivery ‘on-site / residential’ modules undertaken in the immersive study environment at CAT, allowing students to escape their day-to-day surroundings and consider issues, challenges and solutions afresh and in the company of peers having similar aspirations;
• Learning experiences which are enriched and broadened by a diverse range of student backgrounds, facilitating a productive and highly topical discourse amongst your student group, with social and informal learning supportive of the formal learning activities.

For the Programme Specification visit: [https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/)

For further programme information visit: [https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/courses/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/courses/)

2.2. PROGRAMME TITLES AND AWARDS OFFERED

Programme titles

MSc Sustainability and Adaptation, leading to MSc SA;
PGDip Sustainability and Adaptation, leading to PGDip SA;
PGCert Sustainability and Adaptation, leading to PGCert SA.
A Short Course in Sustainability and Adaptation

Awards offered

MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (MSc SA);
PGDip Sustainability and Adaptation (PGDip SA);
PGCert Sustainability and Adaptation (PGCert SA).
A Short Course in Sustainability and Adaptation

2.3. INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMME CONTENT

The MSc Sustainability and Adaptation programme provides students with the knowledge and skills required to comprehend and plan for the challenge of effectively adapting to the current episode of environmental change. The programme gives students the opportunity to develop the confidence, aptitude and critical thinking to allow the student to implement sustainability and adaptation principles effectively into their work; enhancing their future employability as adaptation for environmental change becomes an ever more urgent priority.

As the future environmental situation and the effectiveness of solutions are laced with uncertainty, the programme further aims to enable students learn how to integrate risk assessment into your decision-making processes, and discern the influence that the urgency of climatic change has on them. The programme combines theoretical knowledge with practical and research experience, offering students the possibility to develop into rounded self-reflective learners who can work with others and communicate to others with confidence and clarity.
The topics covered in the programme include: environmental politics, social and economic systems, land use, ecosystem services, waste, water security, food security, acute resilience pathways for cities and communities, influences on communication, sustainable design of buildings, energy provision, energy flows in buildings, environmental responsive materials and resources, logistics, transportation, environmental assessment, team working skills, sustainable renovation, transformational change, risk and vulnerability assessment, resilience building, adaptive capacity, sustainability thinking and adaptation transformation planning.

### 2.4. PROGRAMME AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

**What is this programme designed to achieve?** This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Critically reflect upon the causes, seriousness, and urgency of the current episode of environmental and climatic change with respect to how these factors influence sustainability thinking and adaption.
- Hone your ability to identify and appraise the complex influences that political, ethical, legal, social, cultural and non-cultural, factors and opinions, related to environmental and climatic change, have on the sustainability and adaptation related, practice and research.
- Develop your evaluation skills of complex issues to become systematic, iterative, imaginative and creative, in order that you can make sound judgements within the limits of uncertainty and incomplete data, and become a self-reflective practitioner or researcher who can communicate evidence and conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Undertake an extended independent piece of original research and writing on a topic of their choosing within the field of sustainability and adaptation.
- Develop your self-confidence and an ability to act on their own initiative, to prepare the student for the rigours and demands of employment or further postgraduate study in areas related to sustainability and adaptation.
- Make informed decisions based upon an appraisal of the academic content combined with practical experience and directed research, in order that the student may develop the ability to synergise theory and practice knowledge domains into a deep and holistic understanding.
- Analyse with increased awareness your personal competences in order that you can realise your potential for self-development and become an independent lifelong self-reflective learner and practitioner in your area of chosen interest.

**What will you learn?** At the end of this programme, you will be able to:

**Knowledge**

- Demonstrate a holistic, systematic and sophisticated understanding of the concepts, issues, and theories that are central to sustainability thinking and
adaptation (e.g. urgency of environmental change, vulnerability, adaptive capacity, and resilience building);

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the potential nature and scope of the complex interactions between, and the interconnectedness of, the variety of factors that influence sustainability and adaptation;
- Present a sophisticated appreciation of the influence that political, social, cultural and non-cultural perspectives can have on sustainability and adaptation processes within the wider perspective;
- Demonstrate through reasoned argument the ability to integrate and rationalize the influences of the multiple environmental concerns facing humanity have on sustainability and adaptation decision-making processes;
- Clearly understand the theories and processes of team work and how these facilitate self-reflective practice.

**Thinking skills**

- Develop and sustain arguments in a variety of written forms, formulating appropriate questions and utilising primary and secondary evidence;
- Critically evaluate the methodologies, analysis, conclusions and relevance, and where appropriate, propose new hypotheses from congruent argument, of current research and advanced scholarship;
- Synthesise a clear understanding of the various legal, institutional and ethical considerations and developments associated with sustainability and adaptation in an area of practice;
- Display a holistic and sophisticated understanding of how knowledge is advanced through research, and produce clear, logically argued and original written works.

**Subject-Based Practical skills**

- Position with clarity, relevance and insight a variety of sustainability and adaptation responses within a wider conceptual and methodological framework drawn from secondary literature and scholarship;
- Analyse, evaluate, draw conclusions from and critically reflect upon secondary literature and evidence, including academic and scholarly writings, advertising materials, arts and visual representations, various legal documentation, regulations and guidelines associated with adaptation and sustainability in general application;
- Utilise the principles of sustainability and adaptation in practice

**Skills for life and work (general skills)**

- Effectively communicate (in written and oral forms) to a team and to a wider audience;
- Gather and use evidence and data to find, retrieve, organise and exchange new information;
- Demonstrate clarity, fluency, and coherence in a variety of written forms and expression;
- Use IT and computer skills to gather and organise evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange new information;
- Organise tasks and manage time effectively;
- Design, investigate, and present an extended and independently conceived piece of research;
- Work in a team, identifying individual and collective goals and responsibilities and performing in a manner appropriate to these roles, recognizing and respecting the views and opinions of other team members, and evaluating their own and others performance in a constructive manner.

2.5. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE: SUSTAINABILITY & ADAPTATION

The structure for each award from the MSc Sustainability and Adaptation programme is presented below. Candidates may be awarded a Master of Science in Sustainability and Adaptation (SA) upon successful completion of 180 credits at Level 7, consisting of: the core introductory module (EV7102; 30 credits); six optional modules (each 15 credits) from those offered below; and the core Dissertation (60 credits).

Table 2.5: Core and Optional Modules – MSc SA Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module start</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>DL (Y/N)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>EV7102</td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning: Part 1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>CORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning: Part 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept or Feb</td>
<td>EV7101</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>CORE</td>
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Six Optional Modules (comprising 90 credits) chosen from those listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module start</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>DL (Y/N)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>EV7104</td>
<td>Environmental Politics and Economics</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>EV7107*</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings: Part B</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Module Code</td>
<td>Module Title</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>EV7105</td>
<td>Cities and Communities</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>EV7108</td>
<td>Energy Provision</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>EV7103</td>
<td>Ecosystem Services: Land use, Water and Waste Management</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>EV7110</td>
<td>Sustainable Materials in the Built Environment</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>EV7111*</td>
<td>Applied Project</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>EV7112*</td>
<td>Work-based Project</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Refer to additional guidance below

Refer to Table 5.10 and Appendix A ‘Academic Calendar’ for module dates.

A core module for a programme is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a programme is a module selected from a range of modules available on the programme.

Summary of modifications since the previous academic year:

**EV7102:** minor modifications to aims, topics of study, learning outcomes and assessment methods:

- Assessment methods for the September-November part of the module (Part 1) have been revised from two assignments (formerly a Critique of Paper and a Blog Article) to a new type of single Critique Review assignment;
- Assessment methods for the second part of the module – November-January (Part 2), have also been revised from two separate assignments (previously a Report and Self-Reflective Account) to a single Report assignment.

Enrolled students can access detailed information about modifications proposed and/or agreed to the programme, including the rationale for the changes, within the Quality Management section of the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle).

Additional detail about the programme module structure:

The programme commences in September with all students undertaking the 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module that establishes the overarching concepts and theoretical grounding needed for the programme, and provides an introduction to the specialist ‘themes’ of the programme. The ‘Adaptation
and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module is typically delivered through two eight-week phases, Part 1 starting in September and Part 2 typically starting in November, both undertaken within the same academic year. Thereafter, students study six 15-credit modules from those offered.

Eight 15-credit modules are offered following the ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, with content structured into seven clearly defined specialist ‘themes’, which are typically delivered from October until May. In addition, the 15-credit ‘Applied Project’ and ‘Work-based Project’ modules are delivered concurrently in Term 3 (typically starting in June). All modules after the core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module are core or optional, depending upon the chosen award – refer to the table above.

The 60-credit core Dissertation module, undertaken after completion of 120-credits of taught modules, completes the Masters programme (MSc SA).

Students studying the Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainability and Adaptation (PG Dip. SA) will need to complete 120 credits, comprising the 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, and six optional 15-credit modules.

Students studying the Postgraduate Certificate in Sustainability and Adaptation (PG Cert. SA) will need to complete 60 credits from the modules offered on the programme.

Students studying the Short Course in Sustainability and Adaptation (Short Course in SA) will need to complete the 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module.


All students who do not have prior credited or experiential learning in building physics are advised to undertake module EV7106 ‘Energy Flows in Building – Part A’ as a pre-cursor to module EV7107 ‘Energy Flows in Building – Part B’.

Guidance regarding modules EV7111 ‘Applied Project’ and EV7112 ‘Work-based Project’:

Students will not be permitted to undertaken both EV7111 and EV7112, due to the overlap in their learning outcomes, i.e. significantly similar learning and assessment should not be repeated within the same programme. Students will gain the most benefit from the learning experiences offered if they have undertaken at least three pre-cursor modules in advance of the ‘project’ modules, EV7111 and EV7112. All MSc students are recommended to undertake one of the ‘project’ modules, either EV7111 or EV7112, as the final taught module before progressing to the Dissertation.
2.6. **MODES OF STUDY**

The programmes are offered in both full and part time modes of study:

**Period of Study Full-time:** 18-months, comprising 12 months of taught modules and the 6-month dissertation module.

**Period of Study Part-time:** two-and-a-half years, comprising 2 years of taught modules and the 6-month dissertation module.

All students commence the programme by undertaking the ‘core’ module in September and November of the same year. Thereafter:

**Full-time students** will be expected to complete a further six taught modules from the options available within the same academic year.

**Part-time students** are required to gain a minimum of 45 credits within their first year of study, and will normally be expected to complete a further two 15 credit modules from the options available in their first academic year, and the remaining taught modules from the options available in their second academic year. Part-time students are permitted to complete a maximum of 75 credits within their first year of study, with the remaining 45 credits of taught modules completed in the second year.

GSE staff can help distance-learning students to decide on and plan for an amount of study that suits them.

**Typical MSc award dates:** There are two possible scenarios; routes 1 and 2. The Dissertation Module will follow the taught modules for students aiming for the MSc award as follows:

- If you follow dissertation module ‘Route 1’, i.e. submit your dissertation in January, pass assessment for this module and fulfil all other award eligibility criteria, you can typically expect to receive your award in June of the same academic year;
- If you follow dissertation module ‘Route 2’, submit your dissertation in June, pass assessment for this module and fulfil all other award eligibility criteria, you can typically expect to receive your award in October of the same academic year.

**Changing mode:** It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic commitments. Many GSE students have made use of this flexibility, which may influence the overall duration of the study period.

**Minimum duration of programme:** One year full-time and one dissertation term.
**Maximum duration of programme:** Two years part-time and one dissertation term.

### 2.7. METHODS OF STUDY

The following methods of study are available on this programme:

- Block on-site residential modules at CAT
- Distance-Learning
- Blended

Delivery is in the form of 15 and 30-credit taught modules, with a 60-credit dissertation research module, each overseen by a dedicated Module Leader. All typical 15-credit taught modules will last at least eight weeks, comprising ‘block on-site residential’ and ‘distance-learning’ teaching delivered concurrently within this period, in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures relating to learning provision.

**Block on-site residential modules at CAT** will consist of one five to six-day module per month, with students usually arriving on a Monday (September – July). You will be supported via distance-learning methods whilst away from CAT for the remainder of the module period. A Dissertation Research Methods Workshop will be delivered twice per year, typically in October and May.

**Distance-Learning modules** will consist of contact teaching, learning activities and private study over the set period of the module, which is typically eight weeks, with contact teaching sessions predominantly timetabled within the third and fourth week. Distance-learning modules can be undertaken only when delivered, and are only delivered concurrently with associated on-site modules (as applicable).

### 2.8. TIME LIMITS FOR STUDENT STUDY

A student may not continue study, or be assessed or reassessed, on a module once three years have elapsed from first study on the module.

The time limit for completion of a course is two years in full time mode, and four years in part time mode after first enrolment on the course. These time limits should be extended to reflect any authorised breaks in study.

### 2.9. INTERMISSION

If owing to work, family or other personal or professional commitments, you find that you do not have sufficient time for your studies, you may apply to intermit. Intermission extends the time limits for study on the programme for the period of the intermission (unless prohibited by Professional and Statutory Regulatory Body requirements)
You may intermit from the programme with the agreement of the Programme Leader and/or UEL (as applicable). Before intermitting you must have completed at least one module from the programme, otherwise you will be withdrawn from the programme, and you cannot intermit from a term in which you have already attended a module.

In the first instance a student can request a break for up to one academic year only and the maximum intermission period allowed from first enrolling on a programme is two academic years. In exceptional circumstances more than one intermission may be granted.

During the intermitted period, no module study may be undertaken. However, all outstanding reassessment requirements from a module, where intermission is requested after all assessment has taken place should be undertaken, or else the module will automatically be regarded as not passed on reassessment (standard regulations on extenuation apply).

There will be no fee payable during intermission. However, if you do not return to the course after intermission, you will be charged any outstanding fees. During intermission normal student privileges are not available and you do not have access to library facilities or tutorials.

Please contact the Student Support team if you require further information about intermission. The intermission application form can be accessed via the GSE Forms Hub.

2.10. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND TIER 4 SPONSORSHIP LICENCE

Programme delivery through on-site attendance, distance-learning and blended learning methods will attract Home, EU and International students. The full flexibility of these delivery modes offered within the programme will be open to Home and EU students. International students’ ability to attend the residential sessions at CAT will be limited by CAT not holding a Tier 4 sponsor licence from the UK Border Agency.

2.11. STUDENT REGISTRATION AND STUDY

You must be registered on a module in order to be assessed or reassessed on the module. Once you have passed (or been awarded a compensated pass) on a module you may not register, be assessed or reassessed on the module.

2.12. PROFESSIONAL BODY ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is currently being considered for the MSc SA programme from the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) to increase professional recognition and validation for the programme. CIOB accreditation can form part of the route towards Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) status, through the Society for the Environment
Other potentially mutual benefits include external resources supplied by this organisation to students.

2.13. PROGRESSION FROM INTERMEDIATE AWARDS

If you are enrolled onto one of the intermediate awards, progression to study towards higher awards will be permissible if you express an interest before the completion of the award that you are enrolled on, and subject to entry and admissions requirements and additional fees as applicable at the time.

If you have been awarded one of the intermediate awards, programme entry to study towards higher awards will be subject to entry and admissions requirements and the associated fees as applicable at the time. In these cases, you will be able to apply for the recognition of credit achieved from the completed intermediate award in accordance with UEL’s Accreditation of (Experiential) Learning (A(E)L) policy.

2.14. TRANSFER OPTIONS TO RELATED PROGRAMMES

The MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA) programme is integrated with two separate but related specialist MSc programmes, the MSc Sustainability and Adaptation in the Built Environment (SABE) and MSc Sustainability and Adaptation Planning (SAP). Transfer between these programmes will be permissible upon discussion with the Programme Leader and subject to entry and admissions requirements and the associated fees as applicable at the time.

The MSc SA also shares some modules with the MSc Sustainability in Energy Provision and Demand Management (SEPDM) programme and the MSc Green Building (GB) programme - validated by UEL, and the MSc in Sustainable Food and Natural Resources (SFNR) programme, MSc Sustainability and Ecology (SE) and the MSc Sustainability and Behaviour Change (SBC) - validated by LJMU. Transfer between these programmes may be permissible subject to entry and admissions requirements, such as via the APEL process, and the associated fees as applicable at the time.
3. **KEY STAFF AND CONTACT DETAILS**

The Key Staff and Contact Details were correct at point of publication. You will be notified of any changes.

3.1. **SCHOOL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

The CAT Graduate School of the Environment is part of the CAT Charity Ltd. However the mode of operation of the School including employment and remuneration practices follow that of UEL and will follow those recommended by the University and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

3.2. **SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

CAT CEO: Peter Tyldesley
CAT Director of Finance: Paul Booth
Head of School: Dr Adrian Watson (adrian.watson@cat.org.uk)

Programme Leaders

- **Tim Coleridge** (tim.coleridge@cat.org.uk) - MSc Sustainability in Energy Provision and Demand Management (SEPDM), MSc Green Building (GB), MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA), MSc Sustainability and Adaptation in the Built Environment (SABE) and MSc Sustainability and Adaptation Planning (SAP)
- **Dr Jane Fisher** (jane.fisher@cat.org.uk) - MSc Sustainable Food and Natural Resources (SFNR), MSc Sustainability and Behaviour Change (SBC), and MSc Sustainability and Ecology (SE)
- **John Carter** (john.carter@cat.org.uk) - MArch Sustainable Architecture

3.3. **CAT/GSE STAFF CONTACTS**

Head of School: Dr Adrian Watson (adrian.watson@cat.org.uk) Tel: 01654 704988

Programme Leader: Tim Coleridge (tim.coleridge@cat.org.uk)

Student Support Manager: Martin Skelton (martin.skelton@cat.org.uk) Tel: 01654 704985

Student Support Officers: (student.support@cat.org.uk)

Ethel Cure: 01654 704989  *(Note: the Student Support Office is normally staffed Mon – Fri 10am - 4pm.)*

Alice Read: 01654 705981

Sarah Everitt: 01654 705974
### Table 3.3: Academic Staff:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Skype</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bryce Gilroy-Scott (lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bryce.scott@cat.org.uk">bryce.scott@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>bryce.gilroy.scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Frances Hill (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:frances.hill@cat.org.uk">frances.hill@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>frances.hill2381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Jane Fisher (senior lecturer and Programme Leader for MSc SFNR, SBC and SE)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jane.fisher@cat.org.uk">jane.fisher@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>jane_fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise Halestrap (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:louise.halestrap@cat.org.uk">louise.halestrap@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>louise.halestrap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siobhan Maderson (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:siobhan.maderson@cat.org.uk">siobhan.maderson@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>siobhan.maderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Alan Owen (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alan.owen@cat.org.uk">alan.owen@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>live:4c482e48b2ef4c2b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Ruth Stevenson (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ruth.stevenson@cat.org.uk">ruth.stevenson@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>struth.stevenson1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Saskia Pagella (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saskia.pagella@cat.org.uk">saskia.pagella@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Flowed.pagella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Coleridge (senior lecturer &amp; Programme Leader for MSc SA, SABE, SAP, GB and SEPDM)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tim.coleridge@cat.org.uk">tim.coleridge@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>tim.coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Stevens (senior lecturer)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paul.stevens@cat.org.uk">paul.stevens@cat.org.uk</a></td>
<td>live:.cid.42c34b34449bba97</td>
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3.4. MODULE LEADERS

Table 3.4: Module Leaders

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Module Start</th>
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<th>Module Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>EV7102</td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning: Part 1</td>
<td>Tim Coleridge &amp; Frances Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>EV7102</td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning: Part 2</td>
<td>Ruth Stevenson &amp; Louise Halestrap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>EV7104</td>
<td>Environmental Politics and Economics</td>
<td>Siobhan Maderson &amp; Saskia Pagella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>EV7105</td>
<td>Cities and Communities</td>
<td>Louise Halestrap &amp; Ruth Stevenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>EV7106</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings – Part A</td>
<td>Frances Hill &amp; Tim Coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>EV7107</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings – Part B</td>
<td>Frances Hill &amp; Tim Coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>EV7108</td>
<td>Energy Provision</td>
<td>Tim Coleridge &amp; Frances Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>EV7103</td>
<td>Ecosystem Services: Land use, Water and Waste Management</td>
<td>Saskia Pagella &amp; Siobhan Maderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>EV7110</td>
<td>Sustainable Materials in the Built Environment</td>
<td>Louise Halestrap &amp; Tim Coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>EV7111</td>
<td>Applied Project</td>
<td>Tim Coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>EV712</td>
<td>Work Based Project</td>
<td>Jane Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept or Feb</td>
<td>EV7101</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Ruth Stevenson &amp; Jane Fisher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.5. CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH YOU MAY CONTACT UEL DIRECTLY

You will find that for most issues that arise during the course of your studies academic and administrative staff at your location of study will be able to help. If however you have concerns that lie outside the remit of these staff you can contact the UEL link person (see further details below) in the first instance who will be able to re-direct your enquiry as appropriate.
3.6. UEL LINK PERSON AND COLLABORATIVE ADMINISTRATOR

The **UEL Link Person** is Mr. Ian Lemon, ACE, UEL, *l.M.Lemon@uel.ac.uk*

The UEL Link Person is appointed to manage the relationship between the Programme Leader at the Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) and UEL. The UEL Link Person will normally be invited to attend Academic Council Meetings at CAT on a quarterly basis, providing an opportunity for CAT students to meet with the Link Person.

The **UEL Collaborative Academic Partnerships Account Manager** is Daniel Boatswain *d.boatswain@uel.ac.uk*

Please contact your local Student Support/Administrative Office if you have any queries, in the first instance. If you have been advised by your local office to contact UEL then please send an e-mail to the UEL Academic and Employer Partnerships Office at *apo@uel.ac.uk*

**UEL Student Hubs**

UEL Student Hubs offer you the full range of services, including helpdesk services, a dedicated telephone service and webmail facility. These are delivered by fully trained Student Support staff, able to help you quickly and effectively with any general questions and provide you with support and guidance for all non-academic based queries. The UEL Student Hubs can be contacted as follows:

**By phone:** 0208 223 4444

**By email:** thehub@uel.ac.uk
4. COURSE OPERATION AND STUDENT REGISTRATION

4.1. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND ADMISSIONS

The GSE’s ‘Learning and Teaching Strategy’ – published on the GSE web site accessible from the Quality Assurance page, states that the GSE aims to "provide clear information about the admission procedures, entry requirements, time-line of application, decision and appeals" for each programme of study. CAT aims to offer promotional materials that attract and inform prospective students, providing a fair and accurate reflection of CAT, the learning opportunities and learning experience offered.

The MSc SA programme is academically rigorous, requiring of its applicants critical thinking, and a high level of numeracy and technical understanding. Downloadable and hardcopy information on the programmes content, fees and funding (including the Bursary scheme), admissions requirements and timelines for application, decisions and appeals (including CAT’s ‘Equal Opportunities Policy Statement’ and ‘Complaints Procedures’) are available from the Useful Documents section of the GSE website (https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/) and the MSc course pages: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/

Student enrolment will be administered in accordance with UEL’s ‘Admissions, Applications, Enrolment and Module Registration Processes’ and ‘Procedures for the Administration of Collaborative Programmes’. Further information for International Student applicants may be available from UEL’s International Student Advice service: https://www.uel.ac.uk/international/student-advice


4.2. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

To participate in the programme you will need:

- Regular access to a PC or Mac capable of running standard MS Office software (or equivalent) for producing word-processed documents, spreadsheets and presentations. The computer must be capable of running the required plug-ins (e.g. Adobe Flash player, Adobe PDF Viewer, Apple QuickTime and Java) for using UEL’s Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle. A PC, or emulation
software on a Mac, may be necessary to use technical / scientific software that is only available on the PC operating system;

- Reliable internet access; at least a 56K modem connection, but broadband is highly recommended. For each module undertaken, you will be expected to spend approximately 6-12 hours online per week, participating in seminars, discussions, VOIP/Skype tutorials, accessing resources, following web-links provided in lecture notes, using online library services, researching on the internet, emailing academic or support staff;

- The latest version of your chosen Internet browser;

- Valid email and Skype addresses, and reliable access. Access to a webcam (for Skype) and printer is recommended.

4.3. KEY PROGRAMME OPERATION INFORMATION, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- The awards available from this programme and methods and modes of study available are described earlier within Section 2 of this Student Handbook.

- The programme structure, core and optional modules available on this programme are described earlier within Section 2 of this Student Handbook.

- The programme has one start date per academic year: September.

- Module arrangements and the local teaching and learning strategies are described below and later within Section 5 of this Student Handbook.

- The arrangements for Personal Tutors and Student Learning Support are described later within Section 5 of this Student Handbook.

- Arrangements for the submission, assessment, moderation and feedback of coursework are described later within Section 5 of this Student Handbook.

The remainder of this section lists a number of documents and policies that you may wish to refer to. Please contact the Student Support team if you need any assistance with finding our policies and forms.

Policies and Procedures

All students should be aware of the following key documents. Unless otherwise stated, these documents are available from the Useful Documents section of the GSE website: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

Collaborative Entitlements Letter - this document outlines services and facilities provided by UEL, on and off campus, which students studying this programme are entitled to access. The ‘Collaborative Student Entitlements 2019-20’ letter is included within Appendix E of this Handbook.
CAT Student Charter - CAT follows a ‘Student Charter’, based on UEL’s procedures, which covers both CAT’s expectations of students and the delivery of courses and the responsibilities of staff when interacting with students.

CAT Academic Integrity Policy - This document defines the local administration of the UEL policy and procedures relating to academic conduct for students studying this programme. The Academic Misconduct policy is introduced within Appendix F of this Handbook along with guidance for the avoidance of plagiarism.

CAT Student Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures - CAT’s ‘Student disciplinary regulations and procedures’, based on UEL’s procedures, cover students’ rights and responsibilities, the student ‘code of conduct’, expectations of behaviour, definitions and principles of misconduct and jurisdiction, investigation and appeals procedures, penalties, monitoring and reporting, including templates for an ‘Incident Report Form’ and ‘Witness statement’ form.

CAT Fees Terms and Conditions - The fees structure, timings and operation for students studying this programme are described within the current GSE MSc Fees Terms and Conditions, accessible from: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/funding/

The following policies, procedures and forms are also in operation:

- Complaints Policy and Procedures;
- Equal Opportunities Policy Statement;
- GSE Student Support and Welfare Services;
- Health and Safety Policy;
- Policy and Procedure for the Booking of Speakers and Events;
- Policy and Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech;
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedures;
- Student Admission Policy and Procedures;
- Student Progression Rules;
- Appeals against Assessment Board Decisions Policy;
- Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedures;
- Student Withdrawal Policy.

The following forms can be accessed and submitted electronically by via the GSE Forms Hub.

- Extenuating Circumstances Application Form
- GSE Withdrawal Form
• Sudden and Severe Change of Circumstances Application Form
• GSE Intermission Application Form

**Quality and Strategy Information**

The following CAT quality and strategy documentation is available, and unless otherwise stated can be found on the CAT/GSE website:

[https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/quality-assurance/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/quality-assurance/)

• GSE Research Ethics Committee – Terms of reference and membership;
• Teaching and Learning Strategy;
• Teaching and Learning Enhancement Strategy;
• Teaching and Learning Enhancement Strategy Implementation Plan.
• Quality Assurance Manual (available through Moodle, Quality Management folder)

4.4. PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATION

Student Support Officers at the Graduate School of the Environment, CAT, will be the primary point of contact for all programme administration local arrangements, including:

• Programme registration with UEL;
• Registration on modules;
• Change of contact details;
• Applying to change mode of study, e.g. from full-time to part-time or vice versa;
• Matters affecting study progress including extenuation and intermission.

4.5. STUDENT REGISTRATION

It is essential that you log in to UEL Direct and enrol with UEL using the UEL student number that you have be given prior to attending any lectures.

Once you have gained admission to the programme you must login to the UEL direct page using your student username, which will be your UEL ID number, and password and complete the on-line enrolment. The Centre for Alternative Technology will assist and ensure that you complete your online enrolment task promptly. UEL Direct is available at [https://www.uel.ac.uk/students](https://www.uel.ac.uk/students) (click on ‘new students’)

For general enquiries concerning enrolment, you must contact the CAT Student Support Office for guidance in the first instance and if you are then advised to
contact UEL, please send an e-mail to the UEL Academic Partnerships Office at: 
apo@uel.ac.uk.

The CAT Student Support Office will send you your student ID card as soon as it becomes available. Student status may enable a variety of discounts, but in particular, students are offered a discount by the CAT shop, whether shopping onsite or online. For any discount offers that require confirmation of status (e.g. rail card, council tax) the Student Support Office should be approached.

4.6 ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENT REGISTRATION ON MODULE

As described earlier within Section 2, all students commence the Sustainability and Adaptation programme (SA) by undertaking the core EV7102 ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module that establishes overarching concepts and theoretical grounding, and provides an introduction to each of the seven subsequent specialist themes of the programme.

Before the beginning of each term of study, the GSE will ask you to confirm your module choices for that term. You will need to confirm your intention to register on each module by booking online by dates given with the module booking form, normally end of September and mid-December.

The GSE will notify UEL of students registering on each module at the start of the module. Module registration will be administered in accordance with UEL’s Collaborations Handbook and ‘Procedures for the Administration of Collaborative Programmes’. All modules will be delivered by CAT / GSE. Tutors will be available to assist you in study planning and constructing a meaningful programme from the options open to you, and you will be asked to propose a plan of study at the start of the programme in dialogue with your tutor to suit the particular aims and goals of your programme of study.

In order to comply with consumer credit law, prior to starting the course, the fee for the first module (two attendance blocks) should be paid in full, and fees for subsequent modules must be paid in full before commencing the module. Food and accommodation associated with attending on-site residential modules at CAT will be charged in addition to the module fee. Provisions will be made for you to modify module choices mid-term, which you may wish to do as a result of, for example, changes to your mode of study or transfer between programmes, with corresponding changes to progression of study or core and optional modules for that term. Should you wish to change your module choices you can do so by giving a minimum of two months’ notice to the Student Support Officers (SSOs).

If you give less than two months’ notice, you will forfeit the module fee, and incur an additional module fee for any replacement module taken. If the change of modules
became necessary as a result of severe, unexpected and sudden change in circumstances then you will be allowed to change modules within the two-month notice period without loss of the module fee, dependent on the receipt of a completed ‘Sudden and Severe Change of Circumstances Form’ and supporting evidence, and its acceptance by the GSE (see Section 4.3).

Please note that Modules will be offered only if sufficient numbers of students are registered on them, although contingency measures are possible in most instances to meet individual needs, e.g. distance-learning modules can in most instances be offered if on-site modules do not run. The minimum number of students required for onsite residential modules to be delivered is twelve and any divergence from this stipulation will be at CAT’s discretion.

4.7. STUDENT INDUCTION

General and Distance-Learning Induction: Student induction and learner support for all students joining the programme will be provided in line with UEL’s ‘Academic Framework: Modular Regulations for Distance Learning Programmes’, which will include an induction period at commencement of the programme, provision of introductory training materials and support to allow you to familiarise yourself with the e-learning environment, gain access to arrangements to allow you to practice use of Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) facilities, identification of key administrative and academic support contacts including the assignment to a personal tutor, amongst other provisions.

On-Site Residential Induction: The ‘on-site residential’ enrolment module, which occurs in September, will normally be one day longer than a typical residential module to accommodate inclusion of induction sessions for new students. Induction activities typically include a tour of the CAT site as well as a general induction to the programme structure and operation, study skills and library facilities available. These provide an opportunity for you to meet your peer group and to familiarise yourself with some of the background information, become familiar with staff on the programme and to complete any outstanding enrolment administration.

4.8. ALL MODULES OPERATION

The University of East London’s (UEL) Moodle VLE, which is accessible over the Internet, will be the primary platform for delivery of learning resources for on-site residential modules and distance-learning modules. The VLE will include the Module Guide, lecture notes, lecture presentations, and additional study resources amongst other documents.

A ‘Module Guide’ will routinely summarize the core module information, including:

- Introduction & Welcome to the Module;
• List of lecture presentations and other learning resources for the module;
• Module timetables;
• Overall Aims & Learning Outcomes for the module; referring you to requirements shown in the Student Handbook and Module Specifications;
• Coursework requirements and associated assessment criteria, guidelines and submission deadlines; referring you to requirements shown in the Student Handbook and Module Specifications;
• Reading lists and recommended resources;
• Introduction to the academic and administrative team, including key contact details, as well as providing short biographies for visiting lecturers;
• Explaining how you can give your feedback on the module and notes regarding the response to previous module feedback.

The ‘Module Guide’ will be made available on the VLE, Moodle, approximately one week before the start of the module.

GSE Student Support Officers, the Module Leader or your personal tutor can be contacted throughout the module period for support as applicable.

Coursework submission deadlines will be 8 weeks from the start of the module unless otherwise notified. Refer to Module Guide and submission schedules in Table 5.10 of this Student Handbook.
4.9. **ON-SITE BLOCK RESIDENTIAL MODULES OPERATION**

‘On-site Block Residential’ modules at CAT typically mean you will arrive on Monday morning and depart on Friday afternoon. Table 4.9(1) below shows a typical timetable for an on-site residential module. Module activities typically start on Monday at 11:00 and finish on Friday at 15:30, depending on timetabling and other factors. **Exceptionally, the September onsite teaching week starts on Monday morning and ends on the Saturday afternoon.** Refer to module guides and module booking correspondence from the Student Support Officers for further details.

**Table 4.9(1): Typical Onsite Block Residential Timetable:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAT</th>
<th>GSE</th>
<th>Typical MSc Timetable for ONSITE block residential week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9-10.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.9(2) below shows a typical onsite module timetable clarifying your activities, work to be submitted and your actions required before, during and after the typical 8-week period for a 15-credit taught module by onsite block residential delivery. Module specific details will be clarified within Module Guides. You will have the opportunity to engage in dialogue with peers and staff through distance-learning methods when away from CAT.

**Table 4.9(2): Typical 8-week Timetable for an Onsite module:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week No.</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Activities and Work to be submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As advised by SSOs</td>
<td>Register for the module and pay module fees</td>
<td>Respond to the Student Support Officers' (SSOs) invitation to register e.g. at the start of the term. Pay the module fees at least two weeks before the module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-6</td>
<td>Typically 6-weeks before the module</td>
<td>Pre-reading.</td>
<td>Recommended pre-reading announced, for those wanting to get ahead with study before the start of the module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Typically 1-week before the start of the module</td>
<td>Read the Module Guide</td>
<td>Receive the module's Welcome email and the Module Guide – please read these fully before attending onsite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date...</td>
<td>MODULE START</td>
<td>Check module details.</td>
<td>In UEL Moodle check in the module folder for the Module Guide including details of the work required, learning resources and additional materials, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1 - 8   | Dates... | Join in discussion boards. Book tutorials. Further support. | Activities taking place over the whole module period:  
- On-line discussion boards (check module Moodle folder);  
- Individual tutorials during the Onsite week or by VOIP/Skype or telephone thereafter;  
- Group Skype tutorials - check in the 'Skype surgeries' Moodle folder for booking instructions;  
- Seek further support as required (refer to Student Learning Support document). |
| 1       | Dates... | ONSITE RESIDENTIAL MODULE | Refer to the detailed timetable for the module and further details will be made available on the GSE noticeboard, located onsite at WISE reception |
| 2 - 8   | Dates... | Individual coursework preparation. Participate in online activities. | Directed learning with additional tutor support towards completion of the coursework assignment/s.  
Continue reading lecture resources, associated extra resources and web materials, example coursework etc.  
Participate in online ‘General’ and ‘Subject Specific’ seminars (as applicable). Consider what reading and thinking to do for particular seminars. Use booking links in Moodle folder to book your place.  
Participate in Skype surgeries as required, following the booking instructions in the ‘Skype surgeries’ Moodle folder.  
Join in discussion boards. Consider your reactions to the discussion questions posed. |
|         | DATE – refer to the Module Guide for the submission deadline | SUBMIT COURSEWORK | Submission deadline for summative coursework assignment/s (refer to the Module Guide for assessment criteria and guidelines):  
1. Component 1:  
2. Component 2... |
|         | After module. | Provide feedback on the module. | Please give your feedback on the module by following links in the Moodle module folder to the Onsite feedback survey form, which is completed online. |
|         | 4-weeks after submission deadline | Receive coursework results and read feedback. | Check your provisional marks and fully read feedback provided by the marker/s for each assignment, which will typically be released online 4-weeks after the submission deadline via the Turnitin/GradeMark system. |
|         | <6-weeks after the Assessment Board | Check accuracy of your results on UEL Direct. | Check your results on UEL Direct within 6-weeks after the assessment board – refer to Table 5.10 for assessment Board dates for each module. |
4.10. DISTANCE-LEARNING MODULES OPERATION

The model of distance-learning (DL) used for the programme is one focused on an interactive web site or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The VLE contains seminar chat rooms, discussion boards, online lectures and presentations, amongst other tools and resources. The University of East London’s (UEL) Moodle VLE will be the primary platform for delivering teaching of the distance-learning modules, which is accessible over the Internet.

Each distance-learning module will consist, broadly, of reading written lectures and papers; interactive participation in practical exercises, seminars, and discussions on the Virtual Learning Environment, one-to-one or group tutorials online (e.g. VOIP/Skype) or by phone by prior arrangement; and the associated coursework assignment/s. Distance-learning modules will be arranged as a sequence of teaching activities using distance-learning methods over the typical eight-week period of the module.

Table 4.10 below shows a typical module timetable for distance learning students, including activities, work to be submitted and your actions required before, during and after the typical 8-week period for participation in a 15-credit distance-learning taught module. Module specific details will be clarified within Module Guides.

If you are undertaking distance-learning modules, you will be able to access audio and/or video (Panopto) lecture recordings, written notes and other module resources as they are made available on-line through Moodle immediately after the on-site teaching.
### Table 4.10: Typical 8-week Timetable – Distance Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week No.</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Activities and Work to be submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As advised by SSOs</td>
<td>Register for the module and pay module fees</td>
<td>Respond to the Student Support Officers’ (SSOs) invitation to register e.g. at the start of the term. Pay the module fees at least two weeks before the module.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-6</td>
<td>Typically 6-weeks before the module</td>
<td>Pre-reading.</td>
<td>Recommended pre-reading announced, for those wanting to get ahead with study before the start of the module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Typically 1-week before the start of the module</td>
<td>Read the Module Guide</td>
<td>Receive the module’s Welcome email and the Module Guide – please read these fully before attending onsite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date… MODULE START</td>
<td>Check module details.</td>
<td>In UEL Moodle check in the module folder for the Module Guide including details of the work required, learning resources and additional materials, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 8 Dates…</td>
<td></td>
<td>Activities taking place over the whole module period:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• On-line discussion boards (check module Moodle folder);</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Individual tutorials by VOIP/Skype or telephone – contact your personal tutor;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Group Skype tutorials - check in the ‘Skype surgeries’ Moodle folder for booking instructions;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Check seminar timetables within Moodle. Use booking links to book your places (subject to availability);</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Practical exercise (see additional notes below, if applicable);</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Seek further support as required (refer to Student Learning Support document).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dates… (The Onsite module will be delivered this week at CAT)</td>
<td>Reading week.</td>
<td>Start reading lecture resources, associated learning resources and example coursework etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Choose seminars.</td>
<td>Check seminar timetables and introduction to seminars within Moodle module ‘Seminars’ folder. Use booking links to book your place on two or more seminars (subject to places available).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commence Practical exercise.</td>
<td>Read Practical brief within ‘Practical (DL)’ Moodle folder and commence exercise. Book a place on ‘Practical’ seminar or Skype surgery (when applicable).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 4 Dates…</td>
<td>Continue independent study.</td>
<td>Continue reading the module’s learning resources on Moodle. Listen/watch audio/video lecture recordings as and when they become available from the onsite module delivery.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Participate in seminars &amp; Skype surgeries.</td>
<td>Participate in ‘General/Study Skills’, ‘Subject Specific’ and ‘Practical’ seminars (as applicable). Consider pre-reading and preparation required for each seminar in advance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Practical (cont.).</td>
<td>Continue formative Practical exercise (if applicable).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Participate in discussion boards.</td>
<td>Participate in Skype surgeries as required - check in the ‘Skype surgeries’ Moodle folder for booking instructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Join in discussion boards. Consider your reactions to the discussion questions posed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.11. DISSERTATION RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOP

The culmination to the MSc in Sustainability and Adaptations is the EV7101 Dissertation Module. Prior to starting the Dissertation module you will be required to undertake Dissertation Research Methods Workshop by residential attendance onsite at CAT or through distance learning. A two-day Dissertation Research Methods Workshop will typically take place immediately before or after the May residential module.

Research methods workshops offered by distance learning will typically commence in October and May. Details of forthcoming research methods workshops will be made available through module booking forms at the start of the academic year. In both cases, you will need to register to participate in the dissertation research methods workshops in a similar way to booking on a taught module.

4.12. ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

It is essential that you log in to UEL direct and enrol with UEL using the UEL student number that you have been given prior to attending any lectures.

Once you have gained admission to the programme you must login to the UEL direct page using your student username which will be your UEL ID number and password and complete the on-line enrolment. CAT will assist and ensure that you complete your online enrolment task promptly. UEL Direct is available at https://www.uel.ac.uk/students (click on ‘new students’)

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### Table 4.11: DISSERTATION RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date – refer to the Module</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide for the submission</td>
<td><strong>Submit Coursework</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deadline</td>
<td><strong>Submission deadline for summative coursework assignments [refer to Module Guide for requirements]:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Component 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Component 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After module.</td>
<td><strong>Provide feedback on the module.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Please give your feedback on the module by following links in the Moodle module folder to the DL feedback survey form, which is completed online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-weeks after submission</td>
<td><strong>Receive coursework results and read feedback.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deadline</td>
<td>Check your provisional marks and fully read feedback provided by the marker/s for each assignment, which will typically be released online 4-weeks after the submission deadline via the Turnitin/Grademark system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;6-weeks after the Assessment</td>
<td><strong>Check accuracy of your results on UEL Direct.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Check your results on UEL Direct within 6-weeks after the assessment board – refer to Table 5.10 for assessment Board dates for each module.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For general enquiries concerning enrolment, you must contact your local Student Support/Administrative Office for guidance in the first instance and then if you are advised to contact UEL, please send an e-mail to the UEL Academic and Employer Partnerships Office at apo@uel.ac.uk.

By enrolling on a degree at CAT you have made a commitment to work towards achieving academic success by enrolling on the programme and registering on modules. In order to achieve success in your studies it is important that you participate in, and engage fully with, all the scheduled activities such as lectures, workshops and seminars. The GSE therefore regard attendance as essential and operate a ‘Student Attendance and Engagement Policy’ as described within Appendix C.
5. TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

5.1. LEARNING TYPES

The MSc SA programme will be delivered encompassing the following types of learning:

**Theoretical and applied learning:** The programme delivery will be structured around a blend of theoretical and applied learning, incorporating written and visual learning resources, lectures of theoretical, historical and technical aspects, practical workshops, small group seminars and discussion forums, group work tasks, and tutorials, with guidance from the academic team. The programme will be focused on giving you sufficient theoretical knowledge, thinking skills, and subject-based practical skills to critically evaluate the relative importance of particular aspects of the topic.

**Immersive and blended learning:** Taught modules will be delivered through the immersive learning environment of the residential modules at CAT, through an enhanced distance-learning VLE platform, and self-directed study. Flexibility of module choices, covering theoretical, practical and applied learning will be available to meet the needs of different learning styles. These mutually supportive modes of delivery create a rich experience of blended learning.

**Practical, interdisciplinary learning:** Practical workshops, group seminars, case study analyses, group-work and experimental tasks, and applied and interdisciplinary working will highlight the connections between themes, engendering a holistic understanding and deep questioning of the topic. The programme will attempt to facilitate creation of a community of graduates with cross-disciplinary experience.

**Assessment:** Coursework assignments will be designed to test that learning aims & outcomes have been achieved. They will comprise a variety of written assignments and presentations, including *inter alia* essays, technical reports and critiques, individual and group presentations, debates, poster presentations, formative and peer-to-peer feedback. [Further details of assessment are provided later in this section].

**Visiting Lecturers:** The programme benefits from lectures by leading academics, professionals and experts from the built environment and related industries, who offer cutting-edge perspectives on current policy, practice and research. Visiting lecturers provide electronic learning resources in support of their on-site teaching activities, which are typically utilised as distance-learning teaching resources and for contingency planning. Visiting lecturers are supported by the CAT administrative team, MSc SA Programme Leader and relevant Module Leader, and receive clear briefing for the scope and depth of their teaching activities. The Module Leader is responsible for ensuring that the work of visiting lecturers is coordinated effectively with overall module delivery to ensure all module outcomes are achieved. After delivery, visiting
lecturers are provided with any relevant student feedback and ‘peer enhancement’ feedback from the Module Leader to provide constructive appraisal of their contribution to programme delivery and to identify where improvements might be made for return teaching events.

5.2. THE STUDY ENVIRONMENT

The programme design and delivery methods result in the on-site and distance-learning events being mutually supportive, and produces a mix of students that brings additional richness to the learning experience. The immersive study environment at CAT will allow you to escape your day-to-day surroundings and consider issues, challenges and solutions afresh. This promotes interaction and networking between the students, staff and visiting lecturers, and learning from the diverse range of academic and professional experiences. Studying in an environment that implements many of the aspects being studied can be inspiring. If you are studying by distance-learning you will benefit from exposure to some of the teaching activities and learning resources generated from the on-site delivery. You will also have the opportunity to engage in dialogue with peers and staff through distance-learning methods when away from CAT. The on-site and distance-learning experiences are enriched and broadened through the overlap of such a diverse range of teachers and students. In these ways a rich and highly topical discourse is facilitated amongst you and your on-site and DL peers, with the social and informal learning mutually supportive of the formal learning activities.

5.3. PROVISION OF LEARNING RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The programme team aims to provide access to taught content for each module through the University’s VLE, Moodle. This should be available approximately one week before the start date of every module so that you can download the content, print it if required, and conduct preparatory study. In order to ensure that you have a copy of key documents for the first module, programme material may additionally be provided to you via other electronic means or in printed form if you do not have access to the online resources at that stage.

You will be supported throughout your studies by having regular access to the tutors and other members of the academic team, one-to-one (in person at on-site modules, by email, over the telephone, or by VOIP/Skype), in groups (at on-site module, or VLE seminars), and with the module cohort (e.g. VLE discussion boards). Further access to tutors and lecturers will also be available in seminar sessions and research methods sessions, as well as during practical workshop sessions. In the module descriptors, the term ‘tuition’ should be understood as incorporating the delivery of the module content as well as the support provided by the tutors, whether through the VLE/Intranet, telephone, email, or other means. The scope and timing of learning support provision will be clearly communicated to you at the outset of the programme.
This system combines the flexibility demanded by the lives of many students with close tuition and student support.

In the periods between on-site block residential weeks, you will be supported through distance-learning methods at defined access times to tutors and administrative support through VOIP/Skype, e-mail, drop-box, or telephone.

5.4. DISTANCE LEARNING AND VLE:

The VLE, Moodle, will be the primary platform for delivering teaching of the distance-learning modules. Use of the VLE will ensure that you are made to feel part of the UEL/GSE community whilst studying by distance-learning. It will also facilitate accessibility to a full range of teaching resources and materials, which will include written lecture notes, tutor hand-outs, handbooks, bibliographies, primary sources, additional reading, e-journal articles and extracts. The programme team will aim for all scheduled teaching sessions to be available by vidcast or podcast – although this won’t be possible in some circumstances. Vidcasts (Panopto) will also make tutors known to you, and will allow you to feel like the integral part of the programme that you are. You will also be encouraged to participate in discussion forums. The School also actively encourages your involvement in its research seminars and conferences, in terms of attendance, help in organising them and in delivering a paper on the research for your dissertation.

When studying by distance-learning you will be exposed to some aspects of the ‘on-site’ teaching experience and the CAT site through electronic learning resources such as copies of the lecture presentations delivered on-site, audio or video recordings and images. The majority of teaching resources will be shared between the MSc SA ‘attendance’ and ‘distance-learning’ modules, to the mutual benefit of both.

5.5. TEACHING AND SUPPORT METHODS OVERVIEW

The programme delivery is structured around a blend of theoretical and applied learning, incorporating such aspects as lecture presentations, written learning resources, practical activities, small group seminars, student peer-to-peer presentations, on-line discussion forums, group work tasks, tutorials and guidance from the academic team. Coursework assignments are designed to test that the learning aims and outcomes of each module have been achieved through a predominance of written essays, critiques or reports, supported by presentations, poster presentations and other coursework assignments. The primary aim of the programme is for you to develop and apply sound academic practice in use of the theoretical knowledge, thinking skills, and subject-based practical skills gained during your studies for the critical analysis of broad and focused environmental issues. The following table summarises the main teaching methods employed on the programme:
Table 5.5: Summary of Teaching Methods on MSc Sustainability and Adaptation Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching method</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Class size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>Live lecture presentations, written lecture resources and audio or video methods (subject to resources and Moodle)</td>
<td>12-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>On-site and through DL methods (Skype, booked through Moodle)</td>
<td>3-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>On-site and through DL methods (Skype, telephone)</td>
<td>Mostly individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicals</td>
<td>Demonstrations and practical workshops on-site, including computer practicals and self-directed exercises through DL methods.</td>
<td>Onsite: 6-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>Live individual or group presentations on-site, and individual or group presentations submitted by DL methods (Moodle), which comprise summative or formative coursework assignments</td>
<td>Typically, 5-10 for individual, 20-100 for groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other methods</td>
<td>Quizzes, blog articles and similar exercises</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These teaching methods offer a variety of learning experiences to suit different learning styles, from large groups in the lectures to small groups teaching in the seminars, practicals and presentations, and individual tuition in tutorials. The learning experience for all students, whether on-site or DL will be enhanced through distance-learning methods as described. Educational methods comprise formal teaching through lecturing, peer reviews during the presentations, and experiential learning in the practicals. The benefit of having such a variety of methods is that it appeals to a wide array of student abilities and needs, which is a necessity for a flexible access
The small group teaching is particularly appealing to both students and staff, and is prevalent in all but lectures and tutorials, which provide a different function.

The programme has been designed to put you at the forefront of the educational experience. To accommodate this, and to assist in the management of the programme, you will be allocated a personal tutor, usually for the duration of the programme. This is particularly useful for those students who have been out of education for some time and whose confidence needs a boost. Assessment for the programme will be a combination of formative and summative methods, as described later within Section 5.

**Lectures:** Lectures continue to be the largest element of formal teaching activities for both on-site and distance-learning modules, with 7 to 11 lectures of 1-2 hrs delivered in each typical 15-credit on-site module, with 7 to 11 associated sets of slides, notes, or audio or video (Panopto or GoPro) recordings (subject to resource and Moodle) made available on Moodle. A mixture of in-house and visiting lecturers has historically provided these. Visiting lecturers will play an important part of the teaching on the programme, bringing in valuable expertise from other academic institutions and professional practice. The management of visiting lecturers and contingency planning are covered earlier within this section.

**Structured seminars:** Structured seminars have been developed and run by staff (both in-house and visitors) with specialist knowledge of the subject areas. This has allowed students to engage with lecturers in more informal contexts, apply knowledge gained from the module lectures to workshop activities, discuss and explore more widely around and deeply into subjects that are of particular interest to them. These sessions have proved very successful on many criteria and the intention is to continue to deliver and develop these further in the future delivery of the programme.

**Study Skills seminars:** These have been increased in recent years to focus on preparing students well for the coursework assignments from the associated module. These have received very good feedback from students and the intention is to include these regularly in future delivery.

**Practicals:** Full-day practical workshops and demonstrations will be delivered on the specialist ‘theme’ on-site modules, and week-long practical workshops on the ‘Advanced sustainable building techniques project module. These teaching formats build on the popularity and success of similar day-long and week-long practical activities developed by the GSE. Learning opportunities provided by the week-long practical workshops has led to the creation of the ‘Advanced sustainable building techniques project module as an integral part of the MSc SA programme and the timing of their delivery within the programme sequence.
Self-directed practical exercises will typically be incorporated into the delivery of specialist ‘theme’ distance-learning modules, involving interaction on the VLE and peer formative assessment. Instructions and guidance will be provided through the VLE, with additional support from the Module Leader and tutors. If you are studying by distance-learning you will do this type of exercise within the region and context where you are based. The self-directed practical exercise could take various forms, e.g. an environmental audit of the home or workplace, an environmental ethics survey, assessment of sustainable construction techniques, or materials, u-value calculations, and use of solar hot water prediction software.

The application of theoretical knowledge gained earlier in the module or programme to hands-on, experiential, practical activities is invaluable, helping to address the needs of different learning styles, and different levels of prior knowledge.

**Personal Tutors and Student Learning Support:** A clear structure of Student Learning Support is in place for all ‘on-site residential’ and ‘distance-learning’ students. This structure explains the pastoral and academic support provided on the programme; including defining the role of the personal tutor, and following this, when you might need to contact a Module Leader, members of their module delivery team, or the Student Support Officers for various aspects of support. The framework provides a high level of directed support to enable all our students to progress to becoming independent learners and researchers at Masters level. Refer to Appendix E, Student Support)

### 5.6. DISSERTATION MODULE OVERVIEW

The following sub-section provides an overview of the delivery of the Dissertation module.

[Refer to the EV7101 Dissertation Module Specification (available from CAT’s website) and the EV7101 Dissertation Module Guide (available through Moodle) for further detailed information]

In order to provide you with the best possible starting point for your dissertation research the delivery of the dissertation module puts emphasis on ‘research design’, which simply refers to the research topic and questions, and how you aim to study these questions in terms of the research methods selected. The research methods are mainly concerned with collection and analysis of data. The research design is the initial ‘plan’ for the research.

Summative assessment for the Dissertation module will be on a portfolio of work, consisting of:
(1) Research Design Proposal (RDP)

The Research Design Proposal (RDP) will describe the student’s research question and approach, and will constitute a formal coursework submission. It will include inter alia a brief theoretical background to the topic and discussion of the importance of the question, the hypothesis or questions to be answered, the proposed data collection and analysis methods, and a discussion of probable limitations, logistics, and barriers.

The RDP will be assessed as part of the Dissertation portfolio and will be worth 10% of the Dissertation module mark. Students will be required to submit their RDP two to three months before formally beginning the supervised research period. During the development of the RDP, students will be invited to present their research ideas to tutors and peers, after which formative feedback will offered. The RDP will be marked and given written feedback after submission and it will be decided if the research can go ahead.

At the time the RDP is developed, students will need to complete an ‘Ethics for Dissertation projects review form’ and a ‘Risk Assessment’ for the proposed research - for which templates will be provided. The ethics form and risk assessment form are not assessed but need to be completed before any research commences.

(2) Dissertation Portfolio

The Dissertation is the culmination of your MSc and should be a major piece of academic writing developed from independent research. The Dissertation portfolio is worth 60 credits, a third of your final degree mark, constituting an opportunity to explore a topic in much greater breadth and depth than is possible earlier in the course – it cannot therefore be assumed that performance achieved during the taught modules will have a direct relationship to the potential level of achievement in the Dissertation module.

The Dissertation provides you with the opportunity to show that you have gained the necessary skills and knowledge to organise and conduct a research project and to set this within the wider context of the subjects under study in the MSc. It should demonstrate that you are skilled in identifying an area suitable for research; assessing the relevant secondary data and literature; setting out a research methodology and devising appropriate methods; analysing the primary data and/or secondary data; assessing the data in relation to the literature in that field; drawing conclusions; and if appropriate making relevant recommendations and / or suggestions for further research.

You will be encouraged to start formally engaging in preparations for your dissertation after completing the ‘core’ module and at least three further taught modules, by taking part in Dissertation Research Methods Workshops, which typically commence in May
or October – refer to Table 5.6(1) below. Learning resources and workshops to assist
you in writing the Research Design Proposal (RDP) will be made available both on-
line and at CAT:

- The workshops at CAT will normally be run over two days, are open to all
  students, and typically comprise a timetable of: lectures on experimental and
  social science research techniques and ethics; workshops on data collection,
  analysis and presentation; sessions on academic integrity and the use of
  plagiarism software such as Turnitin; small group discussion sessions for
  general dissertation study skills such as structuring and time management,
  along with specialist themed groups exploring dissertation ideas in an area of
  the field in greater depth.

- The on-line workshops will typically be run over the course of a month,
  comprising a period for reading research methods and workshop learning
  resources, and undertaking initial secondary research, followed by a timetable
  of on-line seminars similar to those provided on-site, individual or group tutorials
  at designated times, and discussion boards throughout the period.

The Research Design Proposal (RDP) will describe the research question and
approach, and will constitute a formal coursework submission. It will include inter alia
a brief theoretical background to the topic and discussion of the importance of the
question, the hypothesis or questions to be answered, the proposed data collection
and analysis methods, and a discussion of probable limitations, logistics, and barriers.

The RDP will need to be submitted two to three months before the supervised research
period and so may need to be completed concurrently with the taught modules.
Students intending to undertake the Dissertation module should plan ahead such that
they have taken the workshop and submitted the RDP on the correct date, prior to the
dissertation supervision period. Students cannot start dissertation supervision without
having submitted a research design proposal and been given approval of its
acceptance.

The RDP will be assessed as part of the Dissertation portfolio and is worth 10% of the
Dissertation module mark. The RDP will be marked and given formative written
feedback after submission and it will be decided if the research can go ahead. An
‘Ethics for dissertation projects review form’ and ‘Risk Assessment’ will need to be
completed and submitted at the same time as the RDP, following the templates and
guidelines provided. These will not be assessed but must be completed before
research commences.

You may be invited to participate in a formative viva voce to present the research
outputs from your dissertation and receive feedback from programme staff. The viva
voce will be formatively assessed; no marks are associated with formative
assessments. You will be invited to attend the viva voce by attendance at CAT or
VOIP/Skype if distance-learning. A table illustrating the typical Dissertation Module delivery timeline is shown below.

- Route 1) would be expected as the ‘normal’ progression for most students, i.e. full-time students starting the programme in September and commencing the dissertation supervision period the following September; and part-time students starting the dissertation supervision period in September two years after starting the programme.

- Route 2) will be offered as an alternative to accommodate non-standard progression; for example, if a student wishes to undertake their dissertation five months later than the ‘normal’ progression, and for part-time students who wish to undertake their dissertation seven months earlier than the ‘normal’ progression.

**Note:** Student loan Payments: in normal circumstances, such as documented illness etc., students cannot take more than a 60 day break from studies otherwise their student loan payments will be suspended or stop. Therefore, full time students are strongly advised to follow route 1, to maintain continuation of study following the 120 credits of taught modules.

In both cases, you will need to confirm which route you wish to follow by registering to participate in the dissertation research methods workshops in a similar way to booking on taught modules. Should it become necessary, following participation in a research methods workshop, you may be able to defer submission of your research design proposal and supervision to the next available route. This will be considered upon request and will be subject to agreement by the module leader and any restrictions on your overall period of study.

**Table 5.6(1): Dissertation Module Delivery Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissertation Module Key Events</th>
<th>Route 1)* Timetable for dissertation supervision starting in September</th>
<th>Route 2)* Timetable for dissertation supervision starting in February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods Workshops</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Route 1)* and *Route 2)* refer to the different supervision timelines for full-time and part-time students respectively.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission deadline for Research Design Proposal (RDP) and Research Ethics Proposal Form and Risk Assessment</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feedback on Research Design Proposal (RDP), Research Ethics Proposal Form and Risk Assessment, and assignment of supervisor</td>
<td>July/August</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation supervision begins – <strong>note</strong>: primary research cannot commence until Research Ethics clearance has been confirmed.</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; September</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students submit Dissertation</td>
<td>31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; January</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation mark and feedback released (after assessment board)</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Note: The same number of hours and credits are allocated to both routes</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dissertation Supervision:** The Dissertation Module Leader will allocate a Dissertation Supervisor to provide you with tutorial support during your dissertation. Supervisors can be allocated only after your RDP has been approved. At the beginning of your supervision period you should seek to discuss, negotiate and agree the supervisory structure with your supervisor. You can expect your dissertation supervisor to provide approximately 18 hours of tutorial support in total over the 5-month dissertation supervision period; comprising a mixture of tutorials and commenting on draft work amongst other activities, dependent upon your project and the communication methods preferred by both parties.

You will need to agree with your supervisor a timetable of work, including when you are expecting to need their input (feedback on experimental design or data analysis, reading draft sections etc.). You should stay in regular contact with your supervisor (e.g. ideally once a fortnight) to let them know how you are getting on and seek their feedback on your progress. This can be via email, telephone, VOIP/Skype or meeting.
We ask you to allow about one week for your supervisor to respond, especially regarding comments on draft sections/chapters.

Tutorials can be arranged with your supervisor on-site face-to-face or through distance-learning methods (VOIP/Skype, telephone), by agreement with your supervisor – records of tutorials will be kept by CAT in accordance with UEL’s policy, but you are responsible for keeping your own records of advice received during tutorials to support the development of your dissertation.

An indicative guide for the supervision period, including suggested contact points with your supervisor, is included below – refer to Table 5.6(2). We recommend that you develop a detailed Gantt chart at the start of your supervision period, in discussion with your supervisor where necessary, to suit the objectives and details of your dissertation research.

**Table 5.6(2): Indicative Gantt Chart for the Supervision Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissertation Tasks</th>
<th>Month 1</th>
<th>Month 2</th>
<th>Month 3</th>
<th>Month 4</th>
<th>Month 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact points with Supervisor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contact points to be agreed with supervisor during 5-month supervision period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Agree revisions to ’RDP’ with Supervisor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Write Literature Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Draft/Agree ‘Structure’ with supervisor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Draft/Agree research ‘Methods’ with supervisor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Write ‘Methods / Methodology’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*6 Primary research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Note: primary research cannot commence until the supervisor or GSE Ethics Committee has granted Research Ethics clearance.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Collection and analysis of data</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Write ‘Results’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Write ‘Analysis’ &amp; ‘Evaluative Discussion’</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dissertation supervision will be undertaken in accordance with UEL’s ‘Dissertation Supervision Policy:

5.7. ACCESSIBILITY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Applications from potential students with learning differences or additional needs are welcomed.

Most on-site teaching and accommodation is provided in the WISE building, which is fully accessible and includes some adapted accommodation; there is also an infrared hearing support system in the main lecture theatre. It should be noted that some renewable energy technologies are installed in remote and rugged locations; however, all students should be able to partake in most experimental tasks and at least parts of tours on and off site, but this would need to be assessed on an individual basis.

Applicants and current students are encouraged to disclose any learning differences, disabilities, difficulties or occupational health requirements in order that discussions can be held as to whether specific needs can be accommodated by reasonable adjustments. CAT’s Student Support and Welfare Services guide is available from the Student Policies and Procedures section of our website:
https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/.

Teaching delivery and assessment design will be made with reference to UEL’s Equality and Diversity Policy: https://www.uel.ac.uk/about/about-uel/professional-services/hr/equality-and-diversity
5.8. **ASSESSMENT GENERAL**

Assessment and feedback are fundamental parts of your learning experience. The UEL Assessment and Feedback Policy seeks to:

- Actively promote student success and academic achievement;
- Provide clear, accurate, accessible information and guidelines to all staff and students on assessment and feedback;
- Maximise the potential for consistency and fairness in assessment;
- Locate assessment and feedback as an integral part of learning and teaching processes.

Every component of assessment that contributes to an award, at all levels, is subject to internal and external moderation. This ensures the maintenance of standards both internally and in comparison with similar programmes delivered at other higher education institutions.

The External Examiner for the MSc SA programme is:

**Dr Julie Gwilliam,** from the University of Cardiff

The UEL Assessment and Feedback Policy outlines the process for the various stages of the marking process and is available at: [https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy](https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy)

There are two forms of coursework assessment for the programme:

**Summative Assessment**

Summative coursework aims to ensure that the learning outcomes have been met and takes several forms to give a range of different written, numerical, graphical, technical, reflective and oral presentation exercises. Work is handed in, marked and the marks recorded. Coursework for summative assessment must be submitted electronically to the hand-in schedule, and failure to comply with this requirement and complete associated paper work will mean the work is not accepted and a mark of zero will be recorded.

Summative assessment methods are module-specific and include essays, blogs, directed reports, case studies, reflective exercises, numerical analyses, poster presentations, individual and group presentations, debates and the dissertation. The coursework from each module is on a subject appropriate for the module’s learning outcomes. Detailed mark sheets and marking criteria for each of these forms of assessment are provided within Module Guides. Grade descriptions are used as indicators of performance. Summative assessments from the taught modules form
two-thirds of the overall MSc assessment (120 credits) and must be completed before the dissertation module is taken (60 credits).

**Formative Assessment**

Work is done singly or in a group, discussion and feedback take place and constructive criticism is made. There are no marks associated with this assessment. One of the central aims of the MSc SA programme is to enable you to progress and mature your intellectual skills and abilities in a progressive learning environment that will enable you to give and receive constructive criticism. There is thus a strong formative and peer review element to the assessment, in keeping with UEL QA: Assessment and Feedback Policy. This regime is also designed to ensure that you can develop key written skills before formal assessments begin and to understand how constructive and enabling criticism can be profitably given and received to and from peers. You will have the opportunity to have the whole of your first essay formatively assessed, and throughout the MSc there is a series of formative skills-building seminar sessions to aid the process of giving and taking of critical appraisal of presentation, written and numerical work.

**Designing Assessment Tasks:** Assessment task development is the primary responsibility of the Module Leaders in consultation with the Programme Leader, and module assessments are designed in accordance with UEL’s Assessment and Feedback Policy. The assessment task literature is produced primarily by the Module Leader and then developed and finally approved by the MSc SA staff group. This is an iterative exercise to ensure a consistent learning experience for you and for assessment tasks literature to be shared across the programme. All assessment tasks are regularly reviewed, and feedback from external examiners is used to moderate and improve the task over time. In keeping with the enhancing role of electronic submission through Turnitin, the MSc SA will utilise this method of e-submission for all suitable assessment tasks.

**Assessment and Moderation:** The MSc SA takes guidance from and effectively follows the processes for the responsibilities and procedures for the marking of assessments from the UEL Assessment and Feedback Policy (Section 3) and moderation is carried out in keeping with the UEL preferred sampling or moderation method as outlined in Appendix 2, Section 1.1 of the same document. All the module marking and moderation conducted for MSc SA will follow these procedures to ensure that high standards of assessment and self-regulation are maintained.

**Feedback:** Feedback is central to learning and is provided to develop your knowledge, understanding and skills and to help promote learning and facilitate improvement. You will receive feedback on MSc SA assessments based on UEL’s Assessment & Feedback Policy, modified to suit the particular circumstances of CAT / GSE’s delivery
of the MSc SA programme; including the use of formative and summative assessments.

**Use of Moodle:** Moodle is the primary delivery medium for all written learning resources and e-submissions. Whether you are an on-site or distance learner, you will be able to gain access to all module content via the Moodle system. Using Moodle, teaching activities such as regular chat rooms, discussion forums and other learning materials will be made available. As our experience grows with Moodle, we aim to enhance this learning platform and intend to include more content in the future, such as formative quizzes.

**Assessment Delivery Methods:** Assessment design will be developed to meet the requirements of on-site and distance-learning delivery as appropriate. You will be required to submit electronic versions of your assignments (e.g. in Microsoft Word or PDF format) to the Turnitin submission links within the associated module folder in Moodle for all written assessment tasks, such as essays, critique reviews, reports and case studies. An ‘assignment cover sheet’ – which will be available from the relevant Moodle folder, must be included as the first page of each submission. Please note that the Turnitin submission links generally have a maximum file upload size limit of 40Mb and can only accept one file per student.

**Presentations:** Individual presentations must be submitted electronically, and students are encouraged to give their presentations in person if attending the on-site module at the time of the submission deadline. If you are submitting presentation assignments by distance-learning methods you may be required to submit an electronic version of your presentation to Moodle (e.g. in Microsoft PowerPoint or PDF format) accompanied by a set of notes to describe how the presentation would be delivered, including a summary of what would be said, demonstrated or other planned activity. In the future, in may be possible for distance-learning presentations to be submitted by VOIP/Skype, video, or other electronic means, subject to the necessary technical and resource requirements of both students and CAT.

**Debate:** You will be required to participate in assessed debates either in person at CAT, if attending at the time of the submission deadline; or by participating in line with distance-learning methods. If you are submitting a debate assignment by distance-learning methods you may be required to submit electronic documents to Moodle (e.g. a speech supporting or opposing a debate’s motion in Microsoft PowerPoint or PDF format) followed by participation in the debate through chat rooms, discussion board entries on Moodle, or another suitable electronic platform. In the future, in may be possible for distance-learning debates to be conducted by VOIP/Skype, video, or other electronic means, subject to the necessary technical and resource requirements of both students and CAT.
**Viva Voce:** If you are asked to participate in a formative *viva voce*, you will be invited to attend in person at CAT or by VOIP/Skype, telephone, or other electronic means for distance-learning methods.

[Further details of assessment and submission requirements are provided to students through Module Guides.]

### 5.9. COURSEWORK SUBMISSION, FILING DETAILS & ASSESSMENT RECORDS

You will be issued with relevant coursework requirements at the beginning of each module; full details will be explained within the Module Guide and are detailed in the module specification. Coursework components are summarised within Table 5.10 Academic Year Assessment Overview 2019/2020. Guidance for the submission of coursework via Turnitin, including submission and resubmission deadlines, is available in the ‘Assignments’ section of each module on Moodle.

Turnitin submission links will be provided, along with a cover sheet template, for each assignment. **Please always add the assignment cover sheet as the first page of each submission and follow the file naming convention, including your student number but not your name.** Do not put your name anywhere on your coursework assignments.

In the event of problems occurring with Turnitin before or at the time of submission, reasonable adjustments will be made for submission of coursework only in accordance with UEL’s assessment and feedback policy.

**File formats:** Turnitin provides technical guidance on acceptable file formats. Please submit coursework assignments to Turnitin in **MS Office or PDF formats only**. CAT cannot support other file formats, such as Apple Mac ‘Pages’, ‘Numbers’ or ‘Keynote’ or Open Office formats. All students have the opportunity to upload their ‘final drafts’ to Turnitin and view them onscreen before the deadline. Problems can occur when some file formats, e.g. PDF, are uploaded to the Turnitin / Grademark system, e.g. formatting problems or missing images. So, we recommend that you check the appearance and completeness of your submission online in the Turnitin viewer after uploading.

**Units:** SI / metric units must be used for all numerical work. Credit cannot be given for work submitted in Imperial or other systems.

**Filing & Records:** As part of CAT’s arrangements with UEL we are required to provide up-to-date information for them. This is done in compliance with GDPR regulations and is covered by CATs privacy policy, a copy of which is available at: [https://www.cat.org.uk/privacy-notice/](https://www.cat.org.uk/privacy-notice/)
We are required to keep copies of all your work together with a record of any marks awarded. These records may be in the form of printed hard copies at CAT/GSE or electronic copies stored on CAT / GSE equipment, UEL’s VLE Moodle, Turnitin / Grademark and/or other electronic platform depending on the nature of the record, administrative, quality assurance or other processes and procedures. This enables you to have a record of your assignments and progress on the programme. It also enables the External Examiner to verify the standards that you have achieved and that these are being maintained at a suitable level.

**Summative presentation components for onsite residential modules:** As per section 5.8 above, individual presentations must be submitted electronically, and students are encouraged to give their presentations in person if attending the on-site module at the time of the submission deadline. If you are submitting presentation assignments by distance-learning methods you may be required to submit an electronic version of your presentation to Moodle (e.g. in Microsoft PowerPoint or PDF format) accompanied by a set of notes to describe how the presentation would be delivered, including a summary of what would be said, demonstrated or other planned activity. In the future, in may be possible for distance-learning presentations to be submitted by VOIP/Skype, video, or other electronic means, subject to the necessary technical and resource requirements. In some cases there is a formative group presentation or debate during the residential module in which the work was done.

**LATE SUBMISSION OF COURSEWORK**

Submitted work must be RECEIVED in the first Turnitin submission ‘tab’ within the submission link designated for the specific assignment, before or on the deadline date and time as stated in the Module Guide. We strongly suggest that you try to submit all coursework by the deadline set as meeting deadlines is expected in employment, however work can be submitted **up to 7 days after the submission date** and be marked as normal, but the marks awarded will be subject to the penalties and policies summarised below:

**(1) Submission up to 24 hours after the deadline.** UEL has permitted students to be able to submit their coursework up to 24 hours after the published deadline, and a second Turnitin submission ‘tab’ is available for this. Coursework which is submitted late, but within 24 hours of the deadline, will be assessed but subjected to a **fixed penalty of 5%** of the total marks available (as opposed to marks obtained).

Applications for Extenuating Circumstances (EC) will not be considered for submissions made in this period. **Please note that if you submit twice, once before the deadline and once during the 24 hour late period, then the second submission will be marked and 5% deducted.**
Further information is available in the Assessment & Feedback Policy at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy.

(2) Submission up to 7 days late for Extenuating Circumstances: A third Turnitin submission ‘tab’ is available – the deadline for this will be the set time 7 days after the submission deadline. Submissions to this ‘tab’ will only be considered if accompanied by an application for Extenuating Circumstances (EC) and two outcomes are possible:

i) If the student’s claim for extenuation is approved, the work would be accredited the full mark through due process;

ii) If the student’s claim for extenuation is rejected, the work will be considered a late submission, with penalties applied in line with the policy for non-submissions.

For further details refer to the GSE Extenuating Circumstances policy and guidance notes, available from: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

Further details of this are also available in UEL’s Assessment and Feedback Policy and Manual of General Regulations, Part 3 ‘Academic Regulations’, available at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Manual-of-general-regulations

NON SUBMISSION AND EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

If you fail to hand in work by a published deadline it will be recorded as a zero mark.

If you cannot hand in work due to extenuating circumstances then a CAT ‘Extenuating Circumstances’ form must be completed and submitted at the appropriate hand-in time in lieu of the work concerned (Refer to ‘Section 13 – Extenuation’ for further details).

Any work not submitted or failed at the ‘first submission’ opportunity can be repeated and reassessed but must be completed and submitted by the published re-submission date. The marks for these component/s and/or the module will be capped at 50% in line with UEL’s assessment policy, unless extenuating circumstances are granted. If you have failed a module at the first submission opportunity you will be automatically registered for reassessment.

Students resubmitting for their second opportunity are expected to revise, repair and enhance their assignment, responding to the feedback provided on their first submission, to aim to bring their assignment above the standard necessary to pass. Students are not required to choose a different topic / question / task at second opportunity. If the work submitted for reassessment does not reach the module’s
pass criteria, or is not submitted, the work will be recorded as a fail. If you do not achieve the module’s pass criteria at resubmission, you will fail the module for a second time.

If the module is failed at the second opportunity, you can choose to re-take the module for a third opportunity (Refer to section 5.12 ‘Procedure in the case of not passing a module on reassessment’). In this instance, you must pay to repeat the whole module. You will be required to choose a new topic / question / task in line with the assessment criteria and guidelines for the module at the time it is repeated. Your marks for the repeated module will be capped at 50% in line with UEL’s assessment policy. If the module is ‘optional’, you may choose to pay to undertake an alternative ‘optional’ module not previously attempted, the marks from which will not be capped.

**Moderation:** In accordance with UEL’s Assessment & Feedback Policy, at least 10% or 10 individual pieces (whichever is the greater) of submitted work for each summatively assessed task representing a range of performances attained by students on the module will be moderated and reviewed by the External Examiner in order to ensure the maintenance of standards across universities. Feedback comments are given on each component of coursework.

**Provisional marks:** Marks awarded are provisional and are subject to confirmation by the relevant UEL Subject Area Board that typically meet in January, June, August and October. It is your responsibility to check online on UEL Direct that the correct marks are present. This can be done after the associated Subject Area and Award Board and you will be given a period of 10 working days to check your marks after they have been released.

**UEL Marks Transcript:** In all cases where the module result confirmed by UEL’s Board is not a pass, including inter alia a coursework component fail, a module fail, an academic breach or non-submission, these will remain recorded as such on your marks transcript on UEL Direct. CAT/GSE has no provision to amend or remove confirmed module results from your official marks record.

5.10. **ACADEMIC YEAR ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW (2019/20)**

Table 5.10 below gives a summary of summatively assessed coursework for each module (refer to Module Guides and Module Specifications for more detailed requirements).
### Table 5.10: MSc SA Academic Year Assessment Overview 2019/20

This table summarises summatively assessed coursework for each module. Refer to Module Guides and Module Specifications for detailed requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Start</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Summative Assessment Coursework Component</th>
<th>% of Module Grade</th>
<th>1st Submission</th>
<th>UEL Board</th>
<th>Re-submission</th>
<th>UEL Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/09/19</td>
<td>EV7102</td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning</td>
<td>Critique Review 3,000 word (max.)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>04/11/19</td>
<td>Jan 2020</td>
<td>31/03/20</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/11/19</td>
<td>EV7102</td>
<td>Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning</td>
<td>Adaptation Report 3,000 word (max.)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>06/01/20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/10/19</td>
<td>EV7106</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings: Part A</td>
<td>Essay 2,000 word (max.)</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>09/12/19</td>
<td>Jan 2020</td>
<td>31/03/20</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7106</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings: Part A</td>
<td>Numerical Analysis (1,000 word equivalent)</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/12/19</td>
<td>EV7104</td>
<td>Environmental Politics and Economics</td>
<td>Essay 2,400 word (max.)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>10/02/20</td>
<td>Jun 2020</td>
<td>31/07/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7104</td>
<td>Environmental Politics and Economics</td>
<td>Debate 10-minute (600 word equivalent)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/01/20</td>
<td>EV7107</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings: Part B</td>
<td>Case Study 2,400 word (max.)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>02/03/20</td>
<td>Jun 2020</td>
<td>31/07/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7107</td>
<td>Energy Flows in Buildings: Part B</td>
<td>A2 Poster Presentation (600 word equivalent)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/02/20</td>
<td>EV7105</td>
<td>Cities and Communities</td>
<td>Essay 2,400 word (max.)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>06/04/20</td>
<td>Jun 2020</td>
<td>31/07/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7105</td>
<td>Cities and Communities</td>
<td>Presentation 10-minute (600 word equivalent)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/20</td>
<td>EV7108</td>
<td>Energy Provision</td>
<td>Critique 2,000 word (max.)</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>05/05/20</td>
<td>Aug 2020</td>
<td>31/07/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7108</td>
<td>Energy Provision</td>
<td>Presentation 15-minute (1,000 word equivalent)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/04/20</td>
<td>EV7103</td>
<td>Ecosystem Services: Land use, Water and Waste Management</td>
<td>Essay 2,400 word (max.)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>15/06/19</td>
<td>Aug 2020</td>
<td>30/10/20</td>
<td>Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7103</td>
<td>Ecosystem Services: Land use, Water and Waste Management</td>
<td>Presentation 10-minute (600 word equivalent)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/05/20</td>
<td>EV7110</td>
<td>Sustainable Materials in the Built Environment</td>
<td>Essay 2,400 word (max.)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>13/07/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
<td>30/11/20</td>
<td>Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV7110</td>
<td>Sustainable Materials in the Built Environment</td>
<td>Presentation (600 word equivalent)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/06/20</td>
<td>EV7111</td>
<td>Applied Project</td>
<td>Report 3,000 word (max.)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>01/09/20</td>
<td>Oct 2020</td>
<td>30/11/20</td>
<td>Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.11. **POSTGRADUATE ASSESSMENT AND AWARDS**

Details of overall assessment criteria are included below. Coursework assessment descriptions, marksheets and guidelines are available within module guides. This is done to ensure transparency for you in how you are going to be assessed during the progress of the programme and to ensure that the learning outcomes are achieved.

**Dissertation:** The completed dissertation must be handed in at the designated time and will only be accepted if all coursework has been completed and passed. Refer to the Dissertation Module Specification and Dissertation Module Guide for details of the assessment procedure for the dissertation.

**Core Modules:** You will have to pass all the designated core modules to achieve the associated award. If you fail the core 30-credit ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, you can resubmit within the limits set by UEL regulations, however, you will not be permitted to choose an alternative module. If you fail a core module at the 4th attempt you will not be eligible for an award.

**Short Course:**

In order to be eligible to achieve a pass in the short course you must pass the 30-credit introductory core module EV7102.

**Postgraduate Certificate:**

In order to be eligible for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Sustainability and Adaptation, you must pass 60 credits, comprising:
• The 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, forming 50% of the total mark;

• Two additional 15-credit modules, each forming 25% of the total mark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coursework</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1*</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 3 modules</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Module numbers refer only to the order of these completed, i.e. Module 1 is the first completed module

Postgraduate Diploma:

In order to be eligible for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainability and Adaptation, you must pass 120 credits, comprising:

• The 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, forming 25% of the total mark;

• Six 15-credit modules each forming 12.5% of the total mark.

Refer to Section 2.6 above for explanation of optional modules available on this award.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coursework</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1*</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 4*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 6*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 7*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Module numbers refer only to the order of these completed, i.e. Module 1 is the first completed module
MSc:

In order to be eligible for the award of the MSc you must pass 180 credits, comprising:

- The 30-credit core ‘Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning’ module, forming 16.6% of the total mark;
- Six 15-credit modules, each forming 8.3% of the total mark
- The 60-credit Dissertation Module, forming 33.3% of the total mark

Refer to Section 2.6 above for explanation of optional modules available on this award.

Where a student is eligible for a Masters award then the award classification is determined by calculating the credit-weighted arithmetic mean of all marks on the current enrolment for the programme.

5.12. AWARDS GENERAL

This section should be read in conjunction with UEL’s Manual of General Regulations: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Manual-of-General-Regulations

Award Boards

Award Board follows soon after, and ratifies the decisions made by, the Subject Area Board. Award Boards are responsible for:

- conferring final awards;
- awarding credit to students on Modules passed by compensation;
- confirming eligibility for awards on the basis of accumulated credit;
- ensuring any award-specific requirements have been met;
- formally implementing the decisions of the Extenuation Panel;
- noting credits achieved on the basis of accredited learning;
- noting breaches of regulations.

Typically, the Award Board for Term 1 meets in February, the Award Board for Term 2 meets in June and the Award Board for Term 3 meets in October and takes place a few days after the Subject Area Board. The Award Board will consist of:
• Head of School (ACE) or senior nominee (Chair);
• Programme Leaders for all programmes under consideration (The UEL Link Tutor may attend in their place).

Compensation: If a Module has been failed it may be considered as passed subject to the conditions outlined within UEL’s Compensation policy, refer to UEL’s Manual of General Regulations, Part 3 ‘Academic Regulations’, available at:

Conferment of award for completion of a programme: The Award Board will confer an award on a student for completion of a programme at the first occasion on which the student is eligible for the award. Where a student has withdrawn from, or is being discontinued on, a programme and has not transferred to another UEL programme, the Award Board will confer the highest award for which the student is eligible.

Classification of Masters award: Where a student is eligible for a Masters award, the award classification is determined by calculating the arithmetic mean of all marks and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimals points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70% - 100%</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
<td>Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% - 59%</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0% - 49%</td>
<td>Not passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aegrotat and Posthumous Awards: These may be conferred in accordance with the Manual of General Regulations.

Award Name: In order to qualify for a named award the student must have been enrolled on the programme and satisfied the programme specifications associated with that named award.

Discontinuation of a student on a programme: A student cannot continue on a course if the student has not achieved a pass in the reassessment of a repeated core module for the course.

Subject Area Boards

The following outlines the procedure the University operates for all programmes. The MSc Sustainability and Adaptation (SA) programme is operated and administered by CAT but the academic standards, which include assessment, and associated
processes must conform to those of the University. This is in order to maintain standards and is common to all UK universities.

The assessment process in the University consists of a **Subject Area** Board (which meets at UEL and CAT and considers the marks for all completed modules on this programme) and an Award Board held at UEL which reviews and formally records the final results gained by students. This MSc is one of many across several Schools. Teaching activity in these Schools is segregated into a number of Fields, which contain a number of teaching programmes of which this is one. The following process appears complicated but is designed to give students the assurance that the correct processes are adhered to. Subject Area Boards are responsible for:

- assuring the appropriate standards for modules;
- considering the performance of students on modules;
- confirming the marks achieved by students on modules;
- awarding credit for the achievement of students on modules;
- awarding credit for certificated and experiential learning;
- noting breaches of regulations.

The Subject Area Board considers all and only modules within the Subject Area (which in this case means the work done on this Programme). Subject Area Boards meet immediately prior to the Award Boards. Typically, the Subject Area Board for Term 1 meets in January, the Subject Area Board for Term 2 meets in June and the Subject Area Board for Term 3 meets in September. The Subject Area Board meets at UEL or CAT and will consist of:

- Programme Leaders;
- Staff teaching on the Programme;
- UEL Collaborative Programmes Officer;
- UEL Link Person (ACE Field Leader);
- External Examiners.

If held at CAT the results will need to be conferred at a UEL Subject Area Board before they go to the award board.

**Module Assessment**

In calculating the mark for a module, the final mark is calculated as a percentage with all decimals points rounded up to the nearest whole number.
In order to pass a module, a student must both achieve an aggregate mark of 50% and also meet the component threshold marks (when applicable), see below:

- For the purposes of passing a module that is summatively assessed through two or more ‘components’, each component (e.g. essay, report, presentation etc.) has a threshold mark of 40%;
- For the purposes of passing a module that is summatively assessed through a ‘Portfolio’ with module weighting of 100%, each assignment (e.g. reflective essay, critique review, dissertation etc.) must be submitted in accordance with coursework submission deadlines but has no minimum threshold mark.

Reassessment in a Module not passed

Where a student does not achieve an aggregate of 50%, or does not achieve component threshold marks (when applicable), the student is reassessed in the module at the next reassessment point in all and only those components / assignments achieving a mark of less than 50%. Component / assignment marks of 50% or over are carried forward to reassessment. In determining whether a student has passed a module on reassessment, the calculation is based on the highest component marks achieved, whether in assessment or reassessment.

In order to pass a module on reassessment a student must both achieve an aggregate mark of 50% and achieve the component threshold marks. If the module is passed, the student will receive a mark capped at the minimum pass level of 50% unless all components of assessment have had extenuation accepted at the first attempt. The actual mark achieved will be recorded on the student transcript.

Procedure in the case of not passing a module on reassessment

A student who does not pass a module on reassessment is entitled to repeat the module once only and has to pay the full cost of this. If a module which has not been passed on reassessment is an option module, the student may choose to register on an alternative option module (rather than repeat the option module) and has to pay the full cost of this. In this case, the regulations governing the first-time study and assessment of a module apply. Refer to the GSE Fees Terms and Conditions for more information on repeated module payments.

A repeated module must be undertaken after re-registration. Marks achieved previously in the module are ignored for the purposes of assessment of the repeated module (i.e. no marks are carried forward from the previous registration). A repeated module (3rd attempt) is assessed at the end of the module in the normal way and (if necessary) reassessed at the subsequent reassessment point (4th and final attempt). If passed, a repeated module is capped at 50% (3rd or 4th attempt). The result of a module passed on a second registration is capped at a maximum of 50% unless
extenuation has been granted for all components of assessment at all previous attempts however the actual mark achieved will be recorded on the student transcript. Where failure is in a core module a student will be withdrawn from the course and will receive the highest award for which they are eligible.

5.13. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Assessment and feedback are fundamental parts of your learning experience. The UEL Assessment and Feedback Policy seeks to:

- actively promote student success and academic achievement;
- provide clear, accurate, accessible information and guidelines to all staff and students on assessment and feedback;
- maximise the potential for consistency and fairness in assessment;
- locate assessment and feedback as an integral part of learning and teaching processes.

Every component of assessment that contributes to an award, at all levels, is subject to internal and External Examiner moderation. This ensures the maintenance of standards both internally and in comparison with similar courses delivered at other higher education institutions. The UEL Assessment and Feedback Policy outlines the process for the various stages of the marking process and is available at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy

Module Guides: Refer to Module Guides for further details of assessment criteria, marksheets and guidelines.

Academic Appeals: Information regarding the policy, procedures and guidance for academic appeals are provided within ‘Section 11 – Academic Appeals‘ of this Student Handbook.

Complaints: Information regarding the policy, procedures and guidance for complaints are provided within ‘Section 12 – Complaints‘ of this Student Handbook.

Extenuating Circumstances: Information regarding the policy, procedures and guidance for extenuating circumstances are provided within ‘Section 13 – Extenuation’ of this Student Handbook.

UEL Skills Curriculum: The UEL Skills Curriculum has been designed to ensure that you are taught, have the opportunity to practice, and are assessed in three skillsets: Learning Skills, Professional Skills and Research Skills. These Skills are developed within your programme of study. Further information is available at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/discover/governance/policies-regulations-corporate-documents/student-policies/skills-curriculum
UEL Skills Portal: The UEL Skills Portal has been designed to act as a single gateway to a whole range of skills support that will help you progress through your studies. From tips on academic writing, using IT, to guidance on time management and exam revision - all of the resources in the UEL Skills Portal have been designed to support your learning and achievement.

Academic Integrity Policy: As a student you will be taught how to write correctly referenced essays using UEL’s standard Harvard referencing system from Cite Them Right. Cite them Right is the standard Harvard referencing style at UEL for all Schools, however professional body requirements will take precedence for instance the School of Psychology which uses the APA system. You will be advised of these by your School.

The electronic version of Cite Them Right: The Essential Referencing Guide (11th edition), can be accessed whilst on or off campus via the link below and will teach you all you need to know about Harvard referencing, plagiarism and collusion. The book can only be read online and no part of it can be printed nor downloaded. Further information is available in Appendix D and the weblinks below:

Cite Them Right:

http://www.citethemrightonline.com/

Click Login
Search for University of East London and select from the list of institutions
Click Log In at University of East London
Enter your UEL email address and password
This will give you full access to the resource

Harvard referencing:

https://uelac.sharepoint.com/LibraryandLearningServices/Pages/Harvard-Referencing-.aspx

Academic Integrity:

https://uelac.sharepoint.com/LibraryandLearningServices/Pages/Academic-integrity.aspx

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism: Information regarding the Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism policy, together with guidance for referencing and the avoidance of plagiarism is provided within Appendix D.
External Examiner: The External Examiner for the MSc SA programme will be appointed by UEL. External examination will be conducted in line with UEL’s assessment policy. Current External Examiners can be viewed on UEL’s web-site: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/External-Examiner-System

5.14. RESEARCH INTEGRITY AND RESEARCH ETHICS

Research Integrity: The University of East London conducts high quality, innovative research and is guided by the principles and standards outlined in The Concordat to Support Research Integrity, 2012; the University’s Code of Practice for Research; Code of Practice for Research Ethics and Procedures for the Investigation of Misconduct in Research, for staff and students. The Concordat seeks to provide a national framework for good research governance and its conduct, and applies to all fields of research supporting a research environment that is underpinned by ethical values. The University adheres to its responsibility to support and promote the highest standards of rigour and integrity and embed a culture of honesty, transparency and care and respect for all participants and subjects of research. The University is committed to ensuring that research is conducted with integrity and good research practices are upheld.

Research Ethics: Research involving human participants, human material, personal or sensitive data or non-human animal should comply with all legal and ethical requirements and other applicable guidelines. The University has established various Research Ethics Committees’ at University and School level to ensure appropriate ethical review of research projects involving human participation, human material or personal data. A proposed research study may require ethical approval from the main University Research, Research Degree & Ethics Sub-committee (RRDES), one of the School Research Ethics Committees’ (SRECs) or where applicable, Collaborative Partner Research Ethics Committees’ (CRECs). RRDES reviews ethics applications from staff, MPhil, PhD, Professional Doctorates and Masters by research students. Please note, that Professional Doctorates from the School of Psychology are reviewed by the School of Psychology SREC. SRECs and CRECs consider applications for ethical approval from taught Masters and undergraduate students.

Research involving human participation or human material will require formal approval from RRDES, SREC or CREC before the research commences. Students should submit research projects involving human participants, human material, personal or sensitive data or non-human animal for ethical review, to one of the University’s Research Ethics Committees’ listed above, and abide by the outcome of the review. The Research Ethics Committees’ ensure that appropriate procedures for obtaining informed consent are observed, having particular regard to the needs and capacity of the subjects involved. The dignity, rights, safety and well-being of participants must be the primary consideration in any research study. Appropriate care must be taken when research projects involve: vulnerable groups, such as elderly people, children,
people with mental ill-health and covert studies or other forms of research which do not involve full disclosure of the research to participants. The University’s Research Ethics Committees’ also ensure that research projects of this nature have been submitted for approval to all applicable external bodies; ethical, regulatory or otherwise.

https://uelac.sharepoint.com/ResearchInnovationandEnterprise/Pages/Ethics.aspx

Students who wish to conduct research in the NHS or Health and Social Care must apply to the NHS through the Integrated Research Application System (IRAS). The online application for ethical approval will be reviewed by a NHS or Social Care Research Ethics Committee. Students who are conducting research with only NHS staff or only using NHS premises are required to apply to both RRDEC and the Health Research Authority (HRA) for ethical approval. Students should seek guidance from their supervisor to ensure that ethical approval is sought from the appropriate body.

Students conducting studies under the auspices of any of the UK Departments of Health and/or the NHS are required to submit copies of their NHS, Social Care or HRA ethics approval letter, Local Information pack and IRAS application form to the RRDEC Committee. RRDES will grant consent for the study and issue a combined approval and sponsorship letter, for the research, on behalf of the University. The University acts as a sponsor for NHS or Social Care approved research projects, and students should conduct their studies in accordance with the conditions specified in the NHS, Social Care or HRA ethics approval letter.


Students should understand their responsibilities to conduct research to high ethical standards and be aware of policies and procedures on good research practice. The University has established guidelines to preserve the confidentiality and security of personal data, relating to human participants and human material involved in research projects. Students must comply with the regulations of appropriate regulatory or statutory bodies and any legal obligations when conducting or collaborating in research in other countries. The legal and ethical requirements existing in the UK and in the countries where the research will take place should also be observed. Students should ensure that they have fully prepared for their planned research, allowing enough time to submit an application for ethical approval and obtain appropriate consent. It is advisable that students seek guidance from supervisors on proposed research projects.

No data collection or recruitment of human participants for the research study may commence until ethical approval from RRDES; SREC; CREC; or a NHS or Social Care
Research Ethics Committee is confirmed. Students may only use data where ethical approval has been obtained and in accordance with the conditions specified in the approval letter, throughout the length of the study. Amendments to an approved research study must be submitted to the relevant Research Ethics Committee for review and ethical approval obtained before any changes to the project may be implemented. Ethical approval for research projects cannot be granted retrospectively. Research conducted with human participants or human material, without ethical approval from the appropriate Research Ethics Committee, is considered misconduct in research and as such students may be subject to formal investigation, which may result in the termination of the research project.

https://uel.ac/sharepoint.com/ResearchInnovationandEnterprise/Pages/Ethics.aspx

Risk Assessment: The University has a duty of care to its researchers and a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of research participants. Risk management should be considered at the same time as planning a research project. A comprehensive risk assessment helps to identify and evaluate potential hazards associated with the research project. Students in consultation with their supervisors should put control measures in place to minimise the likelihood of an event occurring that will cause harm. A risk assessment must be completed for research taking place within and outside of the University, fieldwork and research conducted overseas, before the project commences. The risk assessment should be completed by the student in collaboration with the supervisor and authorised by the Head of the School or Head of Department. If students consider that human participants in their, or others,’ research are subject to unreasonable risk or harm, they must report the concerns to their supervisor and, where necessary, to the appropriate regulatory authority. Similarly, concerns relating to the improper and/or unlicensed use or storage of human material or non-human animal or the improper use or storage of personal data, should also be reported.

Further guidance on risk assessments can be found in the University’s Health & Safety Handbook:
https://uel.ac/sharepoint.com/HealthandSafetyUnit/Pages/H%26S-Handbook.aspx

5.15. WORD COUNT POLICY

What does the word count mean? Written assignments have a maximum allowed length, e.g. 3,000 words for a Report, as stated within the Module Specification and defined by detailed coursework criteria within the Module Guide for each module.

Why is there a word count? It is an important skill to write to a defined word limit, in academic and professional contexts. The reason for this is to support you in learning
to gather your thoughts and express them concisely. Many workplaces, and similar settings, require this competence.

**What is included?** The word count includes all your core narrative and reasoning, including introduction and conclusion. It also includes:

- Subtitles (but not the main title);
- In-text citations;
- Calculations included in main text;
- Direct quotations from another's work, in quotation marks.

**What isn't included?** The word count DOES NOT include:

- Cover sheet
- Title page
- Table of Contents
- Abstract (unless otherwise noted);
- Captions and other text on or in figures, tables or boxes;
- Calculations included in text boxes;
- Headers and Footnotes (which are discouraged anyway);
- References (as normally required in a list in cite-them-right format at the end of the assignment);
- Appendices.

Any material, narrative or reasoning, in any of these will **not**, therefore directly attract marks (Although, clearly, they may add to the clarity, and without them, the work might be significantly the poorer). Important material in any of these (e.g. calculations) should therefore be interpreted clearly within the core narrative in order to gain marks for the relevance.

**What are the penalties?** The penalties for exceeding the word limit are threefold:

- Any work past the word count will not be marked, so you will lose the opportunity to gain crucial marks for this part;
- You are quite likely to lose further marks for structure – as your structure may become less focused – less appropriate to the task (which was to produce an essay etc. of that length);

The penalty for being below the lower limit – not writing enough – is, of course, that you may not have included enough material / critical analysis to warrant the marks available.
How can I manage this? If Microsoft ‘Word’, or other word processing package, is used, this can help significantly. Styles can be defined and applied for an abstract, captions, references etc, and separate styles for the ‘body text’ that counts in the word count. Inserting figures, tables or boxed text as ‘images’ (e.g. pdfs, jpeg) can also help manage your word count as the text within them will be excluded by word count tools (but, please note, the contents will NOT be marked as part of the narrative).

5.16. GENERAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

All coursework assignments are assessed in relation to the following general assessment criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70% - 100%</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
<td>Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% - 59%</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0% - 49%</td>
<td>Not passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final marks obtained for each assignment are expressed as a percentage following the scientific convention for rounding decimal points to the nearest whole number. The final aggregate mark obtained for each module is expressed as a percentage with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Grading descriptors for Master’s work: All coursework assignments are assessed in relation to the following general grading descriptors for Master’s work:

80-100. An accomplished piece of work with no grammatical or other errors. Shows exceptional insight and originality in the use of evidence, which might be from the literature or experiment. Where appropriate, it makes connections between experimental evidence and the literature. Contains material of publishable quality in a peer-reviewed journal. Worthy of retaining for reference.

70-79. An original or insightful answer that draws on the student’s own observations combined with a critical treatment of the literature. The work demonstrates clear understanding of the subject and current theoretical debates. Contains material that is potentially of publishable quality in a scientific journal paper, and is worthy of retaining for reference.

60-69. A well organised, clearly expressed and direct response to the topic, showing broad evidence of reading and good analytical skills. A competent answer that shows
a thorough understanding of arguments and evidence and sets them in context. It makes efficient use of relevant reading and examples, where appropriate. The work does not display the outstanding ability, critical acuity or originality that characterises distinction-level answers.

50-59. A coherent, adequately structured and expressed response to the topic, showing evidence of adequate critique and sound argument, but little originality or critical insight. A competent yet pedestrian treatment of ideas and concepts from lectures or set reading, but little evidence of deeper understanding and independent critical appraisal. The work is descriptive, lacking the depth of critical analysis that characterizes merit-level answers.

40-49. Fails to meet the criteria and requirements of the assignment. The work shows some understanding of the topic and of the broader subject area but includes little evidence of real understanding or detailed knowledge. Contains mistakes, misunderstandings or irrelevant material. Poor organisation and an uncritical approach that is not well expressed.

0-39. Substantially fails to meet the criteria and requirements of the assignment. At best, not a direct response to the question or topic, but shows some understanding of the general field, or conveys some understanding and argument. At worst, nothing of relevance in answer to the question or topic. Likely to be muddled or incomplete, and inadequately expressed.

**General grading descriptors for the Dissertation module:** A different set of general grading descriptors to that above are used within the assessment of the Dissertation module to take into account the student’s treatment of data generated from their primary research – refer to the Dissertation Module Guide for further details.
6. **MODULE SPECIFICATIONS**

Specifications for each module are available from the GSE web site: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

These specifications are the definitive record of the programme at module level. Assessment methods described within these Module Specifications are correct at the time of release. Details of any modifications approved later in the academic year will be communicated through notices on Moodle.
7. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

7.1. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) is part of the CAT Charity Ltd; however, the mode of operation of the School including employment and remuneration practices follow that of UEL and will follow those recommended by the University and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

7.2. REVIEW & ENHANCEMENT PROCESS (REP) REPORT

The Programme Leader compiles the annual Review and Enhancement Process (REP) report, which reviews all aspects of the programme, for quality assurance purposes. Refer to UEL’s Quality Manual, Part 7: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Quality-Assurance

7.3. ACADEMIC COUNCIL

CAT’s Academic Council typically meets four times per year, reporting to the Chief Executive, with members including the Chief Executive, senior manager/s, Programme Leaders and Students Representatives.

The Academic Council’s responsibilities include: general issues relating to the research, scholarship, teaching and courses in the GSE; advising the University of East London (UEL) on specific matters; CAT/GSE specific policies and procedures; curriculum content; academic standards; receipt of an annual report on each programme, including external examiners’ reports and Programme Leaders’ responses; receiving minutes of Programme Committee meetings and taking action where appropriate; the learning and teaching strategy, the enhancement of student learning opportunities and dissemination of good practice; and the expulsion of students for academic reasons. The Academic Council also considers the development of all the academic activities of the GSE and the resources needed to support them, and advises the Chief Executive on these matters.

The Academic Council’s terms of reference, including membership, attendance and meeting dates, are available via the CAT website https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

7.4. THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Programme Committees provide a formal structure for student participation and feedback on their programme of study. Programme committees provide a forum in which students can express their views about the management of the programme, and the content, delivery and assessment of modules, in order to identify appropriate actions to be taken.
The joint MSc SA-SABE-SAP-GB-SEPDM-SFNR-SE-SBC Programme Committee typically meets four times per year, reporting to the Academic Council, with membership including the Head of School, Programme Leader, senior academics and Student Reps. Within its programme area, the Committee’s responsibilities include: advising Academic Council on the development of the academic activities of the programme area and the resources necessary to support them; implementing and ensuring Academic Council policy and procedures; advising the Registrar (Head of School) on admissions; discussing and developing the programme curriculum; receiving minutes of the Staff-Student Liaison Committee meetings and taking action where appropriate; receiving anonymised student feedback and action plans resulting from same; advising the Programme Leader on GSE staff-development requirements; and overseeing an annual review of the Programme.

The Programme Committee’s current terms of reference and membership, are available via the CAT website at: [https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/quality-assurance/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/quality-assurance/)

Programme Committee meeting minutes and associated documentation will be made available to enrolled students via the UEL Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle, in the ‘Quality Management’ section.

7.5. **STAFF/STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE**

The joint MSc SA-SABE-SAP-GB-SEPDM-SFNR-SE-SBC Staff/Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) reports to the Programme Committee, typically meeting three times per year, made up of student representatives and members of academic staff. Student feedback meetings are run regularly – refer to 7.6 below – with the SSLC structure seeking to formalise and build on this. The SSLC provides a link between staff and students, enabling discussion on matters to do with teaching and learning that don't fit the stricter remit of the Programme Committees. The SSLC deals with concerns at a local level and feeds into other committees as appropriate. SSLC provides a formal channel of communication between students and the GSE and is an essential part of that communication. The SSLC should be consulted about any major changes to course structure or content. The SSLC must not consider matters relating to named members of staff or students, nor are they the place for students to air any personal grievances.

Staff-Student Liaison Committee meeting minutes and associated documentation will be made available to enrolled students via the UEL Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle, in the section called ‘Quality Management’.
7.6. STUDENT FEEDBACK

The School takes Student Feedback very seriously, and there are a number of systems in place to facilitate recording of feedback from our students and communication of how feedback has been used to enhance programme delivery:

1. **End of Module Surveys:** There will be an on-line feedback survey released for each module (Onsite or DL respectively) – typically accessible through the Moodle VLE or GSE Forms Hub, that can be completed anonymously, in which you can score your level of satisfaction with and provide written comments on the module’s academic activities and administration;

2. **Feedback Meeting:** There will be a feedback meeting held between students and key staff during each residential module onsite at CAT, which gives an opportunity for wider feedback on the module. Three times per year these meetings are run as SSLC meetings following a broader agenda, inviting programme wide discussion and feedback – refer to 7.5 above;

3. **Programme Representatives:** The ‘Programme Reps’ represent MSc students in Academic Council, Programme Committee and SSLC meetings, amongst other official duties, acting as an on-going conduit for student feedback on programme-wide matters. This initiative aims to be a valuable forum for engagement and communication between staff and students of the MSc programmes. Current Reps can be contacted through the Student Support Officers. It is intended that Reps will act for a year at a time. CAT offer Reps an ‘incentive’ as a gesture of thanks for providing this valued service – if you are interested in acting as a Programme Rep please contact the Student Support Officers;

4. **End-of-year Survey:** The programme team and Programme Reps typically distribute a survey in July to seek feedback on the student experience over the academic year;

5. **Destinations Survey:** The programme team will contact all students approximately six months after completion of their award to complete a GSE Leavers survey, which asks those who have recently completed higher education courses about their current activity, which may be working, studying, looking for work or other activities.

Please do give feedback using the methods described above. Your comments are very valuable and we do take them into serious consideration in the development of the programmes.

Refer also to the UEL Students’ Union (UELSU) programme ‘Reps Handbook’: [http://www.uelunion.org/representation/reps/](http://www.uelunion.org/representation/reps/)
8. STUDENT SUPPORT

8.1. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AT CAT

Personal Tutors and Student Learning Support: As introduced earlier in this document, the programme has been designed to put students at the forefront of the educational experience. To accommodate this, and to assist in the management of the programme, you will be allocated a personal tutor who ideally you will remain with for the duration of the programme.

A clear structure of Student Learning Support is in place for you whether you are an ‘on-site residential’ or a ‘distance-learning’ student. This structure explains the pastoral and academic support provided on the programme; including defining the role of the personal tutor, and following this, when you might need to contact a Module Leader, members of their module delivery team, or the Student Support Officers for various aspects of support. The framework provides a high level of directed support to enable all our students to progress to becoming independent learners and researchers at Masters level.

The Personal Tutor’s scope and remit are based on UEL’s ‘Revised Approach to Personal Tutoring’. The role of the Personal Tutor within the local Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy is described above within Section 5. The nature of the programme operation enables contact with staff to occur on a regular basis if required. This provides close and immediate support together with help and advice as required.

Equality and Diversity Policy: Applications from potential students with learning differences or additional needs are welcomed. Assessment of applications will be made with reference to UEL’s ‘Equality and Diversity Strategy’. Applicants are encouraged to disclose any learning differences, disabilities, difficulties or health issues in order that discussions can be held as to whether specific needs can be accommodated by reasonable adjustments. CAT’s Equality and Diversity Policy statement can be found on the CAT website: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

This statement is in line with UEL’s Equality and Diversity Strategy: https://www.uel.ac.uk/about/about-uel/professional-services/hr.

CAT site: The CAT site complies with all Health and Safety requirements and all students have appropriate insurance on site. CAT is pledged to operate a clean, safe and appropriately equipped learning environment. The CAT restaurant offers a variety of hot and cold vegetarian food and drinks.

Safeguarding: In GSE we aim to support and take care of one another. GSE is predominantly an adult environment but is nevertheless committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults as set out in the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act.
(SVGA 2006) as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act (PFA 2012). Protecting vulnerable groups of students’ is part of our wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting students from other harms (e.g. alcohol or substance misuse, gangs, neglect, abuse and sexual exploitation, domestic violence, forced marriages and female genital mutilation).

We also have a duty under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to ‘have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’. This is particularly relevant to vulnerable groups of students if they are exposed to extremist views, radicalisation or ideological grooming.

**PREVENT:** GSE staff have all undertaken PREVENT training, and students are invited to do so too, by following: [https://www.foundationonline.org.uk/](https://www.foundationonline.org.uk/). Any students with concerns about people being drawn into terrorism should approach Adrian Watson (PREVENT coordinator and Head of School) or any lecturer.

**Chaplaincy:** The GSE Chaplain provides confidential support to students of any faith or none. This is currently Frances Hill ([frances.hill@cat.org.uk](mailto:frances.hill@cat.org.uk) / skype: frances.hill2381).

**Safe use of computers:** It is helpful to remember that using IT has consequences in both the virtual and physical world. The use of IT facilities is governed by IT-specific laws and regulations (such as these), but it is also subject to general laws and regulations that apply in the United Kingdom.

**Domestic Law:** The conduct of all staff, students, visitors and users of IT systems is subject to legislation even legislation that does not appear related to IT such as the laws on fraud, theft and harassment.

Examples of relevant legislation include:

- *Obscene Publications Act 1959* and *1964*
- *Protection of Children Act 1978*
- *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984*
- *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988*
- *Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008*
- *Computer Misuse Act 1990*
- *Human Rights Act 1998*
- *Data Protection Act 2018*
- *Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 & Terrorism Act 2006*
• Police and Justice Act 2006
• Equality Act 2010
• Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 (as amended)
• Defamation Act 1996 and 2013

So, for example, you may not:

• Create or transmit, or cause the transmission, of any offensive, obscene or indecent images, data or other material, or any data capable of being resolved into obscene or indecent images or material;
• Create or transmit material with the intent to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety;
• Create or transmit material with the intent to defraud;
• Create or transmit defamatory material;
• Create or transmit material such that this infringes the copyright of another person or organisation;
• Create or transmit unsolicited bulk or marketing material to users of networked facilities or services, save where that material is embedded within, or is otherwise part of, a service to which the user or their user organisation has chosen to subscribe;
• Deliberately access, or attempt to access networked facilities or services without the appropriate level of authorisation

There is a comprehensive section of overviews concerning the law and how this relates to IT use available at: https://www.jisc.ac.uk/

Law outside the UK

If you are using services that are hosted in a different part of the world, you may also be subject to the laws of the relevant country. It can be difficult to know where any particular service is hosted from, and what the applicable laws are in that locality. In general, you should apply common sense and adhere to domestic laws and the regulations of the service you are using.

8.2. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

All staff on the programme recognise the importance of personal development planning (PDP), the principles of which are embedded in many professions in the form of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Coursework for the programme builds into a comprehensive record of your written work as well as tutorial exchanges, group
work, Presentation feedback and practical work. The process of personal tutoring ensures that these records are maintained, and tutorials allow an opportunity for you to reflect on your coursework with your personal tutor.

You will be offered the opportunity to take part in twice yearly Personal Development Planning tutorials. These will be offered in January or February, following the receipt of marks from the introductory core modules, and again in June or July. The focus of the PDP will be on reflecting on your progress, use of extra-curricular activities as well as academic learning, career or work experience planning and the gaining of transferable skills. Tutorial support, especially though the PDP, will encourage you to consider the application of your learning in the future, and the design and development of your independent research project, the dissertation (if undertaking the MSc).

A formal tutorials programme has been established to ensure that core skills are discussed in groups (a tutor and several tutees), and exercises completed by students with the aim of improving competency and highlighting needs for further support or direction for individual students. Support is also available from personal tutors and SSOs at any time.

When you graduate, you will be encouraged to complete a destination survey questionnaire; this enables the staff team to advise current students on their future career path options. Former students are also encouraged to attend alumni events or perhaps to present during modules. You will also be asked to let us know what jobs you’ve been involved in since completing the programme. Further information on career development may be available from UEL’s Centre for Student Success (CiSS):

https://www.uel.ac.uk/student-life/centre-for-student-success

Resources, procedures and systems to support student development and achievement are determined, managed and evaluated with reference to the QAA’s Quality Code, ‘Chapter B4 – Enabling Student Development and Achievement’: http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/chapter-b4-enabling-student-development-and-achievement.pdf?sfvrsn=100f781_8

8.3. DISABILITIES AND SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFERENCES

CAT aims to be proactive in supporting students with additional needs. Developed in line with the Equality Act (2010), CAT’s Student Support and Welfare Services guide may be found on the GSE website https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/

If you have a Certificate relating to learning differences this should be sent/copied to Student Support at the earliest opportunity. The school will prepare a specific learning differences (SpLD) cover sheet for any student with certified additional teaching and learning support requirements that will explain to assessors –
in anonymised format, the adjustments that should be taken into account within the assessment of coursework. **The SpLD cover sheet should then be included in any submission for which it should be taken into account - in the case of two or more assignments for a module, the certificate should be included with each one.**

**Deaf and Hearing Impaired Students** If you are deaf or have a hearing impairment we can arrange note-takers if funded by DSA, and the Sheppard Lecture Theatre in WISE has an infrared hearing support system. Please enquire at the CAT office for details.

**Students with mental health difficulties** If you have, or have had, a mental health difficulty that you think might affect your studies, we encourage you to inform us, which can be done confidentially.

### 8.4. THE DISABLED STUDENTS’ ALLOWANCE (DSA)

The Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) is available to postgraduate students. The DSA is a non means-tested grant that students with disabilities can apply for, and for most students with disabilities and/or dyslexia this will be their main source of support, whether that be technological or human.

The DSA is funded by central government and administered by local education authorities, and is designed to provide a 'level playing field' and as such should not be used to provide you with equipment that will give you an unfair advantage over other students on the programme. For further information see: [https://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance)

### 8.5. FURTHER ADVICE

**Disability Rights UK** promotes opportunities for young people and adults with any kind of disability in post-16 education, training and employment across the UK. Skill provides individual support to disabled people, their families/enablers or people working with disabled people by offering an information service by phone, minicom or letter, publishing books, booklets and information leaflets. They can also offer advice about financial matters, such as Social Security benefits. **Contact Skill Information Service** Tel: 0800 328 5050 or on the web at [http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org](http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org)

Further information on the DSAs is available from the DfES refer to their website: [https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas](https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas)

Advice and support about discrimination and human rights is available from the Equality and Human Rights Commission: [https://www.equalityhumanrights.com](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com)
If you need expert information, advice and support on discrimination and human rights issues and the applicable law, especially if you need more help than advice agencies and other local organisations can provide, please contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS).

**Please note:** EASS is completely independent of the Commission.

Phone: 0808 800 0082, or Textphone: 0808 800 0084

Website: [www.equalityadvisoryservice.com](http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com)

Post: FREEPOST Equality Advisory Support Service FPN4431

Opening hours: 09:00 to 20:00 Monday to Friday & 10:00 to 14:00 Saturday (closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays)

8.6. **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT**

The Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) is unable to offer English language support. Further information for International Students may be available from the ‘International’ section of UEL’s website: [https://www.uel.ac.uk/International](http://https://www.uel.ac.uk/International)

8.7. **PROGRAMME REPRESENTATIVES – SUPPORT AND TRAINING**

Programme Reps can access a range of training provided by UELSU, refer to: [http://www.uelunion.org/representation/reps/repstraining/](http://http://www.uelunion.org/representation/reps/repstraining/)

8.8. **INFORMATION ON LOCAL ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES**

Most students studying on-site choose to stay on-site at CAT. However, information on local accommodation facilities is available on request.

8.9. **CAREERS ADVICE**

While CAT does not have the capacity to offer specific careers advice, tutors will be able to offer some guidance, and students are encouraged to consult fellow students and alumni, many of whom come and teach on modules. Additionally, external lecturers come from a range of possible employment directions, and some offer further engagement in this direction. As per Appendix E, as a collaborative student you are entitled to access the Centre for Student Success (CfSS) once you have received your UEL Access Card. Please find more information on the resources available on the CfSS website: [https://www.uel.ac.uk/centre-for-student-success](https://www.uel.ac.uk/centre-for-student-success)
9. **RESOURCES**

9.1. **COLLABORATIVE STUDENT ENTITLEMENTS 2019-20**

*Appendix E* outlines the UEL services you are entitled to access as a student on one of UEL’s collaborative programmes at the Centre for Alternative Technology. If you have any questions about any of the services you are entitled to at UEL, please contact the team at the Academic and Employers Partnership Office (APO) at UEL (*apo@uel.ac.uk*), who will be happy to advise you further.

9.2. **LIBRARY / RESOURCES / EQUIPMENT LOAN**

**UEL Library & Learning Service** Via the UEL Library, you can access e-resources away from UEL. Once you have enrolled, they will automatically set up an account for you - check your UEL webmail account for your username and password. More information on how this can help with your studies can be found within the ‘Library’ area of UEL’s Intranet. Library services include: access to borrow books from UEL’s campus libraries; access to e-books online from e-book provider databases such as ‘EBL’, ‘ProQuest’ etc.; access to borrow e-books through electronic download for up to 7 days at a time.

**Accessing UEL Library and Learning Services online**

1) Go to the library website *https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Library* and click the Intranet link and sign into the intranet.

2) The Intranet username will be in the following format: *U1234567@uel.ac.uk*. The Intranet password is the same is your IT password.

3) Then go to the Library area of the Intranet within the Services area: from there you can see the Library Search link and the Database A - Z link

**How to access databases**

From the A - Z Database link choose your database and click the sign in off/on campus link. There should be a ‘find organization’ field where you can search for the University of East London and a ‘choose how to sign in’ option from which you will need to select the University of East London. Sign in at the University of East London option and you can then sign into the database with your Intranet username and password.

**Find resources with Library search:** You can use *UEL’s Library Search* to find what you need. Type a topic or keyword into the search box to see what is available, then filter the search using the options on the left-hand side of the screen.

**Ask a librarian for help:** If you need advice or help with your research, use the ‘Ask A Librarian’ chat service. Whether you need to know how to access a resource, or want to find out when the Library is open, ‘Ask A Librarian’ can help you to find the answer – refer to the directions below to access the ‘Library’ area of UEL’s Intranet.
Get subject-specific guidance: Each of UEL’s Schools has its own subject librarian, who can offer advice and guidance in your research. This dedicated subject team can help you to find the best resources, analyse the quality of information and provide referencing advice. Subject support pages provide a useful introduction to key information sources in the field, including relevant databases. You may also find it useful to look at the Subject Support pages for other disciplines, for instance to see which databases they recommend. Contact details for the ACE Subject Librarian are provided below.

The ACE Subject Librarian can also be contacted directly if required:

   Nick Balmforth - ACE Subject Librarian  
   Library and Learning Services  
   University of East London  
   University Way, London, E16 2RD  
   Email: n.j.balmforth@uel.ac.uk  
   Telephone: 020 8223 7444

Inter-library loans service: If we don't own a book or article you need for your research you could order it as an inter-library loan. Have a look at the inter-library loans page for more about the service and how to place requests – refer to the directions below to access the ‘Library’ area of UEL’s Intranet.

SCONUL: UEL is part of the SCONUL Access scheme, which allows students and staff members resident in any part of the UK to visit other SCONUL libraries. You can find out more about the scheme by visiting the SCONUL website: http://www.sconul.ac.uk/sconul-access

Research tools: We provide access to some excellent research tools, including: Scopus citation analysis; Referencing resources; Endnote software; and the ROAR Institutional repository.

9.3. UEL DIRECT

How to log in to UEL Direct:

1. Log on to https://www.uel.ac.uk/students
2. Click on ‘ENTER UEL DIRECT’ Log in;
3. Enter your user name… the letter u in front of your student number (e.g. u1234567);
4. Enter your network password (your initial password is your date of birth in the format dd-mm-yy i.e. enter 29-feb-80 if your date of birth is 29 February 1980; the hyphens are important);
5. Go to your “To do list”
6. In your In tray, under “Action”, click on “Please sign-up with UEL” (returning students click on “Please confirm details”)

7. Follow the on-screen instructions

8. Remember to log out after completing the Sign-up/Confirm details task. (On-screen instructions exist.)

To view your results on UEL Direct:

1. Log on to https://www.uel.ac.uk/students
2. Click on ‘ENTER UEL DIRECT’ Log in;
3. Log-in as described above;
4. Go to ‘My record’ and ‘Module results’

If you have problems accessing UEL Direct, including password reset, please contact the UEL IT Services helpdesk via:

   Telephone 0208 223 2468
   Email servicedesk@uel.ac.uk
   Website https://www.uel.ac.uk/discover/professional-services/it-services

9.4. EQUIPMENT AND TEACHING RESOURCES AT CAT

The section below summarises equipment and other teaching resources (e.g. physical, software and data/information) available at CAT at the time of validation. This list is for information only. It is not comprehensive and should not be interpreted as representative of resources that will be available in future programme delivery.

CAT has a range of habitats onsite including deciduous and mixed woodlands, a small amount of heathland, freshwaters, reedbed sewage system and organic vegetable gardens which provide sites for academic study.

CAT has a wide range of resources that are presently utilised on the programme:

- Efficient, innovative buildings utilising low embodied energy and natural materials: A range of low energy consumption buildings using low-impact building techniques, including the award-winning WISE building;
- Research facilities in the ‘building physics lab’ – including tests cells and a modest-sized climate chamber;
- IT hardware and software licences, including specialist programmes such as ‘Integrated Environmental Solutions’ (IES), Design Builder, Passivhaus
Planning Package (PHPP), SAP, SBEM, WUFI, TSol, PVSol etc. – arranged to suit occasional teaching activities;

- ‘Heliodon’ and ‘artificial sky’ – which can be used to model daylighting in building models;
- CAT’s own off-mains water supply and reed bed waste water treatment systems;
- Large outdoor areas – some covered, and workshop space with tools and equipment – where many practical demonstrations and workshops take place, including building materials workshops;
- Extensive public displays covering a wide range of energy and sustainability issues.

CAT has one of the largest ranges of installed renewable systems anywhere. These presently include:

- Photovoltaics: 20kWp building integrated arrays, 1.6kWp example domestic array, an installer training facility, numerous smaller on and off-grid systems and examples of a range of different module and inverter technologies and PV water pumping. A module performance flash tester;
- Solar thermal: A large-scale evacuated-tube system for WISE, and several domestic-scale examples of various different collector and system types. An experimental and teaching facility;
- Off-grid, grid-connected and micro-grid systems: Example battery banks and other off-grid equipment, grid-linked systems and a novel hybrid system.;
- Biomass heating systems: A HETAS certified installer training facility including pellet and log batch boilers, associated equipment and teaching aids. Other biomass boilers, stoves and a district heating system;
- Hydroelectricity: A Turgo turbine as well as teaching systems and displays including examples of other turbine types and ram pumps;
- Heat pumps: Air and water source heat pumps, and some examples used for experiments;
- Wind Power: A range of small to medium wind turbines and examples of larger-scale community owned wind turbines in the immediate locality.

Visits are made to other and larger scale installations in the region. Recent examples of these have included: larger-scale biomass installations and research organisations, wind farms, Passive House standard buildings.

**Experimental Equipment and Resources:** A range of experimental equipment and resources is used on the programme. Present examples include:

- Data-loggers and equipment or sensors which measure electrical current voltage and energy, temperature, irradiance, wind speed, wind direction, flow meters, sound level meters;
• A range of PV modules;
• Solar site selection equipment;
• Equipment for commissioning and testing solar thermal and other hydraulic systems;
• A thermal imaging camera;
• Moisture meters, ovens and scales;
• Dumpy levels and staffs for measuring heights and distance and angle measuring equipment;
• A range of specialist simulation and design software;
• A selection of text books and industry magazines;
• Electrical components, batteries and power supplies;
• Workshop space and tools.

Other resources at CAT that are of interest but which are not usually used on the programme presently include: a ‘mock roof’ which can be used to train professionals to safely install solar thermal and photovoltaic systems; extensive organic gardens.

**Wales Institute for Sustainable Education (WISE):** The Wales Institute for Sustainable Education (WISE) houses a 200-seat lecture theatre, 3 classrooms (including a small library and computer facilities), 3 seminar rooms, a laboratory, offices for administrative staff and 24 en-suite bedrooms with twin occupancy. These new facilities have transformed the physical learning environment in which the programme is primarily run and delivered, providing a variety of comfortable, enjoyable, professional environments, well equipped with ICT for a range of academic activities. Further, the building itself, having put into practice so many of the theoretical concepts of low-impact sustainable building that are covered within the programme, now acts as a didactic tool embodying the ethos of the programme and of CAT as a whole. This has in turn inspired and facilitated new teaching activities and environments, including:

• Students experiencing and learning within a physical manifestation of the low-impact building materials covered within the programme, facilitating greater understanding of the practicalities and complexities of these materials in use within the built environment;
• Acoustic experimentation and testing within spaces such as the lecture theatre, foyer and restaurant extension;
• Social research, through Post Occupancy Evaluation, of WISE building occupant’s experiences of working within an exemplar building;
• Opportunities for presentations and teaching materials to be displayed and used electronically on plasma screens within each of the large seminar and classroom spaces. This allows greater collaboration and interaction within
group work sessions, and far better provision for students and staff to present electronically.
10. INFORMATION ABOUT QUALITY AND STANDARDS

10.1. ASSURING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE AWARD

You are enrolled on a course of study leading to the award of a degree of the University of East London (UEL). As such, you are regarded as a student of the University of East London as well as Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) at The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) and both institutions work together to ensure the quality and standards of the course on which you are registered. The final responsibility for all quality assurance, validation and standards’ matters rests with UEL. Some of the ways in which we ensure the quality and standards of the course include:

Approval of the course and institution at which you are studying

Before the course started, our University, through an approval process, checked that:

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the course;
- adequate resources would be in place;
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate;
- the content of the course met national benchmark requirements, where applicable;
- the course met any professional/statutory body requirements if applicable;
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms.

Appointment of external examiners

The standard of this course is monitored by at least one external examiner external to UEL, appointed by UEL. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the course;
- To ensure that justice is done to all students.

External examiners fulfill these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating standards;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;
- Providing feedback to the University through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.
Review and Enhancement Process This annual review includes the evaluation of and the development of an action plan based on:

- external examiner reports and accreditation reports (considering quality and standards);
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate);
- student feedback obtained via course committee and module evaluation questionnaires.

Periodic reviews of the partnership and course is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions.

Award certificates UEL issues transcripts of results to students, and award certificates to successful students on programmes. Degree certificates are awarded by UEL, and students will have the opportunity to attend an award ceremony at CAT.

10.2. QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY REVIEWS

The Quality Assurance Agency conducted a Higher Education Review (Alternative Provider) of the Centre for Alternative Technology in December 2017. The main purpose of the review was to investigate the higher education provision and to make judgments as to whether or not academic standards and quality meet UK expectations. These expectations are the statements in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education (www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code) setting out what all UK higher education providers expect of themselves and of each other, and what the general public can therefore expect of them.

The QAA review team formed the following judgments about the higher education provision offered at the Centre for Alternative Technology:

- The maintenance of the academic standards of awards offered on behalf of degree- awarding bodies meets UK expectations.
- The quality of student learning opportunities is commended.
- The quality of the information about learning opportunities meets UK expectations.
- The enhancement of student learning opportunities is commended.

Good practice The QAA review team identified the following features of good practice. For each of the following recommendations, affirmations and features of good practice, the reference in brackets is to the relevant Expectation(s) in the Quality Code.
• The innovative design and development of adaptable programmes that provide a wide range of practical and professional skills and academic rigour for students that are aligned with the Centre’s mission and values (Expectations B1 and Enhancement).

• Well-organised and flexible learning experience that enhances the provision of learning opportunities for students (Expectation B3).

• The recognition of individual student capacities and the availability of specialist resources that support their academic, personal and professional development (Expectation B4).

• The wide range of assessment activities including live projects that use bespoke resources to engage and challenge students (Expectations B6 and B4).

• The strong community engagement that promotes an innovative and positive environment for all stakeholders in the strategic enhancement process (Expectations Enhancement, B3 and B4).

The full report can be downloaded from the QAA web site via:
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviewing-higher-education/quality-assurance-reports/Centre-for-Alternative-Technology#

The QAA website gives more information about QAA (www.qaa.ac.uk) and explains the method for Higher Education Review (Alternative Providers) (www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews-and-reports/how-we-review-higher-education).

Following the 2017 HER(AP) review, the QAA conducts routine annual reviews of the higher education provision at CAT. The last review was successfully completed in October 2018.

CAT’s Annual Quality Report (AQR) including action plan is available in the ‘Quality Management’ folder on Moodle.

10.3. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

CAT GSE is committed to developing, maintaining and supporting a policy of equal opportunities in regard to staff and students. It aims to create the conditions in which staff and students are treated equitably regardless of age, race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, creed, disability, staff category, sexual orientation, gender, marital or parental status, political belief or social or economic class.

CAT GSE will seek to develop programmes and procedures which comply with current and future legislation, ensure that its values and purposes are maintained and enhanced by emphasising equality of opportunity while also sustaining and accepting diversity.
CAT GSE operates an Equality and Diversity Policy in line with UEL. UEL’s Equality and Diversity Strategy can be found at the following link:
http://www.uel.ac.uk/hrservices/documents/emhandbook/generalpolicies.pdf
11. ACADEMIC APPEALS

Students who wish to appeal against a decision of an Assessment/Progression Board may appeal in accordance with the procedure for Appeals against Assessment Board decisions. Disagreement with the academic judgment of a Board of Examiners’ decision cannot, in itself constitute a reason to Appeal. Academic judgment is a judgment that is made about a matter where only the opinion of an academic expert will suffice. For example, a judgment about assessment or degree classification or a judgment about a decision where a student is required to repeat or take further assessment will usually be academic judgment, and a student cannot appeal simply because they believe they ought to have received a higher grade or mark.

Students are strongly advised to make every reasonable effort to resolve their appeal informally, through meeting with the member of staff most directly concerned with the matter, such as the Programme or Module Leader, before proceeding to submission of a formal Academic Appeal. At open conciliation stage the appeal should be raised as soon as possible and normally no more than 10 working days after the publication of relevant assessment results via UEL Direct.

For further information on the scope of this procedure, please refer to Part 7 of the Manual of General Regulations:

CAT’s ‘Appeals against Assessment Board Decisions’ policy is available within the ‘Quality Management’ section of the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle).

Further information about the UEL appeals process, including copies of the formal Notification of Appeal Form, is available to view at:
https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Student-Appeals

To help you decide whether your query would be an Appeal or Complaint, please refer to https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies

If you would like to lodge a formal appeal or have any queries, please email the Institutional Compliance Office at appeals@uel.ac.uk
12. COMPLAINTS

If you feel that you have not received the standard of service which it would be reasonable to expect, you may be entitled to lodge a complaint. Complaints should be used for serious matters, and not for minor things such as occasional lapses of good manners or disputes of a private nature between staff and students.

Separate procedures exist for the following, which therefore cannot form the substance of a complaint:

- appeals against the decisions of Assessment Boards (see Part 7 of the Manual of General Regulations and the ‘CAT Appeals against Assessment Board Decisions’ policy);
- appeals against annual monitoring reviews, transfer of research degree registration or oral examination decision for postgraduate research students (see Manual of General Regulations: Part 9 Research Degrees);
- appeals against the decisions of the Extenuation Panel (Manual of General Regulations: Part 6 Extenuating Circumstances and the ‘CAT Extenuating Policy and Procedures’);
- complaints against the Students’ Union (see the Complaints Procedure in the Students’ Union constitution);
- appeals against decisions taken under disciplinary proceedings (Manual of General Regulations: Part 12 and the ‘CAT Student Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures’);
- complaints about businesses operating on University premises, but not owned by our university (contact the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer);
- complaints about the behaviour of other students (see Part 12 of the Manual of General Regulations this Manual, the ‘CAT Student Charter’ and the ‘CAT Student Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures’);
- appeals against the decisions of Academic Misconduct Panels (see Part 8 of the Manual of General Regulations and the ‘CAT Academic Integrity Policy and Procedures’);
- appeals against the decisions of Attendance Appeal Panels (see the University’s Attendance Policy).

Students wishing to submit a complaint must, in the first instance, follow CAT’s complaints policy which aligns to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator’s good practice framework (https://www.oiahe.org.uk/media/96361/oia-good-practice-framework.pdf). CAT’s complaints policy is available at: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/.
CAT will administer all stages of its complaints policy and, upon exhaustion of this policy, will issue a formal letter to the complainant notifying them that its complaints policy has been exhausted. If the complainant is still not satisfied with the outcome they will be entitled to request that the University of East London undertake a review of their complaint.

The University of East London will conduct a review of the complaint in accordance with Stage 3 of its own Complaints Procedure. The University of East London Complaints Procedure is available at:

The University of East London will administer the Stage 3 review in accordance with its Complaints Procedure and, upon completion of the review, will issue a Completion of Procedures Letter. If the complainant is still not satisfied with the outcome they will be entitled to make a complaint to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator.

Complainants are strongly advised to make every reasonable effort to resolve their complaint informally through meeting with the member of CAT staff most directly concerned with the matter, such as the Programme or Module Leader, before submitting a formal complaint.

Complaints must normally be lodged within the set time limits outlined in the relevant complaints policy. This ensures that the people involved still remember the case, and the facts can be established.

If you would like to request that the University of East London undertake a review, following the exhaustion of the CAT complaints policy, please email the Institutional Compliance Office at complaints@uel.ac.uk
13. EXTENUATION

13.1. INTRODUCTION TO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

The University of East London has agreed, through Academic Board, procedures governing extenuation for students concerning the assessment process. General Information about extenuation can be found at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Extenuation-Procedures

The Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) at The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) will be subject to equivalent procedures, with the process being administered by, and the panel being held within, the Graduate School of the Environment (GSE) at CAT. CAT's ‘Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedures’ will be made available via the CAT website: https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/.

What are extenuating circumstances?

Extenuating Circumstances are circumstances which

- impair your examination performance or prevent you from attending examinations or other types of assessment, or
- prevent you from submitting coursework or other assessed work by the scheduled deadline date

Such circumstances rarely occur and would normally be

- unforeseeable - in that you could have no prior knowledge of the event concerned, and
- unpreventable - in that you could do nothing reasonably in your power to prevent such an event, and
- expected to have a serious impact on performance

You are expected to make reasonable plans to take into account commonly occurring circumstances (such as transport or computer problems) even those which, on occasion, may have been unforeseeable and unpreventable. The extenuation procedures are intended to be used rarely by students not as a matter of course.

Examples of circumstances which would normally be regarded as serious are:

- A serious personal illness (which is not a permanent medical condition – this is governed by disability procedures)
- The death of a close relative immediately prior to the date of assessment
Examples of circumstances which would not normally be regarded as extenuating circumstances are:

- Failure of computer equipment / USB stick
- Transport problems, traffic jams, train delays
- Misreading the exam timetables / assessment dates
- Minor illnesses

The judgment as to whether extenuation is granted is made by a panel of senior persons in the organisation, on the basis of evidence the student provides (not on their knowledge of the student). The judgment is made on the basis that the circumstances could reasonably impair the performance of the student, and the actual performance of the student is not considered and is not available to the panel.

**Extenuation can**

(i) Allow students to hand in coursework up to 7 days late, or
(ii) Allow students to proceed to their next attempt uncapped.

**Extenuation doesn’t**

(i) Give students more attempts to pass a module
(ii) Reschedule exams
(iii) Uncap a capped module
(iv) Give students a higher mark.
(v) Allow students to hand in work over 7 days late.

The basic principle is that extenuation should put you in the same position that you would have been in had you not missed an exam or handed in an assessment late – it does not confer any advantages. UEL decided that its procedures would be:

- Evidentially based;
- Handled centrally by a panel of senior staff (not devolved to various parts of the organisation);
- Retain student anonymity where possible.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the panel, with independent evidential documentary support, of their claim for extenuation.

### 13.2. SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Procedures for the submission of claims for Extenuating Circumstances are explained within CAT’s ‘Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedures’ – which are available via the CAT website [https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/)
Please contact the Student Support team if you require further information about extenuation. An electronic version of the extenuating circumstances application form can be accessed via the GSE Forms Hub.

13.3. NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOMES

The Student Support team will notify applicants of the outcome of their application for extenuation as soon as possible after the decision of the Extenuation Panel is known. Please note that the decisions of CAT’s Extenuation Panel are not formally approved until after the appropriate UEL Board. It may take up to several weeks for the decision of the Panel to be available, and applicants are strongly advised to work towards completion / re-submission of their assignment/s, to the best of their ability, in the interim.

Procedures for consideration of Extenuating Circumstances applications and notification of outcomes for the assessed tasks (examinations or coursework) are explained within CAT’s ‘Extenuating Circumstances Policy and Procedures.

More information and student guidance notes can be found at:
https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Extenuation-Procedures
## APPENDIX A - ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2019-20

**On-site Residential Teaching Modules at CAT:** Dates of MSc SA residential teaching modules at CAT are shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Module Details (including Start &amp; End Dates)</th>
<th>SA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>September</td>
<td><strong>EV7102 Part 1 (15 credits)</strong> Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning Monday 9th September to Saturday 14th September</td>
<td>CORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>October</td>
<td><strong>EV7106 (15 credits)</strong> Energy Flows in Buildings – Part A Monday 14th October to Friday 18th October</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>November</td>
<td><strong>EV7102 Part 2 (15 credits)</strong> Adaptation and Sustainability Concepts and Planning Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November</td>
<td>CORE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>December</td>
<td><strong>EV7104 (15 credits)</strong> Environmental Politics and Economics Monday 9th December to Friday 13th December</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>January</td>
<td><strong>EV7107 (15 credits)</strong> Energy Flows in Buildings - Part B Monday 6th January to Friday 10th January</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>February</td>
<td><strong>EV7105 (15 credits)</strong> Cities and Communities Monday 10th February to Friday 14th February</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Module (Credits)</td>
<td>Dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>March</td>
<td><strong>EV7108 (15 credits)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Energy Provision&lt;br&gt;Monday 9th March to Friday 13th March</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>April</td>
<td><strong>EV7103 (15 credits)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ecosystem: Land use, Water and Waste Management&lt;br&gt;Monday 20th April to Friday 24th April</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>May</td>
<td><strong>EV7110 (15 credits)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sustainable Materials in the Built Environment&lt;br&gt;Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>June</td>
<td><strong>EV7111 / EV7112 (15 credits)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Applied Project / Work-based Project&lt;br&gt;Monday 15th June to Friday 19th June</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>September (or February)</td>
<td><strong>EV7101 (60 credits)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dissertation (Route 1 = September-January)&lt;br&gt;Dissertation (Route 2 = February-June)</td>
<td><strong>Core for MSc</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAT/GSE ‘2019/20 Course dates’ are also available from the CAT website: [https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/](https://www.cat.org.uk/courses-and-training/graduate-school/studying/students/)

The UEL Academic calendar is available at [https://www.uel.ac.uk/student-life/key-dates](https://www.uel.ac.uk/student-life/key-dates)
APPENDIX B - USEFUL WEB PAGES

- Academic Appeals
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Student-Appeals

- Academic Integrity
  https://uelac.sharepoint.com/LibraryandLearningServices/Pages/Academic-integrity.aspx

- Accreditation of Experiential Learning (Manual of General Regulations – Part 2 – Admission of Students)

- Assessment and Feedback Policy
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy

- Civic Engagement
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Connect/Civic-Engagement

- Complaints procedure
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Student-Complaint-Procedure

- Equality and Diversity Policy
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies

- Extenuating Procedures
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Extenuation-Procedures

- Library and Learning Services
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/lls/

- Manual of General Regulations

- Referencing guidelines
  https://uelac.sharepoint.com/LibraryandLearningServices/Pages/Harvard-Referencing-.aspx

- Suitability Procedures (Manual of General Regulations – Part 13 – Suitability Procedure)

- UEL Intranet (UEL ID required to login)
  https://www.uel.ac.uk/students
APPENDIX C - STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

The Importance of Attendance You have made a commitment to work towards achieving academic success by enrolling on your programme and registering on your modules. We know, as you do, that in order to achieve ultimate success in your studies it is important that you participate in, and engage fully with, all your scheduled activities such as lectures, workshops and seminars. We therefore regard attendance as essential, as we are sure you will.

Punctuality is also crucial (if you turn up late you may find you will not be allowed to enter a lecture; late attendance causes disruption for others). Other aspects of behaviour are important as well, for instance, no food or drink should be consumed in lectures or classes, all mobile phones should be turned off.

Recording attendance We are obliged to keep records of your attendance. For all teaching activities specified by your School (workshops, seminars, practicals etc.) a record will be kept. You must ensure that you can demonstrate your attendance through this recording process.

If you cannot attend classes or other required activities for any reason you must inform the Student Support Officer as soon as practicable, and in any case within seven working days.

Be advised: If you are absent without an independently verifiable cause from classes or other required activities on three consecutive occasions and/or your attendance falls below 75% at any time, you will be de-registered from the module to which the classes or other required activities apply. You will have a right of appeal to a panel comprising two members of School staff and one student. If you are de-registered from two modules in one term, you may be withdrawn from the programme.

If you attend regularly you will get the most out of your studies, you will maximise your chances of success, and you will find the relationships you build up in your classes support you in your achievements. If you do not attend regularly or do not keep us informed of occasional non-attendance you will find that your tutor will contact you to discuss the matter with you. It is important that you take this communication seriously and make contact immediately.

We are so firmly convinced of the importance of attendance that we regard persistent non-attendance as a statement by you that you are not interested in being a student. You will therefore find that if you do not attend for at least two years (without intermitting), you will be withdrawn from the programme.
APPENDIX D - ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For the purposes of university’s regulations, academic misconduct is defined as any type of cheating in an assessment for the purposes of achieving personal gain. Examples of such misconduct are given below: the list is not exhaustive and the use of any form of unfair or dishonest practice in assessment can be considered potential misconduct.

Coursework Submitted for Assessment

For coursework submissions, academic misconduct means:

(a) The presentation of another person’s work as one’s own with or without obtaining permission to use it.

(b) The inclusion within one’s own work of material (written, visual or oral), originally produced by another person, without suitable acknowledgment.

(c) The submission, as if it were one’s own work, of anything which has been offered to you for your use, but which is actually not your own work.

(d) The inclusion within one’s work of concepts paraphrased from elsewhere without citing your source.

(e) The inclusion in submitted work of sections of text, whether from electronic or hard copy sources, without appropriate acknowledgement of the source.

(f) The submission of work that the student, as the author, has previously submitted, without suitable acknowledgement of the source of their previous work; this should not normally be more than a short quotation as the same work cannot be submitted for different assignments.

(g) Including or quoting the work of other students in one’s work, with the exception of published work, or outputs held in the library as a learning resource, which should be cited and acknowledged appropriately.
(h) Being party to any arrangement whereby the work of one candidate is represented as that of another.

(i) The submission, as your own work, of any work that has been purchased, or otherwise obtained from others, whether this is from other students, online services, “cheat sites”, or other agents or sources that sell or provide assignments.

(j) Practices such as ‘cutting and pasting’ segments of text into your work, without citing the source of each.

(k) For work not intended to be submitted as a collaborative assignment: producing work with one or more other students, using study practices that mean the submitted work is nearly identical, overall or in part, to that of other students.

(l) Offering an inducement to staff and/or other persons connected with assessment.

Examinations

Not applicable to this programme

Where academic misconduct is suspected, the matter will be dealt with under the Procedure to be followed in the event of a suspected case of academic misconduct, Part 8, paragraph 4 (or, for postgraduate research students, Appendix I) of the Manual of General Regulations, available for view at: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Manual-of-General-Regulations

If it is determined that academic misconduct has taken place, a range of penalties may be prescribed which includes expulsion from the programme.
PLAGIARISM - A GUIDANCE NOTE FOR STUDENTS

Definition of Plagiarism

Our University defines plagiarism and other academic misconduct in Part 8 of the UEL Manual of General Regulations (to which all students are referred upon joining UEL). The submission of material (written, visual or oral), originally produced by another person or persons or oneself, without due acknowledgement*, so that the work could be assumed to be the student's own. For the purposes of these Regulations, this includes incorporation of significant extracts or elements taken from the work of (an)other(s) or oneself, without acknowledgement or reference*, and the submission of work produced in collaboration for an assignment based on the assessment of individual work. (Such misconduct is typically described as plagiarism and collusion.)

The following note is attached:

*(Note: To avoid potential misunderstanding, any phrase that is not the student’s own or is submitted by the student for a different assessment should normally be in quotation marks or highlighted in some other way. It should also be noted that the incorporation of significant elements of (an) other(s) work or of one’s own work submitted for a different assessment, even with acknowledgement or reference, is unacceptable academic practice and will normally result in failure of that item or stage of assessment.)

Plagiarism in greater detail

Work that students submit for assessment will inevitably build upon ideas that they have read about or have learnt about in lectures. That is perfectly acceptable, provided that sources are appropriately acknowledged. It should be noted, however, that the wholesale reproduction of the ideas and words of others, however well referenced, is likely to lead to failure at assessment (see section 6 below)

The submission of work that borrows ideas, words, diagrams, or anything else from another source (or sources), without appropriate acknowledgement, constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is not limited to unattributed cutting-and-pasting; it includes the reproduction, without acknowledgement, of someone else's work, taken from a published (or unpublished) article, a book, a website, a friend’s (or anybody else’s) assignment, or any other source.

When an assignment or report uses information from other sources, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how s/he has used them. If someone else’s words are used, they must be within quotation marks and a
reference must follow the quotation. (See section 6 for further guidance on referencing.)

Where a concept or argument in another source is paraphrased (rather than directly quoted), quotations marks should not be used, but it will still be necessary to acknowledge the source. Remember, however, that the making of simple changes to the wording of a source, while retaining the broad structure, organisation, content and/or phraseology of the source, is unacceptable academic practice and will probably be regarded as plagiarism. (For helpful tips on how to avoid plagiarism, see "The Study Skills Handbook" by Dr Stella Cottrell, pages 122-125.)

Collusion

Collusion is the term used to describe any form of joint effort intended to deceive an assessor as to who was actually responsible for producing the material submitted for assessment. Clearly, students are encouraged to discuss assignments with their peers, but each student must always ensure that, where an individual assignment is specified, the report/essay submitted is entirely the student’s own. Students should, therefore, never lend work (in hard or electronic copy) to friends. If that work is subsequently plagiarised by a “friend”, an act of friendship might lead to a charge of collusion.

When to Reference

Our regulations do not distinguish between deliberate and accidental plagiarism, but you will not be accused of plagiarism, provided that you properly reference everything in your work that was said, written, drawn, or otherwise created by somebody else.

You need to provide a reference:

- when you are using or referring to somebody else’s words or ideas from an article, book, newspaper, TV course, film, web page, letter or any other medium;
- when you use information gained from an exchange of correspondence or emails with another person or through an interview or in conversation;
- when you copy the exact words or a unique phrase from somewhere;
- when you reprint any diagrams, illustrations, or photographs.

You do not need to reference:

- when you are writing of your own experience, your own observations, your own thoughts or insights or offering your own conclusions on a subject;
• when you are using what is judged to be common knowledge (common sense observations, shared information within your subject area, generally accepted facts etc.) As a test of this, material is probably common knowledge if:
  - you find the same information undocumented in other sources;
  - it is information you expect your readers to be familiar with;
  - the information could be easily found in general reference sources.

**How to Reference**

Our University has agreed on a single version of the Harvard referencing system (the School of Psychology uses the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style) and this (along with APA) can be found in Cite Them Right (Pears, R. and Shields, G (2016) Cite Them Right. Newcastle: Pear Tree Press).

Cite Them Right is available on line and hard copies can be found in our libraries and bookshops

**Plagiarism, or Unacceptable Academic Practice?**

If work that you submit for assessment includes substantial and significant elements of other sources and all of those sources are appropriately acknowledged, you will not have plagiarised, but you will be culpable of unacceptable academic practice, because there will be too little of your “own voice” to allow your knowledge to be assessed. Work that you submit for assessment must:

• use your own words;
• provide a critical commentary on existing literature;
• aim for novelty and originality;
• demonstrate your understanding of the subject area by paraphrasing.
• Work that does not meet those criteria will fail.
APPENDIX E - COLLABORATIVE STUDENT ENTITLEMENTS AT UEL

COLLABORATIVE STUDENT ENTITLEMENTS 2019–20

This document outlines the University of East London services you are entitled to access as a student on one of our collaborative programmes at Centre for Alternative Technology.

If you have any questions about any of the services you are entitled to at UEL, please contact the team at the Academic and Employer Partnerships Office (AEPO) at UEL (apo@uel.ac.uk), who will be happy to advise you further.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Access Cards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you so wish, you can be issued a UEL Student Access Card which would be given to you by your home institution. Please contact the relevant support services at your institution to let them know if you wish to receive a UEL Student Access Card. This Access Card will give you access to all appropriate UEL facilities in London, UK. Please note that the standard UEL fee for replacement Access cards apply in case your card goes missing or gets broken.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please note that if you apply for an “18+ Oystercard” in London, you should apply under the institution name where your studies take place, i.e. your home institution, not UEL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you experience any difficulty in accessing the relevant UEL facilities, in person or online, please contact the Academic and Employer Partnerships Office (<a href="mailto:apo@uel.ac.uk">apo@uel.ac.uk</a>) for assistance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library and Learning Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are entitled to access UEL Library and Learning Resources (subject to licence allowances) once you have received your UEL Access Card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information on the UEL Library and Learning Resources, please see their website <a href="http://www.uel.ac.uk/lls/">http://www.uel.ac.uk/lls/</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Student Support |
Student support will be offered to you by your home institution – UEL is unable to offer student support services to students studying at our collaborative partner institutions.

As a collaborative student you are entitled to access the Centre for Student Success (CfSS) once you have received your UEL Access Card. Please find more information on the resources available on the CfSS website:
https://uelac.sharepoint.com/Centreforstudentsuccess/Pages/default.aspx

This includes:
- Academic tutoring in maths and English skills
- Career support and development
- Employment opportunities

Student Records and Status Letters

You will be registered on the UEL student record system as a student studying at one of our collaborative partners at the start of your studies.

If you so require, the Academic & Employer Partnerships Office will also be able to provide you with the following letters:

- an award confirmation letter (once your award is available on the student record system)
- a collaborative student status letter

If you require confirmation on professional body accreditation of your course, please contact the Academic & Employer Partnerships Office to clarify whether they will be able to issue such confirmation for your course.

The University of East London is unable provide you with any other letters – please contact your home institution for those.

Sports Facilities

You will have access to our £21 million sports facility, the Sports Dock, for a reduced price which is considerably cheaper than the prices available to the general public. There are three levels of membership available. For more information on the membership, please contact tel. 020 8223 6888 or e-mail enquiries@sportsdock.co.uk. Please see the Sports Dock website for more information on their facilities http://www.sportsdock.co.uk/.

University of East London Students’ Union (UELSU)
As a student at one of our collaborative partner institutions, you are **not** a member of the University of East London Students’ Union, and **will not** be able to access their services or support in the appeals, complaints, academic misconduct, extenuation and disciplinary procedures. However, you can become a member of your home institution’s Students’ Union where available.

You are also eligible to apply for a TOTUM (previously NUS Extra) card by selecting University of East London Students' Union from the dropdown list when signing up.

### Degree Certificate and Diploma Supplement

Your home institution will receive your degree certificate and a diploma supplement from UEL within 12 weeks from the confirmation of the award. Your home institution will then deliver the degree certificate and diploma supplement to you.

### Complaints and Appeals

All collaborative students have access to the UEL appeals procedure.

Partner institutions are responsible for operating their own Complaints Procedure. Upon exhaustion of the partner institutions Complaints Procedure, students will be entitled to access Stage 3: Review of UEL’s Complaints Procedure ([https://www.uel.ac.uk/discover/governance/policies-regulations-corporate-documents/student-policies/manual-of-general-regulations](https://www.uel.ac.uk/discover/governance/policies-regulations-corporate-documents/student-policies/manual-of-general-regulations)), which shall be administered by UEL.

Students applying to Stage 3: Review of UEL’s Complaints Procedure, must provide evidence that they have exhausted the partner institutions Complaints Procedure. Where UEL receives an application to Stage 3: Review of its Complaints Procedure and the student is unable to provide evidence that they have exhausted the partner institutions Complaints Procedure, the complaint shall be referred back to the partner institution.

### Graduation Ceremony

Your home institution may hold its own graduation ceremony at which UEL will be represented where possible.

You will also be invited to a UEL Graduation Ceremony. Please see our website for more information the graduation ceremony: [http://www.uel.ac.uk/graduation/](http://www.uel.ac.uk/graduation/).

### Alumni
As a UEL graduate, you will have full access to our alumni services after you have been awarded your degree. For more information, please see the UEL Alumni Network website [http://www.uel.ac.uk/alumni/](http://www.uel.ac.uk/alumni/).

Collaborative students are entitled to an alumni discount on postgraduate programmes at UEL, further information is available here: [https://www.uel.ac.uk/postgraduate/fees-and-funding/uk-eu-postgraduate/scholarships-and-bursaries/alumni-discount](https://www.uel.ac.uk/postgraduate/fees-and-funding/uk-eu-postgraduate/scholarships-and-bursaries/alumni-discount)

### Additional costs

Students will be expected to pay additional costs for any of the following items:

- **Additional transcript (£15.00)**  
  Students receive their first transcript free of charge with their award certificate. Any copies over and above this first issue will be charged as above per document.

- **Award Letter (£10.00)**  
  An official document, which shows course details, start and end date, field of study and final award information. This document comes signed and sealed.

- **Certified copy of a certificate (UK £10.00)**  
  A certified (signed and stamped) copy of original award certificate.

- **Replacement Award Certificate (UK £40.00)**  
  A replacement certificate if the original has been lost or damaged.

- **A replacement Access card (£15.00)**  
  A replacement Access card if the original has been lost or damaged.
APPENDIX F - HEALTH AND SAFETY

General Statement of Policy

CAT recognises that it has a duty to protect and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of its employees and of visitors to its premises and others who may be affected by the conduct of the Charity’s business. Our policy is to:

(a) Provide and maintain healthy and safe working environments and working practices for its employees.
(b) Ensure that its activities are conducted on safe premises.
(c) Ensure the safety and wellbeing of all visitors, students, course participants and residents during their stay.
(d) Identify hazards and assess, reduce and control risks.
(e) Develop safe systems and ensure adequate supervision is provided where necessary.
(f) Provide appropriate information, training and resources to enable employees and registered volunteers to carry out their duties in a manner that prevents harm to themselves or others.
(g) Encourage employee involvement and personal commitment to achieving the health and safety objectives of the policy.
(h) Establish a culture of communication to disseminate and exchange information on health and safety policy, performance, current best practice and responsibilities.
(i) Investigate all accidents at work and cases of work-related ill health and implement appropriate remedial action with the aim of preventing recurrence.
(j) Record and analyse safety and health statistics.
(k) Monitor the performance and effectiveness of the policy through regular programmes of relevant audits and review.
(l) Ensure activities and procedures are conducted in accordance with all legal obligations.

The policy will be kept up to date, particularly as the business changes in nature and size. To ensure this, the policy and the way in which it has operated will be reviewed every year or more frequently if necessary.
Overall responsibility for the management of this policy lies with the Trustees. The responsible person is the CAT Health and Safety Officer, John Challen (john.challen@cat.org.uk).

The full version of CAT’s Health and Safety Policy is available on request from the Student Support team (student.support@cat.org.uk)
APPENDIX G: GLOSSARY

CAT  Centre for Alternative Technology
DL   Distance Learning
GSE  Graduate School of the Environment
Moodle Virtual (online) Learning Environment used by UEL and GSE
Panopto Video recordings of onsite lectures with embedded slides and thumbnails for navigating (accessed from right of Moodle screen for each module)
PGCert Post Graduate Certificate
PGDip Post Graduate Diploma
RDP  Dissertation Research Design Proposal
SA   Sustainability and Adaptation
SABE Sustainability and Adaptation in the Built Environment
SAP  Sustainability and Adaptation Planning
SEPDM Sustainability in Energy Provision and Demand Management
SSO  Student Support Officer
UEL  University of East London
VLE  Virtual (online) Learning Environment (eg Moodle)
WISE Welsh Institute for Sustainable Education

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