

This is a student-led, innovative module. It gives students the chance to examine a topic or an approach which is new to them. By Year 3, students usually have well-focused areas of study, based on dissertations and module choices. This module allows students to take a step back from this focus and to consider new areas of investigation.

The broad themes to be examined in 2012/13 will be global poverty and land degradation. Students are expected to identify and formulate a topic, to gather different pieces of information independently, and to synthesise a wide range of data critically. Students are also expected to apply geographic theories to the chosen topic.

Assessment of this module is based on an oral presentation to audience of students and staff and an extended essay. Students will share their ideas and findings with other fellow students in a conference-style evening.

In this unit there will be an opportunity to acquire formal certification of your communication skills. The skills involved in this module have already been mapped against NCVQ Key Skills in Communication, and assessments gained in this module may be used as evidence in applying for the external qualifications.

