



Final Project Proposal

Module Descriptor

Module Code:	SUS7PRP
Version:	V2.00
Status:	Final
Date:	12/08/2025

Final Project Proposal

Summary Module Details

Module details

Module Title: Final Project Proposal

Module Leader: Dr Graeme Whitehall and Dr Steve Ruddock

Module Mode: Supported online learning

Semester: Autumn (UK)

Level: 7

Credits: 10

Learning Hours: 100

Contact & Study Hours

Scheduled learning and teaching hours: 16.5 hrs (16.5%)

Guided independent study: 83.5 hrs (83.5%)

Assessment Type

Self-directed Research Project: 100%

Module Summary

Students will draw upon what they have learnt in the subject modules thus far, in particular the Research Skills and Current Affairs module, to develop a short final project proposal.

This will include developing a clear research question supported by a logical rationale, informed in part by a relevant body of knowledge. As appropriate, students will develop an aim and objectives, a hypothesis or proposition as appropriate, together with an understanding of methodological choices – around a subject area associated with a sustainable built environment. In doing so, students will indicate their preferred choice for the final project module to be undertaken in semester 4.

Ethical research considerations will be an integral part of this module.

Taken on which Programmes

MSc Innovation in Sustainable Built Environments (C)*

Core (C) or Elective (E)

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* The Final Project Proposal (SUS7PRP) is a pre-requisite for the Final Project (either Research Dissertation (SUS7RED) or Work-based Project (SUS7WBP)).

Module Aims

This module aims to enable students to develop essential research skills through an understanding of research methodologies and research ethics within their subject discipline to design and effectively plan a research project.

Module Learning Outcomes

- LO1. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and critical awareness of issues relating to research design and methodologies.
- LO2. Evaluate current research challenges pertaining to a sustainable built environment.
- LO3. Identify and outline key steps in the research design process.
- LO4. Effectively communicate a programme of research to an academic/professional audience.

Indicative Module Content

Module topics

- Subject specific lectures/ tutorial sessions to introduce knowledge and skills on discipline specific research methods to support the final project.
- Understand and critique research publications regarding themes around sustainability.
- The need for, and importance of, research ethics.

This content will be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the legal, moral and financial changes in professional standards and practice.

Overview of Summative Assessment

Module learning outcomes	Assessment	Word count or equivalent	Weighting
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4	Assessment 1	2,500 words max	100%

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Module Pass Mark (as a weighted average of all assessments): 50%

Key Module Learning Resources

Core Sources and Texts

The core reading resources within each module will be provided via the specific Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) module pages and within the e-Library. Additional reference material and supplementary resources to support your studies are available through the University e-Library.

Module tools

Students will have access to study materials, dedicated academic support, student forums, and learning activities via an online learning platform (VLE).

The module page on the VLE is broken down into structured study weeks to help students plan their time, with each week containing a mixture of reading, case studies, videos/recordings and interactive activities to go through. Online webinars/seminars led by the Module Leader can be attended in real time and provide opportunities to consolidate knowledge, ask questions, discuss topics and work through learning activities together. These sessions are recorded to support students who cannot attend and to enable students to recap the session and work through it at their own pace. Module forums on the VLE provide further opportunities to discuss topics with other students, complete collaborative work and get extra help from the module team.

Professional online resources

The e-Library provides access to trusted, quality online resources, selected by subject specialists, to support students' study. This includes journals, industry publications, magazines, academic books and a dissertation/work-based library. For a list of the key industry specific and education resources available please visit [the VLE e-Library](#).

Other relevant resources

Access is also provided to further information sources that include the British Library and Open University UK catalogues, as well as providing a monthly current awareness service entitled, **Knowledge Foundations** – a compendium of news,

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research and resources relating to the educational sector and the Built Environment.

The module resource list is available on the module VLE page and is updated regularly to ensure materials are relevant and current.