

Module Details	
Module Title	Climate Issues: Trends, Impacts And Security Challenges
Module Code	PES7058-B
Academic Year	2022/3
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	28
Seminars	3
Tutorials	4
Directed Study	165

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Non-Standard Academic Year

Module Aims

To enable you to:

- a) Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the sciences (physical, biological, economic and social) of climate change and scenarios for future risks, and the likely impacts of climate change on societies and ecosystems in various parts of the world, including the UK, Europe and different developing country regions (including Africa, Asia, Americas, and low-lying states,); and of the relative reliability and uncertainty of the key aspects of recent authoritative international assessments, including those of the scientific Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the UK's Climate Science community;
- b) Develop a critical awareness of key concepts and approaches that are used to frame academic, policy and practitioner debates and to analyse climate change trends, impacts and security implications and challenges; and the significance and effectiveness of international agreements to mitigate and adapt to anthropogenic climate change;
- c) Increase your knowledge and understanding of national debates about risks of climate change in key states (including UK, USA, EU, Russia, China and India), and their recent influence on their government's perceived national interests and national security concerns relating to climate change ? including geo-strategic issues raised in the Arctic, Antarctic, transnational river basins, and elsewhere;
- d) Apply this advanced understanding and critical awareness to the analysis and assessment of the possible and likely implications for international security and for poverty, displacement and migration, stability, conflict and insecurity of climate change in fragile and conflict affected areas of the world, including Africa, Middle East and North Africa, and Asia; and the implications for policy by the UK and its international partners.

Outline Syllabus

The module starts with an introduction to, and initial analysis of, the science, impacts and possible implications of climate change for UK and international environment, economy, politics and security; placed in historical context of climate change history. It then examines the causes and likely and possible impacts of climate change, on the basis of the most up-to-date international scientific assessments, and the present knowledge and debates about their implications for human societies and ecosystems in different regions of the world. The range of policies, measures and technological advances that are available to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions are then reviewed, as is the development of international agreements and national action plans aiming to limit climate change and support efforts at adaptation.

The module then explores in some detail the possible implications for international, national and community level security, from the perspective of both the regions and peoples which are likely to be most severely affected and of the UK and its allies and partners which are likely not only to have to cope with climate change themselves but also to play major roles in responding to its impacts elsewhere in the world. In this context the module examines the national security debates and implications of likely climate change for relatively powerful states such as the UK, USA, Russia, China and India. It further examines the implications for poverty, displacement and migration, governance, conflict and security in the many fragile and conflict affected areas of the world, including sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Asia, and small island and low-lying developing states. There have been strong debates on these questions, and this course will critically examine and assess the evidence and arguments. Strategies to promote resilience of societies and regions against climate change impacts are examined, with case studies. Finally, the module explores the policy and capacity implications for the UK and its partners.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Teaching will be through a combination of lectures, seminars, class exercises and discussions, and short syndicate projects. Learning will develop through preparatory reading, participation in lectures, seminars, class discussions, guided study, coursework, and tutor support. Students will receive relevant pre-course readings, customised for the course. During the direct course itself, teaching and learning will be through a combination of lectures, discussions, group work and short syndicate projects, in an intensive four day period of teaching and learning at appropriate facilities on the University of Bradford Campus. Subsequently, students studying for this module will be allocated a personal tutor, who will guide and support their study and preparation of coursework for the remainder of this module.

All sessions will be presented by internationally recognised experts in the relevant field, including experienced and specialist academics at the University of Bradford and other UK Universities, but also prominent experts from the UK and international policy and practitioner communities. Formative assessment will be undertaken through feedback from class discussions, exercises and group work during the intensive course on campus. It will then be undertaken by individual academic tutor feedback on directed study and on planning and development of written work.

Summative assessment will be through a combination of a written presentation of the findings of a policy research project and of an academic essay. The written presentation of the analysis and conclusions of a short individual project will be on a policy-relevant question (authorised by the module co-ordinator), presented in a format appropriate for use in a presentation of up to 25 minutes to an expert practitioner audience (for example, in the form of a Powerpoint presentation plus speakers notes and bibliography). The essay will be 3,300 ? 3,500 words in length addressing a question (selected from a list authorised by the module co-ordinator) relating to Climate Change trends, impacts and security challenges. All participants are provided with teaching materials (including copies of presentations) during the course, and at the end of the course receive a certificate of participation.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework	3300-3500 words: Preparation and written presentation of desk research and analysis-based essay addressing set question.	85%
Summative	Presentation	25 minute briefing: Individual policy analysis project, in presentational format with supporting notes and bibliography	15%
Formative	Self and Peer Assessment	Class discussions; feedback on short group exercises, plus tutor individual feedback on directed study and planned essay outlines	N/A
Formative	Coursework - Written	Feedback on plans for short policy research project and on outline for written presentation on findings	N/A

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

