## KentVision Code and title of the module

ANTS6210 The Human-Environment Nexus: Contemporary Issues and Critical Approaches

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Human and Social Sciences, School of Anthropology and Conservation

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 6

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

15 (7.5 ECTS)

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

#### Compulsory to the following courses:

* BA Environment and Sustainability

***Optional to the following courses:***

* BSc Anthropology
* BSc Biological Anthropology
* BSc Human Geography, BSc Wildlife Conservation
* BA Environmental Social Science
* BA Social Anthropology

Also available as an elective module

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Demonstrate a sound understanding of a number of contemporary issue and debates relating to how the human-environment interface is understood and theorised.

8.2 Critically describe and comment on emerging approaches informing environmental and social anthropology, such as environmental humanities, post-humanism, the ontological turn, new animism studies, and the relationship between energy and society.

8.3 Think critically about and engage in-depth with a challenging range of perspectives that characterise the rapidly evolving fields of human ecology and environmental anthropology.

8.4 Understand in depth and critically reflect on the epistemic and methodological challenges of examining issues relating to human-environment relations, their dynamism and scale.

8.5 Apply meaningful insights and critical understanding in a manner that contributes to a more sophisticated and coherent understanding of the complex nature of todays’ cascading socio-ecological crises.

## The intended generic learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Demonstrate ability and confidence in analytic skills.

9.2 Form a coherent, logical and well-supported argument based upon selection a reading and synthesis of scholarly sources.

9.3 Work independently to identify, manage and make use of scholarly written sources and primary material in their work.

9.4 Facilitate group discussion and peer-to-peer learning.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

This module emerges out of the fact that the human-environment nexus has, in recent years, become an area of intense debate and polarisation, both social and intellectual; a space in which many of the core categories within the natural and social sciences - be these the ‘nature’, ‘society’, ‘humanity’ or indeed ‘life’- are being reconsidered and reconfigured. By engaging with recent debates and case studies from different regions it seeks to critically assess, compare and contrast some of the key contemporary, at times controversial, debates that engage collaborators, colleagues and critics from diverse academic specialties and perspectives. Through the use of lectures, and student-led seminar discussions focused on specific papers and case studies, it seeks to review and compare some of the concepts and approaches used to research, analyse and theorise the intersecting and mutually constituting material, symbolic, historical, and political dimensions of human-plant and human-environment relations. It also seeks to assess how such an understanding can better guide our attempts to address the complex socio-environmental problems facing our world and our future by explicitly addressing the issue of complexity and scale, both in space and over time.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 128

Contact Hours: 22

Total: 150

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods

Essay (3000 words) (60%)

Book Review (2000 words) (40%)

Both assessments must be passed to achieve the learning outcomes of this module

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like for like

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | **8.1** | **8.2** | **8.3** | **8.4** | **8.5** | **9.1** | **9.2** | **9.3** | **9.4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lectures** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |
| **Seminars** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Private Study** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | **8.1** | **8.2** | **8.3** | **8.4** | **8.5** | **9.1** | **9.2** | **9.3** | **9.4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Essay** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |
| **Book review (based on group discussion)** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

This module exposes students to a wide variety of concepts and materials from across different regions of the globe and intellectual traditions. The reading list is comprised of research produced by internationally acclaimed scholars, who contribute to the internationally shared public concerns of our times. These two elements are central to the internationalisation dimension of this module and contribute to the pedagogical cultivation of global citizenship.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | **New/Major/Minor revision** | **Start date of delivery of (revised) version** | **Section revised (if applicable)** | **Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 31.10.22 | Minor | Sep 2023 | 7, 13.1 and 13.2 | No |