Module Title	Planning, Politics and Theory
Course Title	PG Dip Town and Country Planning
	MA Town and Country Planning
	MA Urban Design and Planning
	PG Dip Chartered Town Planner
	MA Chartered Town Planner
	MA Chartered Town Planner (Urban Design)
School	□ ASC □ ACI □ BEA □ BUS □ ENG □ HSC ☒ LSS
Division	UELS
Parent Course (if	MA Town and Country Planning
applicable)	
Level	7
Module Code	UEL_7_PPT
(showing level)	
JACS Code	
(completed by the	
QA)	
Credit Value	20 credit points
Student Study Hours	Contact hours: 36
	Student managed learning hours: 164
Pre-requisite	None
Learning	
Co-requisites	None
Excluded	None
combinations	
Module co-ordinator	Name:
	Email:
Short Description	This module provides a critical understanding of theories and ideas that
(max. 100 words)	have been used to justify spatial planning practice historically and in the
	current era. The political nature of spatial planning is a key focus.
Aims	The aim of this module is to provide students with a critical
	understanding and knowledge of the history of spatial planning and the
	theoretical, philosophical and economic ideas that have been, and
	continue to be used, to inform practice and interventions into the built
	and social environment. The module also discusses the ethics of spatial
	planning practice.
Learning Outcomes	At the end of the module students will be able to:
(4 to 6 outcomes)	
	Critically analyse the theories and concepts developed and used
	by planners to justify their actions.
	2. Critically assess the contrasting theoretical and conceptual ideas
	developed in academia to interpret the nature of spatial planning

	and its forms across state-led, private sector and local
	communities.
	3. Evaluate the political nature of spatial planning and the impact of
	contrasting political ideologies on planning practice.
	4. Critically analyse the ethical dimensions and implications of
	spatial planning interventions into the social, built and natural
	environment.
Employability	This module provides invaluable insight into how planning has been
	understood both in terms of its substance and its procedures. Employers
	value greatly planners' ability to think critically and constructively about
	the purposes of planning and provide coherent rationales for planning
	interventions. How such rationales relate to legislation and community
	needs and aspirations is a key component of this module and a vital
	attribute in planners, recognised by all planning organisations and
	employers. The ability to draw sensibly and effectively on past legislative,
	institutional and professional experience is a vital attribute in planners,
	recognised by all planning organisations and employers.
Teaching and	Contact hours includes the following:
learning pattern	(please click on the checkboxes as appropriate)
	☐ Group Work
	⊠ Seminars □ Tutorial
	☐ Laboratory ☐ Workshops
	☐ Fieldwork
	☐ Practical ☑ VLE Activities
Indicative content	The module combines an historical focus with exploration of
	contemporary themes and issues. Theory for, in and of planning. The
	political nature of spatial planning; Ethical debates and spatial planning;
	Philanthropic and government responses to the ills of the modern
	industrial British city. Garden and high rise cities. Contemporary and
	historical roles of the planner: as public health engineer, urban designer,
	technocrat, advocate, corporate strategist, political activist.
	Problematizing urban regeneration and renewal. Planning and
	community/neighbourhood participation. The shift to spatial planning.
	Current issues in planning theory. Theoretical critiques of planning
	practice.
Assessment method	Formative Assessment
(Please give details –	Feedback on seminar discussions
of components,	
weightings,	Summative Assessment:
sequence of	Students will write a 5,000 word essay (100%) which presents a critical
components, final	and reflective engagement with the key themes raised by the module,
component)	including theoretical, practical and ethical issues concerning economic
	viability.

Indicative Sources	
(Reading lists)	Allmendinger, P (2009) <i>Planning Theory</i> (2nd edition), Basingstoke: Palgrave Fainstein and Defilippis (eds) (2015) <i>Readings in Planning Theory</i> , Oxford: Wiley Blackwell Taylor, N (1998) <i>Urban Planning Theory</i> , London: Sage Publications Ward, S V (2004) <i>Planning and Urban Change</i> , London: Sage Hall, P (2014) <i>Cities of Tomorrow</i> Oxford: Wiley Sandercock, L (2003) <i>Mongrel Cities: Cosmopolis II</i> , Continuum, London
Other Learning	The University's Moodle Virtual learning Environment (VLE) is a key portal
Resources	for on-line access to additional resources and tutor dialogue.