

Module Title:	Environmentally Sustainable Food Systems
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	8
Module Delivered In	2 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	This module will be delivered using a learner-centred approach with a strong emphasis on the sustainability of current practices in day-to-day agriculture. A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be used such as lectures, guest lecturers, group workshop, case-studies, group discussions and group activities.
Module Aim:	The aim of the module is to develop learners critical thinking of the root causes of unsustainable practice, alternative models of agriculture and nutrition, and propose and appraise innovative systems.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Comprehend the key historical, ethical, economic, social, cultural and political dynamics leading to current systems
LO2	: Critique the complex interrelations between agriculture, food and public health paradigms within the food supply chain at both global and local scale
LO3	Re-evaluate and re-conceptualise the current agriculture and food system and the narrow framework in which it operates
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content

Food Production Systems

Evolution of Food Production Systems, The Sociology of Agriculture and Food, Food Safety and Security, Food and Agriculture Policy, Issues and Challenges, Local and Global Food Systems, etc.

The Impact of Food Production

Production within Planetary Limits, Food Quality and Nutrient Density, Product (Carbon) Life Cycle and Global Trade, Environmental Impact of Food and Food Processing, etc.

Food Supply Chain

Introduction to Food Supply Chains (FSC), Food Packaging and Food Waste reduction/management Impacts of climate change, Food Shelf Life, Urban Food, By-products, etc.

Assessment Breakdown

	%
Continuous Assessment	40.00%
Project	60.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Examination	In class assessment examining the students understanding of Learning Outcomes.	1,2,3	40.00	n/a

Project

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Project	Research report on an aspect relating to the sustainability of current food production systems and measures to address these.	1,2,3	60.00	n/a

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
Workload Type	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture	12 Weeks per Stage	2.00
Lecturer-Supervised Learning (Contact)	12 Weeks per Stage	1.00
Independent Learning	12 Weeks per Stage	3.00
Total Hours		72.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_EFARG_B	Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Agricultural Systems Engineering	8	Elective
CW_SWSFM_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	8	Mandatory