Sustainable Development Goals and Policy Evaluation:
Global Development One Target at a Time

Module Coordinator	**Prof Carol Newman, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy**
What will you learn from this Elective?	In 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development set out 17 Sustainable Development Goals which provide a roadmap for addressing the key global challenges that the world is facing including, poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Combined the SDGs aim to leave no-one behind. The aim of this module is to introduce students to the SDGs, the practical ways in which policy aims to address them and how the success of these policies in progressing the Goals can be measured and evaluated.
Student Workload	125 hours in total • 25 hours of online learning and engagement including talks and interactive discussion on the SDGs including various case studies of project conducted by researchers in the Trinity Impact Evaluation unit (TIME) • 20 hours of reading • 35 hours of group work • 30 hours of assessment preparation • 15 hours of reflective writing
Assessment Components	*On-line discussion (40%)*: At the end of each video a set of readings will be assigned and a reflection question will be posed. Each student prepares a response of between 200 and 500 words that is posted to an on-line forum. Students are also encouraged to engage with their peers in a discussion on the topic through the platform. *Group project and presentation (40%)*: Students will be randomly assigned across disciplines to groups of 5. Together they will choose a SDG and develop a hypothetical policy intervention that could be used to address the goal. They will design a method of evaluating the impact of their proposed intervention. The key deliverable will be a group presentation that the students video and submit to the module coordinator. *Individual written report (20%):* Individual written report (approx. 1,000 words)to a specific question relating to the content of the project/presentation that demonstrates an understanding of impact evaluation methods and their challenges and synthesizes the potential policy implications of the project and contribution to the attainment of the SDG in focus.
Indicative Reading List	Each topic will have a specific paper or report associated with it that will be provided to students through the on-line platform. Background references include: Banerjee, Abhijit and Duflo, Esther, 2007. "The economic lives of the poor" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(1), 141-167. Duflo Esther and Abhijit Banerjee, "The experimental approach to Development economics" BREAD Working Paper No. 196, December 2008 Mullainathan, Sendhil, Eldar Shafir and Marianne Bertrand. 2004. "A Behavioral Economics View of Poverty" *The American Economic Review*, 94 (2), 419-423