



ENVS818

Environmental Planning

S2 Evening 2019

Dept of Environmental Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Co-convenor

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By Appointment

Co-convenor

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By Appointment

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MEnv or MSc or MEnvEd or MEngMgt or MEnvMgt or MEnvStud or MEnvPlan or MPlan or MSusDev or MWldMgt or MMarScMgt or MSocEntre or GradDipEnv or GradCertEnv or GradCertSusDev or GradDipSusDev or GradCertEnvPlan or MConsBiol or GradDipConsBiol or MSclInnovation

Corequisites

Co-badged status

ENV5718

Unit description

This unit focuses on the issues influencing environmental planning and policy in Australia. It examines contemporary policy and practice affecting areas such as strategic land, biodiversity, water, mining and transport planning. There is a strong emphasis on the development and enhancement of critical analysis and constructive review of plans and policies and the development of practical skills used and required by professionals working in the field of environmental management and planning. The unit includes a field trip where students will learn and apply a range of techniques that are used to develop urban policies and plans.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions

Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry

Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions

Write for different target audiences

Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Theory and Practice	15%	No	20/08/2019
Policy Briefing Report	40%	No	01/10/2019
Environmental Assessment	45%	No	29/10/2019

Theory and Practice

Due: **20/08/2019**

Weighting: **15%**

The purpose of this assessment is to 1) test your knowledge of the theory and practice of land-use planning as covered in the first three weeks of semester, and 2) test your application of planning skills covered in the master class.

This assignment has 2 parts. The first is to complete a multiple choice quiz based on the theory presented in lectures, readings and practical classes in Weeks 1-3. This will be undertaken online via the iLearn site and therefore it is required that students bring a device (laptop, tablet) to class to complete this part of the assessment. Note this is a closed book task.

The second part is a test of practical skills including the use of scale rulers, plan and map reading, and demonstration of the three dimensional site controls as used to control development in Local Environmental Plans.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions
- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry

Policy Briefing Report

Due: **01/10/2019**

Weighting: **40%**

The purpose of this assessment is to deepen your understanding in one area of environmental policy. You will apply research and critical analysis skills and extend your writing and communication skills. You will also apply your insights within an organisational context by way of evaluating the practical and policy implication.

You are required to write a briefing report for the senior executive group in a NSW local council on an environmental policy or report.

Your topics can include:

- Coastal management
- Greener and sustainable cities
- Transport and planning
- New planning horizons

You may like to choose your own topic and if so you **MUST** see and have this agreed by the unit convenor prior to commencing your assignment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Environmental Assessment

Due: **29/10/2019**

Weighting: **45%**

This is a problem based learning and group (maximum of 4) assessment.

The aim of this assessment is to strategically assess the environmental impact of a specific activity on the environment. This will test your application of environmental and planning knowledge, problem based skills and working in a group. You will need to understand the legal requirements relevant to the development of a review of environmental factors, consider the specific site impacts and broader planning and policy landscape and contextualise your proposal and argue for its support. This assessment will build on the knowledge, monitoring and observations you gain from the field trip.

This assessment also contains a personal reflection that is designed to consider your experience working in a team, applying your knowledge to problem based learning and how the unit has prepared you for this task.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions
- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
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- Write for different target audiences
- Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Delivery and Resources

This unit comprises combined evening lecture and tutorials (3 hours) with accompanying field trips.

There is a mandatory full day field trip on 24 August. It is also planned that the unit will include 2 additional field trips in class time over the semester.

Unit Schedule

Wk	Date	Lecture topic	Practical Classes	Assessment Task
1	30 July	Unit overview and introduction to environmental planning (KD)	Overview of course and assessments Future planning and group dynamics (KD)	
2	6 Aug	Environmental strategic planning and policy (PD)	Environmental policy and land use zones (PD)	
3	13 Aug	Metropolitan, district and local planning (PD)	Local government land use planning and community based planning (PD)	

4	20 Aug	Overview for the field trip (Swim in Parramatta River project) Planning skills masterclass - plan reading, planning controls and scale rulers (PD)	In class skills and multiple choice test from weeks 1-3	Assessment 1 (15%)
	24 Aug	Saturday Field Trip – Meadowbank and Brays Bay (KD/PD)		
5	27 Aug	Adaptive planning - urban water planning (RM)	Review of city scale urban water strategic plans (RM)	
6	3 Sept	Integrated urban water planning - land development, liveability and infrastructure (RM)	Sub-regional and precinct planning (RM)	
7	10 Sept	Greening cities and urban ecology (PD)	Subdivision planning tutorial (PD)	
Mid-Semester Break				
8	1 Oct	Sustainable building design (KD)	Green city design tools (KD)	Assessment 2 - Briefing Report (40%)
9	8 Oct	Integrated coastal zone planning and management (KD)	Coastal management tutorial (KD)	
10	15 Oct	Field Trip: Barangaroo (KD)	Exploring cities and their relationship to the coast (KD)	
11	22 Oct	Mining (KD)	Field skills masterclass - lot planning and riparian assessment (KD)	
12	29 Oct	No class in lieu of field trip		Assessment 3 - REF (45%)
13	5 Nov	Field Trip: North Sydney Coal loader Open space planning and green infrastructure (PD)	Open space assessment matrix exercise Unit wrap-up (PD)	

Learning and Teaching Activities

Planning Skills Masterclass

In class exercise on how to understand and interpret local environment plans

Field Skills Masterclass

On campus exercise on different instruments used in environmental assessments and the preparation of an REF

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
- Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions
- Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Assessment tasks

- Theory and Practice
- Policy Briefing Report
- Environmental Assessment

Learning and teaching activities

- In class exercise on how to understand and interpret local environment plans
- On campus exercise on different instruments used in environmental assessments and the preparation of an REF

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions
- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
- Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions
- Write for different target audiences
- Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Assessment tasks

- Theory and Practice
- Policy Briefing Report
- Environmental Assessment

Learning and teaching activities

- In class exercise on how to understand and interpret local environment plans
- On campus exercise on different instruments used in environmental assessments and the preparation of an REF

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions
- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
- Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions
- Write for different target audiences
- Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Assessment tasks

- Theory and Practice
- Policy Briefing Report
- Environmental Assessment

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand and critically assess environmental plans and policies across multiple scales and jurisdictions
- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
- Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions

Assessment tasks

- Policy Briefing Report
- Environmental Assessment

Learning and teaching activities

- In class exercise on how to understand and interpret local environment plans
- On campus exercise on different instruments used in environmental assessments and the preparation of an REF

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply environmental and planning law and policy and planning skills to the decision-making process of government and industry
- Write for different target audiences
- Develop individual and group writing and research skills

Assessment tasks

- Policy Briefing Report
- Environmental Assessment

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and critically assess the interests, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in environmental planning decisions
- Write for different target audiences

Assessment task

- Environmental Assessment

Changes from Previous Offering

This unit introduces new content related to the management of the coastal environment reflecting student interest in this topic area. This has meant some content, such as mining has been excluded from the lectures. If students are interested in these topics their knowledge can they can be pursued within the major policy assessment task.

The full day field trip has shifted location from western Sydney to the Greater Parramatta and

Olympic Park precinct and the final assessment task will be based on a site and proposed activity in this area.

A new in class field trip is proposed for this year to Barangaroo. This will complement the content and final class visit to the Coal Loader site at North Sydney.