BIOL8750

Contemporary Conservation in Australia

Session 1, Infrequent attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Biological Sciences

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MBiotech or MBioBus or GradDipBiotech or MConsBiol or GradDipConsBiol or GradCertConsBiol or MEnv or MEnvPlan or GradDipEnv or MMarScMgt or MSusDev or GradDipSusDev or MPlan or MSc or MScInnovation or MScInnovationBioConsMgmt or BBioConsMConsBiol

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides a current perspective of the values, threats to existence and conservation of Australian wildlife. The special characteristics of the Australian biota (plants, animals and other organisms) and the key threatening processes are discussed as well as its global and historical context. The role of biological research in informing conservation management is explored, and how conservation-based research is communicated and interpreted. An emphasis is placed on case studies in conservation biology with critical analysis of conservation successes and failures.

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:

ULO1: Describe theoretical concepts in conservation biology and current conservation issues in Australia and abroad

ULO2: Communicate scientific research and issues in conservation to various target audiences in verbal and written form

ULO3: Evaluate literature on conservation issues within peer-reviewed scientific literature and present them in the popular media

ULO4: Identify how research in conservation biology influences environmental management practices and assess how effectively this is undertaken

ULO5: Demonstrate a capacity for undertaking literature-based research into key topics in conservation biology and synthesising the current state-of-knowledge

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult iLearn for revised unit information.

Find out more about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and potential impacts on staff and students

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Attendance at weekly lectures and tutorials is highly encouraged to enable face-to-face discussions with the invited speakers, interact with other students and enhance your learning experience. The lectures in this unit are entirely comprised of invited expert researchers who are active and renown in their fields, offering an excellent opportunity to connect with a diversity of researchers and expand knowledge.

Students will need access to a computer and basic office software (e.g. Microsoft Office or OpenOffice) to complete assessment tasks. An Internet browser will also be required to search for background information, for assignments and to complete online exercises and enable online course participation. Some tutorials may require a computer, which may be provided if needed. Course content and discussion boards etc. will be available through iLearn

The set, **compulsory** text required for this unit is: _Austral Ark: The State of Wildlife in Australia and New Zealand (2015) Eds. A Stow, N Maclean, G. Holwell. Cambridge University Press._ The text book is available for purchase on campus at the Co-op bookstore and an e-version is available via MQ's library.

Other useful references:

Attiwill, P. & B. Wilson, Ecology: an Australian perspective. Oxford University Press, New York. 648 pp.

Burgman, M. and Lindenmayer, D. (1998): Conservation Biology for the Australian

Environment. Surrey Beatty & Sons, Sydney

Krebs, C.J. 1994. Ecology: the experimental analysis of distribution and abundance. 4th ed., Harper, New York. 800 pp

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult iLearn for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week	Date	Topic	Lecturer	Email	Autral Ark Chapter
1	24/2/20	Introduction to conservation in Australia and Unit summary	Jaco Le Roux/ Dave Nipperess	david.nipperess@mq.edu.au	1 to 3
2	2/3/20	Groundwater life and its conservation	Grant Hose	grant.hose@mq.edu.au	24
3	9/3/20	Plant invasions and conservation	Rachael Gallagher	rachael.gallagher@mq.edu.au	6 to 7
4	16/3/20	Biological control	Jaco Le Roux	jaco.leroux@mq.edu.au	6 to 7
5	23/3/20	Animal invasions and Australian biodiversity	Rick Shine	rick.shine@mq.edu.au	TBA
6	30/3/20	Applying evolution and genetics to Australian conservation	Rachael Dudaniec	rachael.dudaniec@mq.edu.au	other
7	6/4/20	Urban ecology and biodiversity conservation	Alessandro Ossola	alessandro.ossola@mq.edu.au	21
BREAK					
8	27/4/20	Impacts of climate change on flora and fauna	Linda Beaumont	linda.beaumont@mq.edu.au	4
9	4/5/20	Environmental monitoring and biodiversity assessment	Anthony Chariton	anthony.chariton@mq.edu.au	various
10	11/5/20	Australian reptile conservation and management	Adam Stow	adam.stow@mq.edu.au	17
11	18/5/20	Marine protected areas in Australia	David Slip	dslip@zoo.nsw.gov.au	21

| 12 | 25/5/20 | Unit summary and feedback | Jaco Le Roux | jaco.leroux@mq.edu.au | none |
| 13 | 1/6/20 | Bush Heritage Australia – a collaborative approach to Nature Conservation | Rebecca Spindler | rebecca.spindler@bushheritage.org.au | TBA |

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). 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.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the 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).

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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

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.