ENVS8034

Environmental Research Report

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Tim Ralph
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Kerrie Tomkins
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
(Admission to MEnv or MSusDev or MEnvMMarScMgt or MEnvMSusDev or MPH or
MConsBiolMEnv or MScInnovationEnvSc) and 40cp at 8000 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
With the Environmental Research Report unit students will learn the fundamentals of research
processes within the interdisciplinary area of environmental studies. Students will gain
comprehensive understanding of research methods applied to a selected environmental
subject area and evaluate research problems through a systematic review approach. Students
will present the research outcomes to audience specialized in the field and develop
application for a project in the majoring research discipline.

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: Independently design an individual research project

ULO2: Demonstrate understanding in specialised experimental and analytical research
methods applicable to conduct environmental research project

ULO3: Apply the principles of data collection and synthesis of information through
systematic review methods

ULO4: Effectively communicate the scientific outcomes both verbally and in writing

ULO5: Scope an independent research project within budget allocation

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

General Assessment Information
Assessment Criteria

Assessment at Macquarie University is standards-based, as outlined in the Assessment Policy. This means that your work will be assessed against clear criteria, and these criteria will be made available when the assessment tasks are released to you on iLearn.

Submission of Assessments

Your two major assignments must be submitted online through Turnitin. Links for the submission of each assignment will be available on iLearn. The due dates for all assessment tasks are not negotiable. If you have commitments that will significantly impact your study during the session then you must plan for this in advance as part of an effective individual study plan and you may need to contact the unit convenor for advice.

Marking of Assessments

Your two major assignments will be marked through Turnitin and feedback will be noted on the assignment. *Do not* submit your assignments via email or in hard copy. Your grades will be returned using the Grades Report on iLearn. Grades from your quizzes and the exam will also be made available on iLearn.

Penalties for Late Assessments

The penalty for late submission of assessments in this unit is *ten percent (10 %) of the assessment value per day*, calculated from the due time and date. This means that if the assignment is worth a total of 30 marks (or 30 % of the unit) you will lose 3 marks for each day late. The penalty will be applied over weekdays and weekends unless you have been granted an extension for the assignment prior to the due date.

Extensions for Assessments

To obtain an extension for an assessment task, you will need to follow the formal process as outlined in the Special Consideration Policy, and you must provide appropriate supporting documentation (e.g. medical certificate - see advice for Special Consideration requests). The

final decision regarding the granting of an extension and/or a late penalty lies with the unit convenor/lecturer responsible for the assignment. Permission for extension must be sought **well before the due date** unless this is absolutely impossible. Let us know of problems in advance or as soon as possible, not after the event: we are likely to be much more sympathetic and flexible in our requirements if you follow this advice.

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

Classes

The class timetable can be found through the Timetable portal.

In week 1 there will be a 3 hour class which will include an introduction to the unit, and principles for the literature review, conducting original research and budgeting for research projects. During the following weeks there will be regular supervisory contact to discuss the project in groups and/or individually. The unit convenor will allocate supervision meeting times to all students.

Students are expected to allocate 12 hours per week of their workload towards this unit to successfully deliver the assignments.

Resources

Students are expected to source original peer-reviewed literature relevant for their topic of choice for the methodological review and research report. Databases to be used to search literature include:

- Macquarie University Library http://multisearch.mq.edu.au/
- ISI Web of Knowledge http://isiknowledge.com/
- Scopus http://www.scopus.com/home.url
- Science Direct http://www.sciencedirect.com/science
- Google Scholar https://scholar.google.com.au/

The following are examples of journals where high impact articles in the discipline of environmental sciences are published:

- Environmental Science and Technology
- Environmental Health Perspectives
- Remote Sensing of Environment
- Energy and Environmental Science
- Global Environmental Change

- Science of the Total Environment

- Environmental Pollution

- Atmospheric Environment

- Journal of Environmental Management

- Environment International

- Environmental Research Letters

- Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment

- International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

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.