



GEOP3000

Environmental Justice in the Anthropocene

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Macquarie School of Social Sciences

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Andrew McGregor

andrew.mcgregor@mq.edu.au

Contact via email

Lecturer

Jessica McLean

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Contact via email

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The Anthropocene is a proposed new geological epoch in which humanity is driving planetary change. This unit explores how environmental decision making and planning processes can be made more just in the context of the Anthropocene. It draws on perspectives from environmental justice, a field of research and activism focused on addressing the social and geographic inequities associated with environmental change. Environmental justice highlights how responsibility for, and the burdens of, environmental degradation are unevenly distributed across space and scale, and divided between and within social categories such as race, class, gender, ethnicity and species. Environmental justice and decision-making are analysed through a series of case studies that are presented by academic staff and environmental professionals. An important component of the unit focuses on developing analytical and practical skills for pursuing environmental justice, which requires the ability to synthesise geographic information from the social and physical sciences and engage with multiple stakeholders, decision making tools, and forms of communication. The unit makes the relationships between justice and environment more visible in a world of rapid environmental change and provides pathways and tools for pursuing more just and resilient futures.

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: Assess environmental decisions or plans using environmental justice concepts or frameworks

ULO2: Synthesise geographic information from the social and physical sciences to identify environmental justice issues

ULO3: Describe and explain common environmental injustices associated with contemporary forms of socioecological change

ULO4: Investigate and appreciate diverse stakeholder perspectives using environmental justice tools and concepts to improve environmental decision-making

ULO5: Argue for improved environmental justice outcomes in a variety of written and spoken forms

General Assessment Information

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests. The criteria and standards for each assignment will be made available via iLearn.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Environmental Justice Assessment Report	40%	No	4 June 2021
Team based learning task	20%	No	Weeks 4, 6, 11
Environmental Justice Essay	20%	No	30 April 2021
Tutorial participation task	20%	No	All semester

Environmental Justice Assessment Report

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **4 June 2021**

Weighting: **40%**

Students are required to write a report that assesses a recent or upcoming environmental decision or plan from the perspective of environmental justice. The report is to be written as a brief for an environmental justice organisation (2500 words).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Assess environmental decisions or plans using environmental justice concepts or frameworks
- Investigate and appreciate diverse stakeholder perspectives using environmental justice tools and concepts to improve environmental decision-making
- Argue for improved environmental justice outcomes in a variety of written and spoken forms

Team based learning task

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 12 hours

Due: **Weeks 4, 6, 11**

Weighting: **20%**

Three team based learning multiple choice quizzes will take place to test student learning and build communication skills.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Assess environmental decisions or plans using environmental justice concepts or frameworks
- Synthesise geographic information from the social and physical sciences to identify environmental justice issues
- Investigate and appreciate diverse stakeholder perspectives using environmental justice tools and concepts to improve environmental decision-making
- Argue for improved environmental justice outcomes in a variety of written and spoken forms

Environmental Justice Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **30 April 2021**

Weighting: **20%**

This short essay asks students to explore an environmental justice concept and apply it to a case study (1000 words).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesise geographic information from the social and physical sciences to identify environmental justice issues
- Describe and explain common environmental injustices associated with contemporary forms of socioecological change
- Investigate and appreciate diverse stakeholder perspectives using environmental justice tools and concepts to improve environmental decision-making
- Argue for improved environmental justice outcomes in a variety of written and spoken forms

Tutorial participation task

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 0 hours

Due: **All semester**

Weighting: **20%**

Small tasks completed in tutorials related to unit content. Many of these activities will be scaffolding for the other assignments.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Assess environmental decisions or plans using environmental justice concepts or frameworks
- Synthesise geographic information from the social and physical sciences to identify environmental justice issues
- Describe and explain common environmental injustices associated with contemporary forms of socioecological change
- Investigate and appreciate diverse stakeholder perspectives using environmental justice tools and concepts to improve environmental decision-making
- Argue for improved environmental justice outcomes in a variety of written and spoken forms

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Each week you are expected to:

1. View the recorded lectures and any associated online material posted that week.
2. Complete assigned readings available on Leganto **prior** to the tutorials
3. Participate in tutorials where weekly readings will be discussed and activities conducted that build knowledge and skills.

In addition you are required to complete all assessment exercises.

GEOP3000 uses a wide variety of online resources, including an iLearn page where slides and audio from lectures will be posted, the Macquarie University Library for access to peer reviewed journal articles accessed via Leganto, and the web generally for news about, and discussions of, environmental justice and decision making. You will be required to have access to word processing technology and access to iLearn to complete and submit assignments.

Unit Schedule

Week	Lecture	Tutorial	Assessment
Introducing environmental justice			
1 (AM)	Environmental justice and decision making in the Anthropocene	No tutorials	
2 (AM)	Environmental Justice: theory, concepts and activism	Justice in the Anthropocene	
3 (JM)	Intersectional environments	Experiencing intersectionality	
4 (AM)	Environmental justice case study	Team based learning activity	Team based learning assessment
Environmental justice and decision making tools and approaches			
5 (AM)	Environmental decision making tools and approaches	Systems mapping	
6 (AM)	Environmental justice tools and approaches	Spatial analysis and storytelling	Team based learning assessment

Mid semester break			
Environmental justice in Australia			
7 (JM)	Environmental justice in Australia – planning and law	Analysing plans and decisions	
8 (JM)	Indigenous peoples and environmental decision-making	Indigenous resistance to environmental injustice	Environmental justice essay due
Environmental justice case studies and future pathways			
9 (AM)	Multispecies justice	Multispecies justice	
10 (AM)	Forest justice	Regional Forest Agreements	
11 (AM)	Climate justice	Climate justice	Team based learning assessment
12 (AM)	Food justice	Food justice	
13 (AM)	Just futures for the Anthropocene	Hopeful futures	Environmental justice assessment report due

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of

Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
17/02/2021	The TBL exercise and associated teaching activities have been moved from Week 3 to Week 4.