GEOP8060

Environmental Impact Assessment

Session 2, Special circumstances 2021

Macquarie School of Social Sciences

Contents

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Visit the MQ COVID-19 information page for more detail.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Sandie Suchet-Pearson
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Contact via email

Lecturer
Fiona Miller
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Contact via email

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MEnv or MEnvEd or MEnvMgt or MEnvStud or MEnvPlan or MPlan or GradCertEnvPlan or MWldMgt or MPPP or MMarScMgt or MEnvLaw or GradDipEnv or MSusDev or GradCertSusDev or GradDipSusDev or GradCertSIA or GradDipSIA or MConsBiol or GradDipConsBiol or MDevStud or MPASRMDevStud or MPPPMDevStud or MSc in (Biodiversity Conversation or Remote Sensing and GIS or Environmental Health)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Environmental impact assessment (EIA) is a central decision-making process in many planning systems, and sets the agenda for ongoing environmental management of developments. This unit will enhance students' understandings of what EIAs are and how they are carried out in Australia and internationally. The unit will discuss formal government environmental impact assessment processes as well as the diverse ways in which non-government entities mobilise to assess environmental impacts. In particular, it will focus on how Indigenous peoples understand the environment and the multiple ways in which environment health and well-being is assessed and asserted through Indigenous governance and planning processes.

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: Critically evaluate Environmental Impact Statements from the perspective of different knowledge systems.

ULO2: Evaluate, and propose improvements to, the design of Environmental Impact Assessment systems for development projects

ULO3: Scope environmental impacts through the lens of Indigenous governance and planning processes

ULO4: Analyse the social justice implications of Environmental Impact Assessment processes adopted in different nations

General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

New Late penalty statement Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests etc.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Online quizzes	15%	No	9:00 13/8/2021; 01/10/2021; 22/10/2021
Review of an EIA	30%	No	17:00 17/09/2021
Indigenous understandings of environmental health and well-being	55%	No	17:00 05/11/2021

Online quizzes

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 10 hours
Due: **9:00 13/8/2021; 01/10/2021; 22/10/2021**
Weighting: **15%**

3 online quizzes based on workshop preparation materials including lectures and readings

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate Environmental Impact Statements from the perspective of different knowledge systems.
- Evaluate, and propose improvements to, the design of Environmental Impact Assessment systems for development projects
- Scope environmental impacts through the lens of Indigenous governance and planning processes
- Analyse the social justice implications of Environmental Impact Assessment processes adopted in different nations

Review of an EIA

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours
Due: **17:00 17/09/2021**
Weighting: **30%**

Students will select an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to review. They will need to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the EIA and recommend areas for improvement. 1500 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate Environmental Impact Statements from the perspective of different knowledge systems.
- Evaluate, and propose improvements to, the design of Environmental Impact Assessment systems for development projects

Indigenous understandings of environmental health and well-being

Assessment Type [1]: Report
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 50 hours
Due: **17:00 05/11/2021**
Weighting: **55%**

Focusing on a case study, students will discuss Indigenous understandings of environmental health and well-being and make a case for how these understandings should be recognised and valued in governance and planning systems. 3000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate Environmental Impact Statements from the perspective of different knowledge systems.
- Scope environmental impacts through the lens of Indigenous governance and planning processes
- Analyse the social justice implications of Environmental Impact Assessment processes adopted in different nations

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[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

GEOP8060 will be delivered during 5 compulsory, full day (10am-4pm), face to face, on-campus workshops (weeks 1, 3, 6, 8, 11). There is no online alternative for these workshops. **Students need to attend all 5 workshops to successfully complete the unit.** If circumstances change due to COVID please see the iLearn website for instructions.

It is essential that you complete all the preparation activities prior to the workshop so you can full participate and contribute to workshop activities.

All learning material for this unit will be available via the iLearn website.

Technology used and required

Students need access to a computer and basic office software (eg. Microsoft Office or OpenOffice), and course web pages to complete assessment tasks.

Using the iLearn site

The Unit's iLearn site (available via https://ilearn.mq.edu.au) is fundamental to delivery of the Unit.

Unit Schedule

Week 1, Fri 30 July	Workshop 1: What is Environmental Impact Assessment: history and context	Preparation tasks: none	

Week 3, Fri 13 August	Workshop 2: Rethinking EIA	Preparation tasks: See iLearn for preparation tasks	Quiz 1 (5%) Quiz opens: 9am Friday 6 August Quiz closes: 9am Friday 13 August
Week 6, Fri 3 Sept	Workshop 3: EIA in practice	Preparation tasks: See iLearn for preparation tasks	
Semester break			Report 1: Review of an EIA (30%) Due 5pm Friday 17 September
Week 8, Fri 1 October	Workshop 4: Caring as Country	Preparation tasks: See iLearn for preparation tasks	Quiz 2 (5%) Quiz opens: 9am Friday 24 September Quiz closes: 9am Friday 1 October
Week 11, Fri 22 October	Workshop 5: Reclaiming Indigenous planning	Preparation tasks: See iLearn for preparation tasks	Quiz 3 (5%) Quiz opens: 9am Friday 15 October Quiz closes: 9am Friday 22 October
Week 13			Report 2: Indigenous understandings of environmental health and well-being (55%) Due 5pm Friday 5 November

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (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). 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.e

du.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.