



SSCI1030

Hope in the Climate Crisis

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Convenor/Lecturer/Tutor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Climate change is underway, and it is common to feel overwhelmed by the seemingly insurmountable challenges ahead. Amidst the pessimism, there are hopeful and sustainable possibilities for both people and planet. This unit equips students with a foundational understanding of interdisciplinary climate change studies via an introduction to the socio-ecological responses aimed at climate action and repair. Students will encounter transformative ideas and practices that reconsider the relationships between humans and more-than-human worlds, including Indigenous and decolonial perspectives. By examining how hope can be mobilised to address looming environmental challenges, students will develop a crucial understanding of how individuals, communities and organisations collectively contribute to positive changes in a time of climate crisis.

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: Explore and describe the socio-ecological dimensions of climate change.

ULO2: Identify and analyse diverse, innovative and hopeful approaches to climate change.

ULO3: Describe examples of Indigenous and decolonial perspectives on climate change and repair.

ULO4: Propose and communicate persuasive stories about actions to address climate change.

General Assessment Information

Where can you find more information about the assessment?

Please consult the folder in the SSCI1030 iLearn page labelled 'Assessment'. Here you will find more detailed instructions for each assessment item, marking criteria and rubrics. The assessment folder contains links to useful resources and guides. You are encouraged to post questions about assignments in the General Discussion Forum on the main iLearn page.

Submitting your assignments

Unless otherwise specified, you are required to submit your assignments by the time and date provided in this Unit Guide via the Turnitin link provided in iLearn. Please keep an electronic copy of your assignment and a record of your submission for reference.

Late assessment penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at **11.55pm**. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

Assessment marks and feedback

Individual marks and feedback to students will be provided via Turnitin. Feedback will include the rubric, intext comments and general feedback. You are encouraged to utilise these resources to develop your skills in subsequent assessments.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Scoping document	30%	No	30/03/2025
Creative project	40%	No	25/05/2025
Reflective writing	30%	No	08/06/2025

Scoping document

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **30/03/2025**

Weighting: **30%**

A scoping document on a climate topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explore and describe the socio-ecological dimensions of climate change.
- Identify and analyse diverse, innovative and hopeful approaches to climate change.

Creative project

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **25/05/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

A creative work on hope in the climate crisis.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explore and describe the socio-ecological dimensions of climate change.

- Identify and analyse diverse, innovative and hopeful approaches to climate change.
- Describe examples of Indigenous and decolonial perspectives on climate change and repair.
- Propose and communicate persuasive stories about actions to address climate change.

Reflective writing

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **08/06/2025**

Weighting: **30%**

Reflective writing on hopeful climate practice.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and analyse diverse, innovative and hopeful approaches to climate change.
- Describe examples of Indigenous and decolonial perspectives on climate change and repair.
- Propose and communicate persuasive stories about actions to address climate change.

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

SSCI1030 is available as in person/ on-campus (internal) or online-flexible (external) offerings depending on the stream you have enrolled in.

For on-campus students the unit is delivered as a 3 hour lecture/workshop. The classes comprise a mix of lecture, structured activities, small group work, student and guest presentations and discussion of the weekly readings. Some class time will be set aside for assignment preparation, individually and in groups. We encourage on-campus students to regularly attend class as workshop activities are linked to the assessment.

Online flexible (external) students will have access to the recorded lecture material in Echo360 and resources and activities are available each week on iLearn under the label "Online-flexible"

option". These activities are self directed and it is up to individual students to manage their time to undertake the work. We encourage online-flexible students to regularly engage with the weekly activities as they are linked to the assessment.

Unit readings can be accessed via Leganto. The Leganto link is located in the top right panel of the SSCI1030 iLearn main page. Please contact the Unit Convenors if you are having trouble accessing the readings as they are essential to your assignments and to the class discussions.

The SSCI1030 iLearn page contains additional resources which will be added to the site throughout the semester. Please make sure that you regularly check the iLearn page and your Macquarie University student email for updates and information regarding this unit.

Unit Schedule

Each weekly topic is structured around a question which will be explored in the lecture and workshop activities.

Week 1. Introduction - *why is climate change a social issue?*

Week 2. Storying climates 1 - *why do stories matter to climate change?*

Week 3. Storying climates 2 - *what is climate justice?*

Week 4. Decolonising climates 1 - *what do decolonial approaches to climate change mean in Australia?*

Week 5. Decolonising climates 2 - *how can we think otherwise about climate change?*

Week 6. Climate actions 1 - *can climate change be solved by markets?*

Week 7. Climate actions 2 - *can climate change be solved by technology?*

Week 8. Climate actions 3 - *can climate change be solved by governments?*

Week 9. Climate actions 4 - *can climate change be solved by activists?*

Week 10. Creative actions 1 - *can climate change be solved by artists?*

Week 11. Creative actions 2 - *how do we advocate for a better climate future?*

Week 12. Just transitions - *what are the key components of a just transition?*

Week 13. Reflections - *what is hope in the climate crisis?*

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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution 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 connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)

- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.

Unit information based on version 2025.03 of the [Handbook](#)