



GEOP8020

Healthy Places: Planning for Diversity, Equity and Wellbeing

Session 1, Online-flexible 2025

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Phoebe Everingham

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MEnv or MEnvEd or MEngMgt or MEnvMgt or MEnvPlan or MPlan or GCertEnvPlan or MEnvStud or MPH or MIntRel or MMarScMgt or MSusDev or GradDipEnv or GradDipSIA or GradCertSIA or GradCertSusDev or GradDipSusDev or MConsBiol or GradDipConsBiol or GradDipIntRel or MDevStud or MSc in (Biodiversity Conservation or Remote Sensing and GIS or Environmental Health) or PGDipSc in Biodiversity Conservation

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

As places where people live, work and play, neighbourhoods, cities and regions are vital to the health and wellbeing of diverse populations. Creating liveable, connected and vibrant communities is a policy imperative and a critical challenge for planning and governance. This unit explores issues of diversity, equity and wellbeing in relation to planning healthy places. It considers the physical and social environments that enable or constrain the creation of healthy places. Overall, students will gain practical knowledge of the diverse social, economic and spatial dynamics that shape diversity, equity and wellbeing in cities and regions and the policies and strategies that are used to plan and create liveable and healthy places.

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: Identify the drivers and dynamics of living in and planning for healthy places

ULO2: Critically analyse the relationship between health, wellbeing and place

ULO3: Demonstrate an advanced understanding of how healthy and liveable places are shaped by social equity and diversity

ULO4: Evaluate policies, plans and projects that seek to create and sustain healthy places

General Assessment Information

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-time 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 Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Poster	30%	No	06/06/2025
Healthy places essay	40%	No	11/04/2025
Literature review	30%	No	30/05/2025

Poster

Assessment Type ¹: Poster

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **06/06/2025**

Weighting: **30%**

Visual output evaluating a policy or plan that seeks to create healthy places.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the drivers and dynamics of living in and planning for healthy places
- Critically analyse the relationship between health, wellbeing and place
- Evaluate policies, plans and projects that seek to create and sustain healthy places

Healthy places essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **11/04/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

2500 word essay considering the relationship between healthy places and social equity with reference to a case study.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the drivers and dynamics of living in and planning for healthy places
- Critically analyse the relationship between health, wellbeing and place
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of how healthy and liveable places are shaped by social equity and diversity

Literature review

Assessment Type ¹: Literature review

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **30/05/2025**

Weighting: **30%**

Weekly literature review entries (total 2000 words) critically analysing the relationship between health, wellbeing and place.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the drivers and dynamics of living in and planning for healthy places
- Critically analyse the relationship between health, wellbeing and place
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of how healthy and liveable places are shaped by social equity and diversity
- Evaluate policies, plans and projects that seek to create and sustain healthy places

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

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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/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) 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 2025.01R of the [Handbook](#)