



ENVS8544

Environmental and Sustainability Consulting

Session 2, Online-scheduled-weekday 2026

School of Natural Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Anthony Chariton

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

80cp at 8000 level and Admission to MEnv or MEngProfEnvEng or MSusDev

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides students the opportunity to bring together what they have learned in other units through working in small teams to undertake environmental and sustainability consultancy projects for real clients. The real-life problems requested by clients are chosen to represent typical situations likely to confront graduates from our programs. The final report of each group will be expected to be of a high quality and equivalent to a consultant's report to a client. Students will learn to define and scope a project, understand the context, prepare a project proposal for a client, work with colleagues to complete the project, prepare a written report for the client, practice Indigenous ethics in consulting, and present the group's findings in person to the client. The unit is of value to students in environmental management, environmental planning, sustainable and sustainable development.

Learning in this unit enhances student understanding of global challenges identified by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ([UNSDGs](#)) Sustainable Cities and Communities; Climate Action; Life on Land

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: Apply broad environmental/sustainability knowledge to respond effectively to a client's project brief with a clearly defined and manageable project proposal.

ULO2: Demonstrate an ability to work cooperatively and professionally in a team to plan

and manage an environmental/sustainability reporting project.

ULO3: Produce a professional quality environmental/sustainability consultancy written report relevant to the client's situation and specifications.

ULO4: Prepare and present a professional quality oral and visual presentation and respond effectively to questions.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Project Report	60%	No	Wk 12	Individual and Group	No	Open
Presentation of Report	15%	No	Wk 13	Individual and Group	No	Observed
Project Proposal and Context	25%	No	Week 4	Individual and Group	No	Observed

Project Report

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 70 hours

Due: **Wk 12**

Weighting: **60%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

Produce a professional quality written environmental/sustainability consultancy report relevant to the client's situation and specifications

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to work cooperatively and professionally in a team to plan and manage an environmental/sustainability reporting project.
- Produce a professional quality environmental/sustainability consultancy written report relevant to the client's situation and specifications.

Presentation of Report

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Wk 13**

Weighting: **15%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

A summary of the report is presented orally with visual means; questions are answered

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Prepare and present a professional quality oral and visual presentation and respond effectively to questions.

Project Proposal and Context

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 4**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

Respond to client brief with a scoped project proposal, work plan and notional budget with context outlined

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply broad environmental/sustainability knowledge to respond effectively to a client's project brief with a clearly defined and manageable project proposal.

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Unit Schedule

Classes are not held every week as most weeks you will be working on your projects.

3 to 4 classes will be held over the semester in time/day allocated in your time table. Details about the specific weeks classes are held on are provided in iLearn

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.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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 2026.01R of the [Handbook](#)