



ENVS8205

Environmental Pollution

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Natural Sciences

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	9

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Vladimir Strezov

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Lecturer

Jaime Garcia Garza

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MEnv or MSc or GradDipEnv or GradCertEnv or MEnvPlan or MConsBiol or MPH or GradDipConsBiol or MPlan or MEngEnvSafetyEng or MScInnovationEnvSc or MSusDev or GradDipResFSE or GradCertResFSE

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on the scientific aspects of environmental pollution. The aims of the unit are to show how a number of major pollutants are released into the environment, how they react, move and impact the environment and human health. The presentation is set in the context of the science and management of environmental pollution. The unit includes assessment and treatment of problems in air and water pollution, global atmospheric change and environmental impact assessment.

Learning in this unit enhances student understanding of global challenges identified by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ([UNSDGs](#)) Good Health and Well Being; Climate Action

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: evaluate the sources and transformation of environmental pollutants to

understand and minimise their impacts on human health and ecosystems

ULO2: demonstrate skills for collection and analysis of raw data in environmentally significant terms to evaluate the state of environmental quality

ULO3: demonstrate modelling skills for environmental impact assessment of pollutant emissions to evaluate potential risks to environment and human health

ULO4: responsibly work in a team to collaboratively assess environmental problems of real life industrial emissions

ULO5: communicate environmental quality scientific data in a written format to inform management and public audiences

General Assessment Information

Assessment Criteria

Assessment at Macquarie University is standards-based, as outlined in the Assessment Policy. This means that your work will be assessed against clear criteria, and these criteria (e.g. in a rubric) will be made available when the assessment tasks are released to you on iLearn.

Submission of Assessments

All assessments must be submitted online through Turnitin unless otherwise indicated. Links for the submission of each assessment will be available on iLearn.

You should always check that you have uploaded the correct file. If you have a problem, please email the Unit Convenor with your correct file. You must also keep a copy of your assessments until the end of semester in case there is a problem with your submission. It is your responsibility to ensure that you can provide a copy of your assessment if requested.

Marking of Assessments

Assignments will usually be marked through Turnitin with grades provided through Gradebook on iLearn. Please do not submit your assessments via email or in hard copy unless requested.

We aim to return your assessment grades and feedback within two to three weeks of the date that you submitted it. We appreciate your patience and will advise you through iLearn when your marked assessments and feedback are available for viewing.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

Students enrolled in Session based units with written assessments will have the following university standard late penalty applied.

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 grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at **11:55 pm**. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For any late submission of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance

assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Quiz	40%	No	4 September and 30 October 2026	Individual	No	Observed
Report	30%	No	09/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Project	30%	No	15/11/2026	Individual and Group	No	Open

Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 24 hours

Due: **4 September and 30 October 2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The quiz will test knowledge and may be online or in-class.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate the sources and transformation of environmental pollutants to understand and minimise their impacts on human health and ecosystems
- demonstrate modelling skills for environmental impact assessment of pollutant emissions to evaluate potential risks to environment and human health

Report

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 23 hours

Due: **09/10/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

This assessment will consist of preparing a consulting report assessing environmental pollution data of a case study.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate the sources and transformation of environmental pollutants to understand and minimise their impacts on human health and ecosystems
- demonstrate skills for collection and analysis of raw data in environmentally significant terms to evaluate the state of environmental quality
- demonstrate modelling skills for environmental impact assessment of pollutant emissions to evaluate potential risks to environment and human health
- responsibly work in a team to collaboratively assess environmental problems of real life industrial emissions
- communicate environmental quality scientific data in a written format to inform management and public audiences

Project

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 23 hours

Due: **15/11/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

The project will involve modeling and assessment of environmental impacts of industrial operations.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate skills for collection and analysis of raw data in environmentally significant terms to evaluate the state of environmental quality
- demonstrate modelling skills for environmental impact assessment of pollutant emissions to evaluate potential risks to environment and human health
- responsibly work in a team to collaboratively assess environmental problems of real life industrial emissions
- communicate environmental quality scientific data in a written format to inform management and public audiences

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](#).

Delivery and Resources

Unit iLearn

This unit has an iLearn page that can be accessed through ilearn.mq.edu.au. It contains important information and other materials relating to the unit, including details and links for assessments.

Communication

The unit iLearn is the primary way that we communicate with you. Please check it regularly for announcements and posts. You are encouraged to use the Discussion Board on iLearn to post questions and generate discussion with other students. Please only email the convenor with private matters – all other questions should be posted on iLearn.

Unit Organisation

This unit is delivered in **modules/weekly topics**. The organisation of these is outlined in a detailed unit schedule which is available on iLearn.

Classes

The class timetable for this unit can be found through the Timetable portal. You should also check the unit schedule as some weeks may have other instructions or locations.

Workload

The expected workload for this 10-credit point unit is 150 hours of activity, comprising 80 hours on learning activities and 70 hours on assessment tasks.

Requirements to complete this unit satisfactorily

To complete this unit satisfactorily, you must:

1. Participate in the scheduled classes;
2. Complete all assessments; and
3. Achieve a pass grade or higher.

The descriptions for grades common to all coursework units offered by Macquarie University are outlined in Schedule 1 of the Assessment Policy.

Technology Used and Required

This unit will use iLearn and Echo360. See the [Instructions](#) on how to log in to iLearn and the iLearn quick guides for students which will help you:

- Getting started - Find out how to navigate and familiarise yourself with the iLearn

environment

- Activities - Learn how to effectively complete the activities required of you in iLearn
- Assignments and Gradebook - Find out how to submit assessments and view your grades using iLearn
- Online study tips - Studying online is a unique experience, learn how to navigate it here
- Discussion forums - Explore the different types, and features of discussion forums in iLearn
- Lecture recordings - Find out how to access lectures online, as well as the features available to you.

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

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Unit information based on version 2026.01R of the [Handbook](#)