ENV 267
Australian Environmental Futures
S2 Day 2013

Environment and Geography

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### General Information

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E7A 825

**Credit points**
3

**Prerequisites**
GEOS114(P) or ENV118(P) or GEOS118(P)

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**

**Unit description**
This interdisciplinary unit introduces and critically examines key environmental, social, economic, cultural and political processes and relationships that underpin environmental management and sustainability in urban, rural and remote Australia. Vital environmental and social issues, including water security, land and ecosystem conservation, population growth, urban development, and climate variability and environmental change, are considered in the context of integrated and adaptive approaches to management at a range of scales. The unit also explores fundamental concepts such as environmental justice, governance, decision making, and system connectivity, and encourages students to discover more about the past and present in order to contribute to improved environmental futures.
Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
2. Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
3. Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
4. Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.
5. Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
6. Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research.
7. Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9am, Thurs, 29th August. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Report</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9am, Mon, 14th October. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week 10 tutorial session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Sustainability Essay

Due: 9am, Thurs, 29th August. 2013
Weighting: 25%

This unit will provide students with background on the environmental context of the Australian continent, as well as concepts such as ‘sustainability’, ‘conservation’, ‘climate change’, and ‘environmental justice’ and will introduce a range of environmental issues and tools. Building on
this the first assessment task presents students with the opportunity to carry out independent research and review an environmental management case study in which they take personal interest. In particular, students have the chance to critically use their understanding of the environmental management contexts and issues in order to analyse the success, or potential for success, of a specific sustainability initiative in Australia.

ESSAY QUESTION
Choose an Australian-based sustainability initiative as a case study, and discuss the decision-making processes involved in its design and implementation. This will include identification of various stakeholders and an analysis of their relationships. In your conclusion, based on your understanding of the concept of ‘sustainability’, please address the level of success to date, or potential for success, of the project.

CHOOSING AN INITIATIVE
Each student within a tutorial group must have a different case study. This means that students must let their tutor know what their preferred project is as soon as possible to ensure they get their first preference.

At present there are various ‘sustainability’ projects across Australia. Students are encouraged to look at a number of examples before choosing a specific case for their essay. To help get things started, a number of suggestions have been listed below. Students are welcome to use one of these for the assignment, as long as they are the first in their tutorial to pick that case study. This list, however, is by no means definitive. Students are recommended to investigate other projects in which they take a personal interest.

Ideas for a case study can also come from some of the examples mentioned in lectures and tutorials, from course readings, from your general knowledge, news excerpts or web searches. You should take advantage of the freedom offered here to focus on something that really interests you and/or will be useful for your future study, portfolio, career etc. When you have an idea about what your case study may be, you will need to do some research to learn more about the decision-making processes surrounding the case study and then you need to make a decision as to if you have enough reliable information with which to write your essay. If not, either look for more data or try a different case study.

Note: a number of these projects are very large in scope, making it difficult to cover all aspects in a 1,500 word assignment. For example, the sustainability program at Macquarie University (Sustainability@MQ) includes: fair trade, biodiversity, energy and emissions, transport, waste, and water. Similarly, Sustainable Sydney 2030 has a number of ‘directions’. Students are asked to choose one particular dimension of the plan (i.e. biodiversity for the program at Macquarie, or transport for the Sustainable Sydney 2030 project) so that focused assessment and analysis can take place in the essay.

Examples of sustainability initiatives:
8. Sustainability@MQ: http://www.mq.edu.au/sustainability/

UNDEARTAKING RESEARCH

To be able to formulate an argument you need to conduct research. This will involve gathering data from secondary sources (things that other people have written) and should at the minimum include:

• General literature on decision-making processes and stakeholders;
• Specific literature on your case study.

Please take advantage of the references given in the unit guide and during lectures, but you will be particularly expected to develop your research skills by finding your own journal articles, book chapters, books and other references. Notes on doing research and writing (Writing and Literacy Information) will be addressed in the tutorials and made available in electronic format to all students on Blackboard. These resources will help take you through the research process and enable you to prepare for the writing of the essay.

EVALUATION

Marking criteria for the essay will be provided in the first few weeks of the semester. In your essay you need to formulate an argument in relation to the case study you have undertaken. Based on the evidence from your research, and your understanding of ‘sustainability’, do you think that the project has demonstrated a high level of success? Shows potential for success? Has not been very successful at all? What does success mean in the context of sustainability and different stakeholder perspectives? Whatever your argument is, you must also explain why. For example, do you consider the project unsuccessful because it has failed to consider the various stakeholders who may be affected by its implementation? The argument needs to be stated within the introduction, and it needs to be backed up with evidence in the body of the essay. Further, the argument needs to be revisited in the conclusion of your essay.

As part of your answer you will be analysing the power relationships that exist in and around your case study and environmental management. This will involve thinking about what the decision-making processes are, who the stakeholders are, how they do (or don’t) participate in the process and the relationship between scientific knowledge and other forms of knowledge.

Remember:
• Before you start writing read the notes on doing research provided;
• Be critical of material provided on the web in terms of its reliability and its potential bias;
• Your conclusion should restate your key points / arguments and should not introduce new material.

SUGGESTED READING

There are various literary sources which might be of use and interest. Below is a list to help get
things started; however, students will be required to investigate additional references that will support the main argument(s) of their essay. Students should make a particular effort to research their specific case study.


This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
• Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
• Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
• Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
• Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research.
• Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

Environmental Report
Due: 9am, Mon, 14th October. 2013
Weighting: 25%

An important aspect of environmental management is the ability to write a report which identifies scientific and environmental issues, the stakeholders involved, existing conditions, compounding factors, and potential outcomes of decisions and management approaches. This second assessment in ENV267 therefore aims to develop your environmental analysis and report writing skills through the use of independent and through an assessment of environmental management, monitoring and planning strategies.

You are required to write an environmental report which focuses on your allocated Faculty’s (Arts, Science, Human Sciences or Business and Economics) current Ecological footprint and a proposed strategy, in order for this Faculty to assist Macquarie University in achieving its goal of ‘One planet by 2030’. This will involve presenting arguments for why you choose the presented strategy, compared to other options – the argument should consider social, economic and environmental implications of your strategy.

A scientific report is a structured presentation of information arranged and interpreted for a particular purpose. Reports provide information, analyse data and/or make recommendations. For
this assignment you will need to write a report which provides information on the background of the environmental issue (ecological overshoot, increasing population etc.) and how your strategy will be implemented (short term and long term goals will be required here). Reports are generally fact-based and follow a theme or line of argument. In this report you will need to discuss some of the factors that affect the Faculty and evaluate these critically. A report which simply provides an array of data is inadequate, unless it addresses a purpose, provides relevant information and interprets that information for the target audience.

More information regarding this assessment will be given to you through the Unit webpage and in the tutorials

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
- Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
- Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
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- Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

Oral Presentation

Due: **Week 10 tutorial session**
Weighting: **10%**

You are required to deliver presentations (PowerPoint, Prezi etc.) for a 3-5 minute duration, on the Faculty examined in your environmental report. The presentation must briefly discuss the sustainability initiative, the current status of the Faculty and provide recommendations and models for assisting the “One Planet 2030” goal. You will take on the role of environmental consultant, competing to win the tender to recommend and implement the best strategies for achieving the target.

**EVAULATION**

Presentations will be 10% of the total course mark. You will be assessed on the following criteria:

**Content /Strategy** – the originality, achievability and ability to “sell” the strategy to your audience

**Clarity** - of the discussion points/arguments that are presented
Structure - how well is your presentation structured is it logical and coherent?
Style and timing - quality of slides or other forms of media used to convey your arguments and your ability to stay within the time limit.
Note: Sources must be acknowledged on slides. You will also be assessed on your ability to confidently answer any questions at the end of your presentation.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
• Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
• Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

Exam
Due: TBA
Weighting: 40%

The final exam comprises 40% of the unit assessment and will be held during the end of semester examination period (exact date to be advised). The examination will be 2 hours long. Details of the exam conditions will be discussed during the last lecture.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
• Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
• Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
• Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.

Delivery and Resources
Lecture 1 13:00 14:00 Wednesday E7B 100
Lecture 2 13:00 14:00 Thursday E6A 102
Workshop 1 16:00 17:00 Wednesday E7A 829
Workshop 2 17:00 18:00 Wednesday W5A 201
**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Schedule</th>
<th>Mixed Tutorials</th>
<th>Assessments and External Sessions</th>
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<td><strong>Part 1: Contexts of Environmental Management</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>31 Jul</td>
<td>L1 Introduction to ENV267 (SB)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 Aug</td>
<td>L2 Sustainability: origins and challenges (SB)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>7 Aug</td>
<td>L3 Australians and the environment (SB)</td>
<td>Tutorial 1: Research writing and communication skills</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8 Aug</td>
<td>L4 Decision-makers and stakeholders (SB)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>14 Aug</td>
<td>L5 Climate change and hydrology (TM)</td>
<td>On campus excursion - TM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15 Aug</td>
<td>L6 Australian landscape and soils (SB)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>21 Aug</td>
<td>L7 Climate Change; key challenges for Australia (TM)</td>
<td>Tutorial 2: The dynamics of decision making</td>
<td>External on-campus session 1: 9am to 5pm, Sat. 24th Aug(TM)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22 Aug</td>
<td>L8 Land degradation (SB)</td>
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**External Sessions**

- **External Session #1** - 9-5 pm, Saturday August 24th, 2013.
- **External Session #2** - 9-5 pm, Saturday October 26th, 2013.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Lecture Topics</th>
<th>Tutorial/Lab</th>
<th>Assignment Due Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>28 Aug</td>
<td><strong>L9</strong> Australian Response to Climate Change (TM)</td>
<td><strong>Tutorial 3</strong>: Environmental impact of flow diversions - Snowy (TM)</td>
<td>Assignment 1 due (25%): 9am, Thursday 29th August</td>
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<td>29 Aug</td>
<td><strong>L10</strong> River Catchment Management (SB)</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial 4</strong>: Analysis of channel change - Snowy (TM)</td>
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<td>4 Sep</td>
<td><strong>L11</strong> Coastal Management: challenges and responses (TM)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5 Sep</td>
<td><strong>L12</strong> Weather and extreme events (SB)</td>
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<td>11 Sep</td>
<td><strong>L13A</strong> Eco Footprinting (RH)</td>
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<td>12 Sep</td>
<td><strong>L14</strong> Big Australia? The Great Population Debate (RH)</td>
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<td><strong>Session 2 break:</strong> 13th September to 30th September</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L15</strong> Social and environmental values in the Murray-Darling Basin (SSP)</td>
<td><strong>Tutorial 6</strong>: Debating the population issue (SSP)</td>
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<td>3 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L16</strong> Feeding cities: consumption, growth and urban sustainability (SSP)</td>
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<td><strong>Part 3:</strong> Environmental Management Tools</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L17</strong> Resource governance: ownership &amp; control (SSP)</td>
<td><strong>Tutorial 7</strong>: Questions and group discussion regarding Assignment 2 and presentations (SSP)</td>
<td>Assignment 2 due (25%): 9am, Monday 14th October</td>
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<td>10 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L18</strong> Social impact assessment (SSP)</td>
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<td>Oral presentations (10%)</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial 8</strong>: Student presentations (SSP)</td>
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<td>16 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L19</strong> Environmental Impact Assessment (SSP)</td>
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<td>17 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L20</strong> Measuring sustainability (SSP)</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial 9</strong>: Student presentations (SSP)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L21</strong> Community engagement and Natural Resources Management (External professional practitioner)</td>
<td></td>
<td>External on-campus session 2: 9am to 5pm, Sat. 26th October (SSP)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L22</strong> Integrated environmental management (SSP)</td>
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### Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Special Consideration Policy** [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html)

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the **Learning and Teaching Category** of [Policy Central](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/).

### Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at: [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**UniWISE provides:**

- Online learning resources and academic skills workshops [http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/](http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/)

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### Examination Period

**Exam Period:** 11 November to 29 November

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>12</th>
<th>30 Oct</th>
<th><strong>L23</strong> Ensemble weather and climate forecasting (SB)</th>
<th><strong>Tutorial 10:</strong> Student presentations (SSP)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 Oct</td>
<td><strong>L24</strong> Putting a price on carbon (A/Prof McGregor)</td>
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<tr>
<th>13</th>
<th>6 Nov</th>
<th><strong>L25</strong> Your future and professional success (SSP)</th>
<th><strong>No tutorials</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 Nov</td>
<td><strong>L26</strong> Synthesis (SSP &amp; SB)</td>
<td><strong>Final exam (40%) – In exam period</strong></td>
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**Part 4: Perspectives and Synthesis**

[Unit guide](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/8508/unit_guide/print) ENV 267 Australian Environmental Futures
Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
- Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
- Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
- Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.
- Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
• Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research

**Assessment tasks**

• Sustainability Essay
• Environmental Report
• Oral Presentation
• Exam

**Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking**

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
• Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
• Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.
• Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
• Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

**Assessment tasks**

• Sustainability Essay
• Environmental Report
• Oral Presentation
• Exam

**Problem Solving and Research Capability**

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and
they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

• Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
• Have acquired an integrated (biophysical and social) approach to environmental management.
• Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.
• Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research

**Assessment tasks**

• Sustainability Essay
• Environmental Report
• Oral Presentation
• Exam

**Creative and Innovative**

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

• Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.

**Assessment tasks**

• Sustainability Essay
• Environmental Report
• Oral Presentation

**Effective Communication**

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to
read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

**Assessment tasks**

- Environmental Report
- Oral Presentation
- Exam

**Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens**

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Have a broad knowledge of some of the contemporary contexts, issues and tools associated with environmental management.
- Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
- Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
- Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research
- Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

**Assessment tasks**

- Sustainability Essay
Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Be able to think about environmental management from both global and Australian perspectives.
- Appreciate the very recent nature of environmental management issues, how these continue to evolve, and the ability to think about how they may unfold in future.
- Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research.
- Help prepare students for a professional career in this field, or an ability to apply their understanding of environmental management to whatever career they choose to pursue in future, as well as in their daily lives.

**Assessment tasks**

- Sustainability Essay
- Environmental Report
- Oral Presentation

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Be prepared and able to respond to the diverse perspectives and approaches relating to environmental management.
- Learn how to carry out independent research in environmental management and the practical applications of that research.
Assessment tasks

- Environmental Report
- Oral Presentation

About this Unit

Welcome to ENV267 Resource and Environmental Management: Issues and Solutions.

In Australia, the management of resources and the biophysical environment is rarely out of the media or far from political controversy. Environmental management issues are wide-ranging, and while issues such as climate change are increasingly framed at the global scale, issues such as water security and land degradation are often considered at (inter)national and more local scales. Surrounding most environmental management issues are vigorous debates about the sustainability of prevailing modes of development and resource use. Hence, our environment is certain to remain one of the central political and managerial issues in the 21st century in all local, national and global contexts.

This interdisciplinary unit introduces and critically examines key environmental, social, economic, cultural and political processes and relationships that underpin environmental management and sustainability in urban, rural and remote Australia. Vital environmental and social issues are considered in the context of integrated and adaptive approaches to management from local to global scales. We also explore fundamental concepts such as environmental justice, governance, decision-making and system connectivity, and we encourage students to discover more about the past and present in order to contribute to improved environmental futures in Australia and around the world.

ENV267 builds on the foundations of environmental management introduced in ENV118 by engaging students to consider both the social and biophysical sides of inquiry and management for a range of environmental issues. Through investigation of new and constantly evolving issues and their contexts, we reveal that the reality is that sometimes we are faced by more questions than answers! Understanding these conditions sets the stage for advanced courses in the environmental management, environmental science, human geography and planning programs*. Integrated into this unit and these programs are a range of professional literacy skills, which, together with an understanding of the key environmental issues, are designed to enhance employability within the field environmental management and in related fields.

Assignment Submission and Grading

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All hardcopy assignments in ENV267 must be submitted at (or before) 9am on the due date. Internal students must deliver assignments in person to the ENV267 assignment box located in the reception area of the Faculty of Science Student Centre (E7A102). The Faculty of Science Student Centre is on the ground floor at the western end of building E7A, and is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm on Monday to Friday. The after-hours submission box located at the entrance to E7A is cleared daily at 9.00am, so placing assignments in this box after the due date will incur a late penalty unless previously approved by the Unit Convener. Your assignment must be
submitted with a completed Cover Sheet, and you MUST sign the declaration regarding academic honesty, and record the Turnitin receipt number (see below). Please download blank, bar-coded coversheets from: http://web.science.mq.edu.au/intranet/lt/barcode/coversheet.php

External students should submit their assignments to the Centre for Open Education (building X5B, enquiries room 120) either in person, post, or via email. Please note that the COE has its own cover sheets for assessment submission. For more information please consult: http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/centre_for_open_education/submission_of_assignments/

You may be required to submit written assessments via Grademark, the university online submission and marking system - found as a link in iLearn. Grademark is a paperless grading system where your assignments are submitted online and marked by staff online. Submissions via grademark are also checked for plagiarism by Turnitin. Turnitin automatically compares your work to the work of your classmates, previous students and material available on the internet.

For more information on Turnitin and Grademark:
http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/assignments.htm

**DEADLINES, EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES**

Deadlines set for assignment submissions will not be altered except in exceptional circumstances. In all cases, extensions must be applied for before the due date and must be supported with appropriate documentation (medical certificate, counsellor’s certificate, statutory declaration). Where an unavoidable disruption warrants an extension, you may also wish to consider applying for Special Consideration (http://www.reg.mq.edu.au/Forms/APSCon.pdf). Instructions of how to submit your special consideration form online at: http://stat.mq.edu.au/files/file/How%20to%20submit%20special%20consideration%20online.pdf.

Extensions will not be granted in cases of poor time management. Only the Unit Convenor can authorise extensions. Late submissions will not be accepted once marked assignments have been returned unless otherwise approved by the Unit Convenor.

Late assignments will incur a late penalty of 10% of the total mark per day. Weekends will be counted as 2 days. Students who fail to complete and submit ALL assignments and sit exams for the Unit WILL FAIL THE UNIT i.e. all assignment task must be completed as a minimum prerequisite to pass the unit. Penalties will also be incurred for plagiarism, that is, the use of another persons’ work and presentation as your own (see University Policies and http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html).

**GRADING AND APPEAL**

Each assignment will be marked and commented upon before being return to you. You will be allocated a grade in line with University’s policy on grading (http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html). The grade scale is summarized in the table below. The symbols ‘+’ or ‘-’ are used to indicate whether your mark sits at the upper or lower end of the grade bracket. In some cases, raw marks for individual assignments, and/or for the unit as a whole, may be scaled in order to ensure there is consistency in the application of marking standards. The process of
scaling does not change the rank order of marks among students. If you are uncertain about any aspect of your comments or results contact the Unit Convenor as soon as possible.

**Learning Objectives**

The overall learning objective of ENV267 is to develop a broad understanding of biophysical, economic, social, cultural and political processes and relationships that underpin resource use and environmental management today. The unit is predominantly focused on these matters as it relates to Australia, although global perspectives are intrinsically linked to the material covered. The unit has four parts: **Contexts** (weeks 1-3), **Issues** (weeks 4-8), **Tools** (weeks 9-12), and a **Synthesis** (week 13).

The course will:

1. build your understanding of, knowledge in, and skills in environmental management;
2. highlight the importance of an integrated biophysical and social approach to environmental management;
3. challenge you to reflect on diverse perspectives and approaches to environmental management;
4. debate contemporary issues that continue to evolve such as ownership, governance and sustainability; and,
5. engage you in the application of your research skills, your understanding of environmental management, and your ability to engage with complex debates.

**Tutorial Series**

To complement the lectures and assessment tasks, the tutorial series is designed to provide students with opportunities to debate, discuss and negotiate issues and approaches in environmental management, and during the course of the semester it will also require you to make an oral presentation to your class. The first tutorial (week 2) is aimed at developing research writing and communication literacy skills that are essential in environmental management. In week 3, we will provide you with the opportunity to interact as a group while exploring some of the issues related to water sustainability and landscape management at Macquarie University. Please note that all tutorial classes in week 3 will be combined into one session on Wednesday 14th August from 11am-12pm. All students (internal and external) are welcome to attend this on-campus excursion (see details below).

To correspond with the two main modules of the unit (Environmental Management Issues and Environmental Management Tools), the rest of the tutorial series has two stages: (i) Learning through analysis, debate and discussion (weeks 4 to 8); and (ii) Learning through research and communication (student oral presentations in weeks 10 to 12). The themes in these weekly sessions are tied to material presented in lectures and they also support assessment tasks 1 and 2. Please note that there are no tutorials in week 1 or week 13. Students are expected to read assigned tutorial literature (see below) which will be made available on the Library e-Reserve site or through the unit webpage. The issues addressed in the readings will be discussed and debated in the tutorial sessions and student participation is essential.
Tutorial 1 (week 2): Research, writing and communication skills

Communicating with key stakeholders in environmental management, ranging from government bodies to community groups will often require oral presentations in addition to written reports. Being able to clearly and succinctly explain the relevant issues and challenges of the given environmental project to a range of audiences is a skill developed through planning and practice. This tutorial on written and oral presentation skills builds on your previous learning. It is designed to assist you prepare for the first assignment (the Environmental Report) and the individual presentations in your tutorials during weeks 10-12. The discussion will cover the following topics: Developing a presentation strategy; Knowing your audience; Preparing your content: KISS (Keep it Simple and Short); and Public speaking skills.

Required reading:

On-campus excursion (week 3): Sustainable water and land management at Macquarie University

This week all students are encouraged to participate in a single session (11am-12pm Wednesday) where you have the opportunity to interact as a group while exploring some of the issues related to water sustainability and landscape management at Macquarie University. Guided by John Macris (Biodiversity Planner at Macquarie University), we will undertake a number of site inspections on campus that highlight issues and solutions in environmental management. Students who are unable to attend this field trip will have the option of listening to an audio-version of the trip. The first stop will be the proposed wetland on the western side of campus where a constructed wetland is being built to address an increased flux of nutrients that are entering campus via Mars Creek. We will look at the available data and proposed designs and discuss issues of on-site stormwater management. Stop 2 will be the highly over-engineered lower Mars Creek where we will discuss issues of urban river restoration. The final stop will be the sports fields where we will look at a new and progressive initiative on campus for water re-use. Sewer mining has recently been implemented at this location and is expected to save 21 million litres per year. Required reading: For this field trip you need to review Macquarie University’s website on sustainability with a focus on water and waste: see http://www.mq.edu.au/sustainability/index.html

Tutorial 2 (week 4): The dynamics of decision-making

This tutorial introduces you to the concepts of multi-stakeholder decision-making and explores some of the challenges involved with its implementation. You will examine examples of stakeholder engagement from the literature and consider the decision-making processes identified in the different case studies. Discussions of the case studies will focus on the following questions and issues:
• Who are the different stakeholder groups in the case study and what is the nature of their ‘stake’ in the environmental management issue?

• What types of consultation and decision-making processes are used in the case study?

• What were the benefits and/ or problems of these processes in facilitating diverse stakeholder participation?

Required reading:

Halpin, D. 2004 Involving diverse interests: theoretical and practical insights from native vegetation in New South Wales, Australia. EcoHealth, 1: 196-204.


Tutorial 3 (week 5): Environmental impacts of flow diversions in the Snowy River

The plan to corporatise the Snowy Mountains’ Hydro-Electric Authority provided the opportunity in 1998 for a significant inquiry into environmental issues associated with the operation of the Snowy Mountains’ Hydro-Electric Scheme, which has diverted water from the upper Snowy River to rivers flowing west from the Great Divide since 1967. During this tutorial you will investigate the biophysical and social impacts of the Snowy Mountains' Hydro-Electric Scheme, with emphasis on the Snowy River. This will include analysis of river flows and river channel form as well as an introduction to the interpretation of aerial photographs.

Required reading:


Tutorial 4 (week 6): Analysis of channel change in the Snowy River

During this tutorial you will build on your understanding of the biophysical and social impacts of the Snowy Mountains' Hydro-Electric Scheme by analysing channel changes in the Snowy River over time.

Required reading:


**Tutorial 5 (week 7): Eco-Footprinting: One Planet 2030**

This Tutorial will be run by Sara Rickards and directly relate the Eco-Footprinting Lecture delivered by Richie Howitt. This tutorial will involve a software demonstration of The Footprint Company™ campus calculator, for use in Assignment 2 (environmental report and presentation). There will also be the chance to set up your Faculty data in the calculator for Assignment 2.

**Required reading:**


**Recommended Reading:**


See Campus User Guide

Note that this will also be uploaded onto iLearn and is only available through the website once your user name and login has been emailed to you. You do not need to read this manual in entirety before the tutorial. In essence it is a summary of some of the key points that will be made in the tutorial, which will assist you in completing Assignment 2. However, it would be worthwhile having a skim through the manual, so you’re prepared for the demonstration.

**Tutorial 6 (week 8): The population debate**

The question of population growth in Australia continues to be a central theme of debates in environmental management and planning. It is an issue that encompasses economic, social and environmental concerns and has both national and international implications. In this tutorial we will engage in a class debate on the question: Is a ‘Big Australia’ sustainable?

**Required reading:**

Kirkland, J. 2011. The political ecology of soil and species conservation in a ‘Big Australia’. Geographical Research, 49 (early online).

Tutorial 7 (week 9): Questions and group discussion regarding Assignment 2

An excellent opportunity to polish your assignments and presentation plan.

Required reading:

There will be NO required reading this week, which will allow students to focus on completing their environmental report and fine tuning presentations.

Tutorials 8 to 10 (weeks 10 to 12): Student presentations

Students are required to deliver a 3-5 minute PowerPoint Presentation. This will occur in the regular tutorial classes for internal students and at the second on campus session for external students. The presentation must briefly discuss the sustainability initiative’s background (be brief here), identify key stakeholders and focus on the delivery of the 2030 ‘One Planet Strategy’. The presentation must be carried out as if the presenter is a environmental consultant, presenting to Macquarie University, their proposed strategy to achieve the 2030 One Planet goal.

Changes since First Published

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04/09/2013</td>
<td>Modify instruction for Assessment 3 to change from group work to individual project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/07/2013</td>
<td>Revisions from previous version: Change dates of external student on campus session 1 from week 3 to week 4 Change dates of external student on campus session 2 from week 10 to week 11</td>
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