IEST5003

Addressing Environmental Issues

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
A/Prof. Matthew Kearnes	m.kearnes@unsw.edu.au	By Appointment	365 - Morven Brown	x51010

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course illustrates the nature of, and need for, multi- or trans-disciplinary approaches for addressing environmental problems of national and/or global importance. Students' independent research, field study, and the completion of an individual research project will draw on current or recent key environmental issues and will be supported by lectures, seminars, and on-line tuition and resources. The key theme of the course is the need to adopt integrative and multi-disciplinary approaches to environmental management. Some of the topics you will cover are: environmental governance, international environmental regimes/conventions; framing and defining environmental issues; public participation and stakeholder engagement in decision making; integrated and forward looking analysis; planning for sustainable development; science, risk and knowledge; complex systems and adaptive management; sustainable natural resource management; environmental impacts of production and consumption.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the multi-disciplinary body of knowledge needed for environmental management and apply disciplinary and trans-disciplinary principles and practices to new or complex challenges.
2. Develop analytical skills, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills, and understanding of enquiry-based learning in the realm of environmental management.
3. Exhibit capability for independent and collaborative enquiry, and for teamwork.
4. Demonstrate effective verbal and/or written communication via a range of techniques.
5. Develop awareness of local, national and international issues relevant for environmental management.

Teaching Strategies

This course is taken toward the end of a student's pathway through the Master of Environmental Management. In the MEM, independent research and student-centered learning approaches are paramount. Complementing in-class discussions and seminars, this course uses the Moodle platform to deliver on-line resources and as a site for the exchange of student research. Weekly blogs, an experiential field study, a current case study of an environmental controversy, and an advanced research paper make up a set of inter-linked assignments. The course uses a systemic, interdisciplinary approach that can adequately account for the complexity of environmental issues and support the development of effective proposals for action.

Assessment

Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assignments must be submitted electronically through Moodle (http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/). You must use your zID login to submit your assignments in Moodle.

Late Submission of Assignments

Please refer to University policies regarding the late submission of assessment tasks, available here: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/Protocols-Guidelines/.

Referencing

Please use the Harvard In-Text System for references. This is one of the simplest and most straightforward approaches to referencing, but you will need to familiarise yourself with the system. Full details are available on the University's website: https://student.unsw.edu.au/harvard-referencing

A useful way of handling referencing in all of your courses is the bibliographic software Endnote – which is available on the IT website.

Special Consideration

Information regarding special consideration requests is available at: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Weekly Blog	30%	Not Applicable	1,2,3,4,5
Group Case Study	20%	Not Applicable	1,2,3,4,5
Field Assignment	50%	See Moodle Site for details	1,2,3,4,5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Weekly Blog

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: Generally around 300 words for each blog.

Details: Weekly short written summaries for distance and on-campus students, with short online feedback given, for 10 weeks ~300 words per week

Additional details:

Topics for your blogs will be established each week, and will relate to your independent research.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Group Case Study

Start date:

Length: Short presentation

Details: 30 mins class presentation or for distance one week leading an online forum.

Additional details:

Please see your Moodle site for detailed guidance. The group work will be based on your original research.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 3: Field Assignment

Start date:

Length: 3000 words. May vary depending on format

Details: Students will be required to submit a 3,000 word report based on a field assignement

Additional details:

A major reflective essay (3000 words), based around indepdent research.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 16 September - 20 September	Blended	Orientation and introduction to your independent research; key concepts; logistics; your weekly series of blogs commences this week. NOTE: For this week and all other weeks in this schedule... See your Moodle site for full course details of topics, case studies, tasks, assignments etc.
	Online Activity	A series of online activities will be available on the course Moodle site, for you to complete during the Term.
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Fieldwork	Your independent fieldwork commences and you write your field work proposal.
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Blended	Module 1 commences: **Decision-making processes and cycles**. Details about this module are in your Moodle site.
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Blended	Module 1 continued: **Decision-making processes and cycles**.
Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Fieldwork	The focus is on completing your field work and commencing the writing up your research report.
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Blended	Module 2 commences: **Adaptive Management**. Details about this module are in your Moodle site.
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Blended	Module 2 continued: **Adaptive Management**
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Blended	Module 3 commences: **Specialised Approaches**. Details about this module are in your Moodle site.
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Homework	Module 3 **Specialised Approaches Continued**. This week will include your class and on-line presentations.
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Homework	This week is for finalising your research and writing your final essay. **Bringing it all together!**
Week 11: 25 November - 29 November	Blended	**Course Finale** and completion of assignment submissions.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Information about resources will be via the course Moodle site. Readings will be listed and made available through the LEGANTO system.

Recommended Resources

Information about resources will be via the course Moodle site. Readings will be listed and made available through the LEGANTO system. You will also be expected to conduct independent research that leads you to other specialised sources.

Course Evaluation and Development

MyExperience will be used at the end of session to evaluate the course. Focus groups will provide additional feedback towards the middle of the course.

Based on past student experience and resulting course development, the focus will be on approaches that foster independent research and writing that is of a scholarly high standard; and outputs that are of practical use in finding environmental solutions.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Image Credit

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