



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
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University



IEST8025

Major Research Project

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Tema Milstein	tema.milstein@unsw.edu.au	appointment via email	Morven Brown Building: MB364	

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

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Course Details

Credit Points 18

Summary of the Course

This 18 UoC project allows Master of Environmental Management students to conduct a substantial piece of research on an environment and society leadership topic. The research will usually be coordinated with a member of the Environmental Management staff as a mutually agreed upon supervisor, with an additional supervisor if needed. There are no set classes but rather the project will be individually supervised and will require you to conduct a literature review, develop research aims and methods, and collect, interpret, and analyse data. You will produce a research report of approximately of 10,000 words to the specifications of a relevant journal in environmental management & policy, environmental studies, or another field of environment and sustainability. You may select from a range of topics as agreed with your supervisor. Theoretical, conceptual, and methodological approaches are expected to be of a high standard. You should have undertaken IEST5004 Research Internship or IEST5012 Project Paper or have some research experience before taking this course. You also will be encouraged to attend the Environment & Society Speakeasy research workshops.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Plan and develop a robust research project
2. Develop and describe appropriate research methodologies
3. Analyse and interpret data
4. Verbally communicate research effectively
5. Communicate research results in article/report format effectively

Teaching Strategies

The course will primarily be supervised as an individual research project, but there may be some research workshops held to develop knowledge of methods

Assessment

This course is to be taken by highly motivated students with a deep interest in independent research. Expectations for assessment will be worked out early in the term one-on-one between the student and their agreed upon supervisor(s). We strongly encourage students to approach Environment and Society staff and other UNSW staff to be supervisors who are good fits for the kind and focus of research they would like to undertake.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Presentation	10%	Not Applicable	3,4
Project Brief	10%	Not Applicable	1,2
Final Report	80%	End of term, as agreed upon with supervisor(s); on time to turn in final marks	1,3,5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Presentation

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: TBA

Details: At an appropriate date about 75% through the project, the student will present their project so far including the background to the problem, methods undertaken, and the data received. The supervisor, course convenor and other staff are encouraged to attend and provide verbal feedback. The course convenor and/or supervisor to provide basic feedback.

Submission notes: By arrangement with supervisor(s)

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Project Brief

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: TBA

Details: Student must submit a project brief including (at least): -Background and introduction to the 'problem' -5 page literature review, -key research aims and questions, -a basic overview of proposed methods, -details of partnership (if a partner is involved) -consideration of any ethical, OHS and IP issues that might arise, -timeline of work and agreed submission dates. Student's supervisor/advisor and or the course convenor would provide written feedback

Submission notes: By arrangement with supervisor(s)

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 3: Final Report

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: TBA

Details: Final report written in the style of a specified journal (e.g. Environmental Management, Geographical Research etc). The report/article should be of a high standard, professionally written, include literature review, methods, results and conclusions. It should be approximately 10,000 words, or as specified by the appropriate journal. Shorter more technical summaries may be appropriate for certain technical research. Assessment by 3 academics, not including the supervisor, who must reach an agreed mark.

Submission notes: By arrangement with supervisor(s)

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Resources will be determined in consultation with your supervisor(s)

Recommended Resources

Resources will be determined in consultation with your supervisor(s)

Course Evaluation and Development

Independent research is essential for this project. Past experience shows that the relationship between you and your supervisor(s) is key to a well organised and successful project.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

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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