UNSW Course Outline

CLIM2002 Risks and Impacts of a Changing Climate - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : CLIM2002
Year : 2024
Term : Term 1
Teaching Period : T1
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Delivery Mode : Online
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

As global temperatures near 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and track towards 2°C, broad sectors across government, non-government and industry must consider and plan for climate change impacts.

This course will present the essentials of understanding and managing climate risk. Material will be presented in a manner that is accessible to students from all backgrounds and disciplines, demonstrating how climate risk may manifest as a challenge in a wide range of sectors (e.g., built environment, engineering, business, health, law, economics and policy). We aim to provide a fundamental understanding that will inform students within their own speciality and to engage them in an emerging issue that will be critical to their long-term employability in business, industry or government.

The course material is presented entirely online giving you flexibility in when to engage with the course (noting deadlines for assessment tasks). There are also online practicals which provide experience dealing with climate projection data to answer questions about future risk.

Course Aims

The course aims to provide a fundamental understanding of climate change impacts and risks. It will inform students about risks within their own speciality as well as other sectors and to engage them in an emerging issue that will be critical to their long-term employability in business, industry and government.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Examine key climate change processes and related contemporary phenomena in the context of climate science and analyse related data.
CLO2 : Explore future projections of climate change and their risks and impacts on various aspects of physical, natural, socio-economic and political environments.
CLO3 : Evaluate climate change risk utilizing the current international climate framework and its resources.
CLO4 : Select and apply an appropriate method to identify and assess climate risk for a specific group of stakeholders.
CLO5 : Suggest actions for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change risks at various political levels.
CLO6 : Communicate sustainable approaches and methods to manage climate change and its risks in both local and global contexts.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Examine key climate change processes and related contemporary phenomena in the context of climate science and analyse related data.	• Assignments • Online tests
CLO2 : Explore future projections of climate change and their risks and impacts on various aspects of physical, natural, socio-economic and political environments.	• Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum • Assignments • Online tests
CLO3 : Evaluate climate change risk utilizing the current international climate framework and its resources.	• Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum • Online tests
CLO4 : Select and apply an appropriate method to identify and assess climate risk for a specific group of stakeholders.	• Assignments • Online tests
CLO5 : Suggest actions for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change risks at various political levels.	• Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum • Assignments • Online tests
CLO6 : Communicate sustainable approaches and methods to manage climate change and its risks in both local and global contexts.	• Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum • Assignments • Online tests

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

We use online strategies that enable the asynchronous engagement of students in both individualised and collaborative learning experiences. Some of the online tools that will be utilised include Moodle lessons and discussion forums. Real world, industry provided online tools will be integrated into the practical work to ensure an authentic learning experience.

This is an online only course and therefore there are no physical attendance requirements. However, the course requires regular and consistent online participation. Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the course documentation and spend around 5 - 10 hours per week on the course. This includes going through lesson content, online practical activities, participating in course discussion forums.

Students are expected to complete all relevant lessons in a timely manner and participate in online discussions through the course's Moodle website. Students are expected to participate in and submit all assessments except in the event of extenuating and unforeseen circumstances

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Assignments Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: weeks 4, 7 and 9
Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: weeks 5 and 10
Online tests Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: weeks 3, 7 and 10

Assessment Details

Assignments

Assessment Overview

You will be expected to complete three assignments where you will engage with climate projections data, assess climate risks and impacts, and evaluate solutions.

You will need to access and evaluate past climate data, as well as future climate projection data; Use this and other data to critically assess climate risks; perform independent research to find potential solutions.

The assignments are spread through the term (typically week 3, week 6, week 9) and the weighting is split 20%, 20% and 10%.

Feedback on each assignment is provided two weeks after submission in the form of comments within the Turnitin feedback studio.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Examine key climate change processes and related contemporary phenomena in the context of climate science and analyse related data.
- CLO2 : Explore future projections of climate change and their risks and impacts on various aspects of physical, natural, socio-economic and political environments.
- CLO4 : Select and apply an appropriate method to identify and assess climate risk for a specific group of stakeholders.
- CLO5 : Suggest actions for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change risks at various political levels.
- CLO6 : Communicate sustainable approaches and methods to manage climate change and its risks in both local and global contexts.

Detailed Assessment Description

The Moodle assignment tool is being used instead of the Turnitin tool.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum

Assessment Overview

You will contribute to weekly class discussions around topics of relevance to each weeks course material.

Contributions are made as forum posts to the “Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum”.

Skills assessed include independent research, critical analysis and persuasive writing skills. Assessment uses the provided rubric.

Assessment of your contribution is completed mid-term and end-of-term. Each assessment is worth 10% and is based on discussion forum posts you have made in the weekly “Climate Conundrums Discussion Forum” and then collected into your discussion forum assessment submission.

Feedback is provided based on the assessment rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Explore future projections of climate change and their risks and impacts on various aspects of physical, natural, socio-economic and political environments.
- CLO3 : Evaluate climate change risk utilizing the current international climate framework and its resources.
- CLO5 : Suggest actions for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change risks at various political levels.
- CLO6 : Communicate sustainable approaches and methods to manage climate change and its risks in both local and global contexts.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Online tests

Assessment Overview

You will complete three multiple choice tests to consolidate your understanding of key concepts, covered in the course.

The tests (each worth 10%) are delivered online at the end of weeks 3, 7 and 10. They cover the course material delivered in the preceding three teaching weeks.

Feedback is provided upon completion of the test.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Examine key climate change processes and related contemporary phenomena in the context of climate science and analyse related data.
- CLO2 : Explore future projections of climate change and their risks and impacts on various aspects of physical, natural, socio-economic and political environments.
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- CLO6 : Communicate sustainable approaches and methods to manage climate change and its risks in both local and global contexts.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Module	Introduction to the topics and concepts
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum
	Assessment	Most assessments issued. None due.
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Module	Climate Hazards
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Module	Heat, health and cities
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
	Assessment	Multiple Choice Quiz 1 is due
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Module	Agriculture and food security
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
	Assessment	Assignment 1 is due.
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Module	Biodiversity and knock on effects: Tourism and the Great Barrier Reef
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
	Assessment	Climate Conundrums: Weekly Discussion Forum mid-term assessment.
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Other	Flex Week: No Classes.
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Module	Sea level rise and infrastructure
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum
	Assessment	Multiple Choice Quiz 2 is due.
	Assessment	Assignment 2 is due.
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Module	Water resources
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Module	Finance sector
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
	Assessment	Assignment 3 is due.
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Module	Risks from technological solutions for mitigation and adaptation
	Online Activity	Online practicals and Discussion forum.
	Assessment	Mulitple Choice Quiz 3 is due.
	Assessment	Climate Conundrums: Weekly Discussion Forum end-term assessment.

Attendance Requirements

Not Applicable - as no class attendance is required

General Schedule Information

This course is online and asynchonous.

This means that you can go through the material at a time that suits you. There are no predetermined times that you must attend lectures or tutorials.

Assessment tasks do, however, have deadlines. So please ensure you complete each assessment task before the deadline.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All the required resources are provided through the course Moodle site.

Recommended Resources

Each week additional material is provided/linked to. This material provides a pathway for the student to furher explore the topic and advance their understanding of the material.

Additional Costs

No additional costs.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is formally gathered through the MyExperience survey toward the end of term.

However, feedback is welcome at any time and can be emailed directly to the conveners or given through Moodle. At the end of each weeks section in Moodle there is a feedback link called "Idea about how to make things clearer? Found a mistake? How could we improve this week's lessons?" Here you can let us know of anything that needs fixing or ways you think the course could be improved. We will act to address this feedback as soon as possible.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Jason Evans		Mathews building, rm 453	(02) 9385 7066	Monday - Friday. Send message in Moodle or email directly.	Yes	Yes
Lecturer	Tim Raupach		Mathews building, rm 462		Monday - Friday. Send message in Moodle or email directly.	No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.
Further information about referencing styles can be located at https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage. At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.
Further information about academic integrity, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The Current Students site,
- The ELISE training site, and
- The Use of AI for assessments site.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Penalty for Late Submissions

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Any variations to the above will be explicitly stated in the Course Outline for a given course or assessment task.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Special Consideration

If circumstances prevent you from attending/completing an assessment task, you must officially apply for special consideration, usually within 3 days of the sitting date/due date. You can apply by logging onto myUNSW and following the link in the My Student Profile Tab. Medical documentation or other documentation explaining your absence must be submitted with your application. Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address to be advised of the official outcome and any actions that need to be taken from there. For more information about special consideration, please visit: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Important note: UNSW has a "fit to sit/submit" rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway
- Student Support
- Academic Skills and Support
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety
- Equitable Learning Services
- UNSW IT Service Centre
- Science EDI Student Initiatives, Offerings and Guidelines