



UNSW Course Outline

IEST7200 Demystifying Environmental Law: From Regulation to Rights of Nature - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : IEST7200

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Regimes of environmental law serve as a ubiquitous background to almost all environment and society relations and challenges. This course seeks to render these regimes understandable to students from a variety of backgrounds, exploring a variety of legal vehicles, concepts, and institutions for addressing human interrelationships with/in their ecosystems. In the process, you will learn about the workings, opportunities, and limits of different aspects of these regimes to help enable you as effective environment and society leaders and change-makers. You will explore Australian law as a springboard for understanding international and transnational approaches to environmental law, with a focus on emerging legal vehicles for dealing with increasingly “fierce” environmental problems.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explore and analyse the range of legal approaches and institutions commonly used to govern environment and society issues
CLO2 : Critically evaluate how the law frames, creates, and potentially mitigates social and environmental challenges
CLO3 : Develop an understanding of both openings and barriers to mobilising environmental dimensions of law and legal institutions in environmental leadership
CLO4 : Communicate the opportunities and challenges of legal approaches to environmental problems in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explore and analyse the range of legal approaches and institutions commonly used to govern environment and society issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Review• Research Essay• Legal Case Note and Presentation
CLO2 : Critically evaluate how the law frames, creates, and potentially mitigates social and environmental challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Review• Research Essay• Legal Case Note and Presentation
CLO3 : Develop an understanding of both openings and barriers to mobilising environmental dimensions of law and legal institutions in environmental leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Review• Research Essay• Legal Case Note and Presentation
CLO4 : Communicate the opportunities and challenges of legal approaches to environmental problems in a variety of formats to diverse audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Review• Research Essay• Legal Case Note and Presentation
CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Review• Research Essay• Legal Case Note and Presentation

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Echo 360

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Critical Review Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (1 day)	25%	Due Date: 05/06/2024 11:55 PM
Research Essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	50%	Due Date: 05/08/2024 11:55 PM
Legal Case Note and Presentation Assessment Format: Group	25%	Due Date: Week 4: 17 June - 23 June, Week 5: 24 June - 30 June, Week 6: 01 July - 07 July, Week 7: 08 July - 14 July, Week 8: 15 July - 21 July, Week 9: 22 July - 28 July, Week 10: 29 July - 04 August

Assessment Details

Critical Review

Assessment Overview

Students will write a critical review on one or more of the course readings.

Length: 1,500 words

Feedback via mark and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explore and analyse the range of legal approaches and institutions commonly used to govern environment and society issues
- CLO2 : Critically evaluate how the law frames, creates, and potentially mitigates social and environmental challenges
- CLO3 : Develop an understanding of both openings and barriers to mobilising environmental dimensions of law and legal institutions in environmental leadership
- CLO4 : Communicate the opportunities and challenges of legal approaches to environmental problems in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
- CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

Assessment Length

2000

Assessment information

See course Moodle for details.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Students will write a research essay on a range of the topics covered in the course.

Length: 3,000 words

Feedback via mark and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explore and analyse the range of legal approaches and institutions commonly used to govern environment and society issues
- CLO2 : Critically evaluate how the law frames, creates, and potentially mitigates social and environmental challenges
- CLO3 : Develop an understanding of both openings and barriers to mobilising environmental dimensions of law and legal institutions in environmental leadership
- CLO4 : Communicate the opportunities and challenges of legal approaches to environmental problems in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
- CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

Assessment Length

2000

Assessment information

See course Moodle for details.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Legal Case Note and Presentation

Assessment Overview

In a group, students will write a Legal Case Note on a nominated decision of approximately 1,500 words and present it for 5-10 minutes.

Feedback via written comments to each group.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explore and analyse the range of legal approaches and institutions commonly used to govern environment and society issues
- CLO2 : Critically evaluate how the law frames, creates, and potentially mitigates social and environmental challenges
- CLO3 : Develop an understanding of both openings and barriers to mobilising environmental dimensions of law and legal institutions in environmental leadership
- CLO4 : Communicate the opportunities and challenges of legal approaches to environmental problems in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
- CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

General Assessment Information

Academic Integrity

The University of New South Wales policy on academic integrity is here: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>.

PLEASE NOTE: The basis of the plagiarism policy is that you MUST NOT take credit for others' work, and you MUST give credit where you rely on another's work. This means that it is completely permissible (and often encouraged) to quote another source, however you MUST indicate that you are doing so by using quotation marks, and by providing a citation to that work. Failure to do so will result in our turning your work over to the Faculty Plagiarism Officer.

IMPORTANT: No plagiarism or generative AI: You are expected to create all your own work and to cite properly. Plagiarism is not tolerated nor is generative AI assistance, such as ChatGPT. If you plagiarise or use generative AI, this is regarded as serious academic misconduct and you will be reported to UNSW integrity officials and subject to standard plagiarism penalties, which may include failing the course, suspension, and/or exclusion from the program. In light of the rise of AI tools and contract cheating, in order to protect the integrity of assessment processes in this course, we will periodically use spot oral exams to verify that individual assessments are the work of the student who is submitting it as their own.

ALSO NOTE: Your work will be submitted via Turnitin. This is a software suite that checks your work for similarity against existing textual sources as well as ALL OTHER student submissions to Turnitin globally. This means you WILL BE CAUGHT if you violate the University policy on Academic Integrity.

Detailed information for each assessment will be provided on the course Moodle page

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Seminar	Introduction: What is Law? – Understanding the Australian Legal Context
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Seminar	What is “Property”? - Tracing Conventional Western Legal Approaches to Place, Nature and Environment
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Seminar	Australian “Command and Control” Environmental Legislation, the Environmental Impact Assessment Process, and the Basis of Environmental Care under the Law
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Seminar	International Environmental Law Regimes
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Seminar	The Litigation Process: Procedure, Evidence, and Bias
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Seminar	Climate Law
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Seminar	New Environmental Governance
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Seminar	Indigenous Law, Colonial Law, and Environment
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Seminar	The Philosophy of Earth Jurisprudence
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Seminar	Rights of Nature and Wild Law

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

These will be provided via your Moodle site, using the LEGANTO system, and via your own research.

Recommended Resources

You are expected to make good use of the readings provided for the course, and to read beyond those materials for your assignments. Independent research is expected.

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback will be gathered via MyExperience. Previous commentary suggests the need for further integration of on-line and in-class activity, which we have undertaken. Developments across the MEM program give focus to the experience of distance students and the better use of on-line forums and independent research by students.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Tania Leimba ch		Morven Brown	Email contact preferred	By appointment	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

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 includes copying materials, ideas

or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original 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 for the purpose of them plagiarising, 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.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. 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 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

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

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 externaltelsupport@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, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

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

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

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

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