UNSW Course Outline

BEES1041 Exploring the Natural World - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : BEES1041
Year : 2024
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Delivery Mode : In Person
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

The course will introduce students to the science and scientific methods within the life, environmental and Earth sciences. In particular, the course will introduce students to the research undertaken in the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES) and

its application to contemporary environmental problems, management and issues. The aims of the course also include a focus on employment options within the disciplines covered by BEES and the potential pathways within our Majors to give students the best opportunities to achieve their career aspirations. The course also focuses on skills including relevant quantitative techniques, methods for collecting environmental data including new technologies, sampling and experimental design, methods for visualising environmental information (graphics, mapping) and communicating results.

Course Aims

The course has several aims. It provides a valuable opportunity to build a community of students interested in biological, environmental and Earth sciences. The course also introduces students to the applied research within the School of BEES, and thereby introduce students to their potential career trajectory. Alongside this research showcase, there are also opportunities to explore the different specialisations offered to assist withand course selection. This will assist students in familiarising themselves with career options prior to commencing higher years. Finally, this course aims to introduce students to the scientific methods within our disciplines, following the sequence from hypotheses to communication of results.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Describe and apply experimental methods used in biological, earth and environmental sciences.
CLO2 : Collect, process, analyse, and interpret biological, earth and environmental data using appropriate field methods.
CLO3 : Communicate results in written and visual forms that are suitable for published scientific reports.
CLO4 : Synthesise research in the School of BEES and contemporary environmental issues and management, particularly in the context of how this research training can impact career pathways.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Describe and apply experimental methods used in biological, earth and environmental sciences.	• New Technology Report • Final Examination • Quiz
CLO2 : Collect, process, analyse, and interpret biological, earth and environmental data using appropriate field methods.	• Communicating Results Report • Final Examination • Quiz
CLO3 : Communicate results in written and visual forms that are suitable for published scientific reports.	• Communicating Results Report
CLO4 : Synthesise research in the School of BEES and contemporary environmental issues and management, particularly in the context of how this research training can impact career pathways.	• Communicating Results Report • Final Examination

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
New Technology Report Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	15%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 11/10/2024 05:00 PM
Communicating Results Report Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 01/11/2024 05:00 PM
Final Examination Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
Quiz Assessment Format: Individual	15%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details
New Technology Report

Assessment Overview

You will write a report describing a new technological method for generating data on an aspect of the natural world that interests you. You must describe the method and propose an experiment that would use the method to explore the natural world. The 800-word report is due at the end of week 5. You will receive specific written feedback in week 7.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Describe and apply experimental methods used in biological, earth and environmental sciences.

Assessment Length

800 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Assistance with Attribution

This assessment requires you to write/create a first iteration of your submission yourself. You are then permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your submission in the ways set out below.

Any output of generative AI tools, software or services that is used within your assessment must

be attributed with full referencing.

If outputs of generative AI tools, software or services form part of your submission and are not appropriately attributed, your Convenor will determine whether the omission is significant. If so, you may be asked to explain your submission. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

Communicating Results Report

Assessment Overview

You will write the results section for a scientific report, that presents an analysis of the data collected by the class in the field. Your report will include written descriptions, illustrative figures, and analyses to support the findings. The 2000-word report is due at the end of week 8. You will receive specific written feedback in week 10.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Collect, process, analyse, and interpret biological, earth and environmental data using appropriate field methods.
- CLO3 : Communicate results in written and visual forms that are suitable for published scientific reports.
- CLO4 : Synthesise research in the School of BEES and contemporary environmental issues and management, particularly in the context of how this research training can impact career pathways.

Assessment Length

2000

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Assistance with Attribution

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Final Examination

Assessment Overview

You will answer 40 multiple choice and short answer questions in an online exam. The exam will last for 2 hours and covers all material from the lectures, labs and computer exercises conducted across the term.

It occurs in the final examination period andfeedback is available through inquiry with the course convenor.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Describe and apply experimental methods used in biological, earth and environmental sciences.
- CLO2 : Collect, process, analyse, and interpret biological, earth and environmental data using appropriate field methods.
- CLO4 : Synthesise research in the School of BEES and contemporary environmental issues and management, particularly in the context of how this research training can impact career pathways.

Assessment Length

40 questions in 2 hours

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

Quiz

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

You will answer questions (multiple choice, short answers, and calculations) in an online test regarding the quantitative analyses conducted during the class computer exercises in weeks 1-3. The quiz will occur at the end of week 3 and you will have 1 hour to answer 20 questions. General feedback on the quiz results will be given in week 4.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Describe and apply experimental methods used in biological, earth and environmental sciences.
- CLO2 : Collect, process, analyse, and interpret biological, earth and environmental data using appropriate field methods.

<u>Assessment Length</u>

20 questions in 1 hour

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

Not Applicable

<u>Generative AI Permission Level</u>

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

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General Assessment Information

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

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

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Adrian Fisher					No	Yes

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