

Course outline

Code: ENS120

Title: Introduction to Environmental Management

Faculty of: Science, Health, Education and Engineering

Teaching Session: Semester 1

Year: 2017

Course Coordinator: Dr Gabriel Conroy Email: gconroy@usc.edu.au Ph: 07 5459 4803

Course Moderator: Dr Graham Ashford Email: Gashford@usc.edu.au

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Course description

Environmental managers are at the centre of global efforts to minimise human impacts on the environment and use resources sustainably. In this course you will investigate the complex relationships between economic, social and environmental systems and learn how local actions can have global effects. You will recognise that healthy ecosystems are the foundation of economic and societal well-being. You will also become familiar with environmental and natural resource management objectives at different scales and in different sectors and the policies and practices relevant to achieving them.

1.2 Course content

- Global environmental trends and issues
- Complexity and wicked problems
- Environmental and sustainable development objectives
- Overview of environmental management assessment, reporting and compliance
- Production, consumption, urbanisation and extractive industries
- Pollution (soil, air, water) and environmental degradation
- Environmental ethics
- Systems based approaches
- International agreements
- Careers in environmental management

2. Unit value

12 units

3. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course you should be able to:	Assessment Tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcome in task/s:	Graduate Qualities Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming:
Analyse problems in the context of both local and global influences using systems-based logic and interdisciplinary approaches.	1,2,3	Sustainability-focussed.
Recognise the importance of natural and cultural assets, biodiversity and ecosystem services as the foundation of economic and societal well-being.	1,2,3	Sustainability-focussed.
Articulate key environmental and natural resource management objectives at different scales and in different sectors and explain the policies, practices, management systems and legislation relevant to achieving them.	2,3	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.

4. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

*Refer to the **Coursework Programs and Awards - Academic Policy** for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”*

4.1 Enrolment restrictions

None

4.2 Pre-requisites

None

4.3 Co-requisites

None

4.4 Anti-requisites

None

4.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (optional)

None

5. How am I going to be assessed?**5.1 Grading scale**

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

5.2 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Tasks	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	System analysis	Group	20	Equivalent to 1000 words	Week 4	Blackboard
2	Environmental management report	Individual	40	1500 words	Week 10	Blackboard
3	Portfolio of site investigations	Individual	40	2000 words	Week 13	Blackboard
			100%			

Assessment Task 1: Systems analysis

Goal:	This task is designed to give you a big picture understanding of the relationship between human and environmental systems.	
Product:	A detailed systems diagram related to a specified environmental management problem	
Format:	The systems diagram can be produced in Prezi or a similar application or designed as an A0 sized poster. See Blackboard for more information and examples. Equivalent to 1000 words.	
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depth of analysis including local and global impacts across environmental, social and economic domains • Scope of linkages identified between human and natural systems • Identification of feedback effects • Inclusion of relevant sectors and their systems influence • Format and presentation • Quality of data and references used 	
Generic skill assessed		Skill assessment level
Communication		Introductory
Organisation		Introductory
Information literacy		Introductory
Collaboration		Introductory

Assessment Task 2: Environmental management report

Goal:	You will investigate the impacts of an environmental management issue of your choice, describe the issues and influences and set out the elements of an environmental management framework.	
Product:	Report	
Format:	Technical report with images, figures and tables. 1500 words	
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and analysis of issues and influences across environmental, social and economic domains • Description of environmental management objectives at different scales • Scope and depth of policies and practices identified relevant to achieving them • Format and presentation • Quality of data and references used 	
Generic skill assessed		Skill assessment level
Communication		Introductory
Information literacy		Introductory
Problem solving		Introductory

Assessment Task 3: Portfolio of site investigations

Goal:	Through visits to local sites you will explore environmental and natural resource management objectives at different scales and in different sectors and explain the policies, practices, management systems and legislation relevant to achieving them.	
Product:	Portfolio of four site investigation mini-reports	
Format:	Report template provided – 500 words for each site investigation	
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of site attributes • Description of environmental management objectives • Identification of relevant legislation and regulation • Description of environmental management systems and processes • Quality of images, data and figures 	
Generic skill assessed		Skill assessment level
Communication		Introductory
Organisation		Introductory
Information literacy		Introductory

5.3 Additional assessment requirements**Blackboard**

As a student enrolled in this course you will have access to course information on the Blackboard site. You are strongly recommended to log onto the course site on a regular basis. All course announcements, course changes, posting of course materials and grades (via My Interim Results) will be accessed through Blackboard. It is your responsibility to ensure you have adequate internet access (either off campus or on-campus) in order to access Blackboard regularly and to complete required assessment tasks.

Safe Assign

In order to minimise incidents of plagiarism and collusion, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks are submitted electronically via Safe Assign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that Safe Assign has access to. If required, details of how to submit via Safe Assign will be provided on the Blackboard site of the course.

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

A student's eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- The student has not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

5.4 Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

6. How is the course offered?

6.1 Directed study hours

13 x 2 hour Lectorials, 4 x 4 hour Field Trips, 4 x 1 hour Blackboard Collaborate sessions

6.2 Teaching semester/session(s) offered

Semester 1 each year

6.3 Course activities

Teaching Week / Module	What key concepts/content will I learn?	What activities will I engage in to learn the concepts/content?	
		Directed Study Activities	Independent Study Activities
1	Global environmental trends and issues Complexity and wicked problems	Lectorial, Introduction of environmental crisis case study	Review selected readings and view online resources Begin preparing Task 1
2	Systems based analysis Vulnerability and resilience	Lectorial, Environmental crisis case study. Online Blackboard Collaborate Session	Review selected readings and view online resources Cont. preparing Task 1
3	Problem identification and analysis	Lectorial, Environmental crisis case study Field trip to local site	Review selected readings and view online resources Cont. preparing Task 1
4	Environmental management systems	Lectorial, Environmental crisis case study	Review selected readings and view online resources Write site visit report 1. Begin preparing Task 2
5	Environmental impact assessments	Lectorial, Environmental management case study. Online Blackboard Collaborate Session	Review selected readings and view online resources Cont. preparing Task 2
6	Managing air	Lectorial and Field trip to local site	Review selected readings and view online resources Write site visit report 2.
7	Managing water	Lectorial, Environmental management case study	Review selected readings and view online resources Cont. preparing Task 2
8	Managing land	Lectorial, Environmental management case study. Online Blackboard Collaborate Session	Review selected readings and view online resources Cont. preparing Task 2
9	Monitoring and assessment	Lectorial, Field trip to local site	Review selected readings and view online resources Write site visit report 3
10	Reporting	Lectorial, Monitoring and reporting case study	Review selected readings and view online resources
11	Conservation management	Lectorial, Conservation management case study. Online Blackboard Collaborate Session	Review selected readings and view online resources

12	International environmental agreements Environmental management careers	Lectorial, Field trip to local site	Review selected readings and view online resources Write site visit report 4
13	Course summary	Lectorial	Write site visit report 4 and finalise all site visit reports

Please note that the course activities may be subject to variation.

7. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

7.1 Prescribed text(s)

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below:

Author	Year	Title	Publisher
Mary K. Theodore, Louis Theodore	2009	Introduction to Environmental Management	CRC Press

7.2 Required and recommended readings

Lists of required and recommended readings may be found for this course on its Blackboard site. These materials/readings will assist you in preparing for tutorials and assignments, and will provide further information regarding particular aspects of your course.

7.3 Specific requirements

None

7.4 Risk management

Risks associated with local field trips will be managed in accordance with the relevant risk management policies and procedures, including those that apply to activities in industrial sites, coastal zones and natural habitats. The Course Coordinator will discuss potential risk associated with the local site visits and provide instructions for how to minimise them. It is your responsibility to follow all policies/procedures including Health and Safety policies and procedures applicable within campus areas.

8. How can I obtain help with my studies?

In the first instance you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance to all students through Peer Advisors and Academic Skills Advisors. You can drop in or book an appointment. To book: Tel: +61 7 5430 2890 or Email: student.central@usc.edu.au

9. Links to relevant University policies and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

<http://www.usc.edu.au/university/governance-and-executive/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10. Faculty specific information

General enquiries

In person:

- **Sippy Downs** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building B, Ground floor (level 1)
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Building A

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au