IEST5003

Addressing Environmental Issues

Term Three // 2019

School of Humanities and Languages // UNSW Arts and Social Sciences

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course illustrates the nature of, and need for, multi- or trans-disciplinary approaches for addressing environmental problems of national and/or global importance. Students' independent research, field study, and the completion of an individual research project will draw on current or recent key environmental issues and will be supported by lectures, seminars, and on-line tuition and resources. The key theme of the course is the need to adopt integrative and multi-disciplinary approaches to environmental management. Some of the topics you will cover are: environmental governance, international environmental regimes/conventions; framing and defining environmental issues; public participation and stakeholder engagement in decision making; integrated and forward looking analysis; planning for sustainable development; science, risk and knowledge; complex systems and adaptive management; sustainable natural resource management; environmental impacts of production and consumption.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the multi-disciplinary body of knowledge needed for environmental management and apply disciplinary and trans-disciplinary principles and practices to new or complex challenges.
2. Develop analytical skills, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills, and understanding of enquiry-based learning in the realm of environmental management.
3. Exhibit capability for independent and collaborative enquiry, and for teamwork.
4. Demonstrate effective verbal and/or written communication via a range of techniques.
5. Develop awareness of local, national and international issues relevant for environmental management.

Teaching Strategies

This course is taken toward the end of a student's pathway through the Master of Environmental Management. In the MEM, independent research and student-centered learning approaches are paramount. Complementing in-class discussions and seminars, this course uses the Moodle platform to deliver on-line resources and as a site for the exchange of student research. Weekly blogs, an experiential field study, a current case study of an environmental controversy, and an advanced research paper make up a set of inter-linked assignments. The course uses a systemic, interdisciplinary approach that can adequately account for the complexity of environmental issues and support the development of effective proposals for action.

Assessment

Grades

Details: Weekly short written summaries for distance and on-campus students, with short online feedback given, for 10 weeks ~300 words per week

Additional details:

Topics for your blogs will be established each week, and will relate to your independent research.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Group Case Study

Start date:

Length: Short presentation

Details: 30 mins class presentation or for distance one week leading an online forum.

Additional details:

Please see your Moodle site for detailed guidance. The group work will be based on your original research.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 3: Field Assignment

Start date:

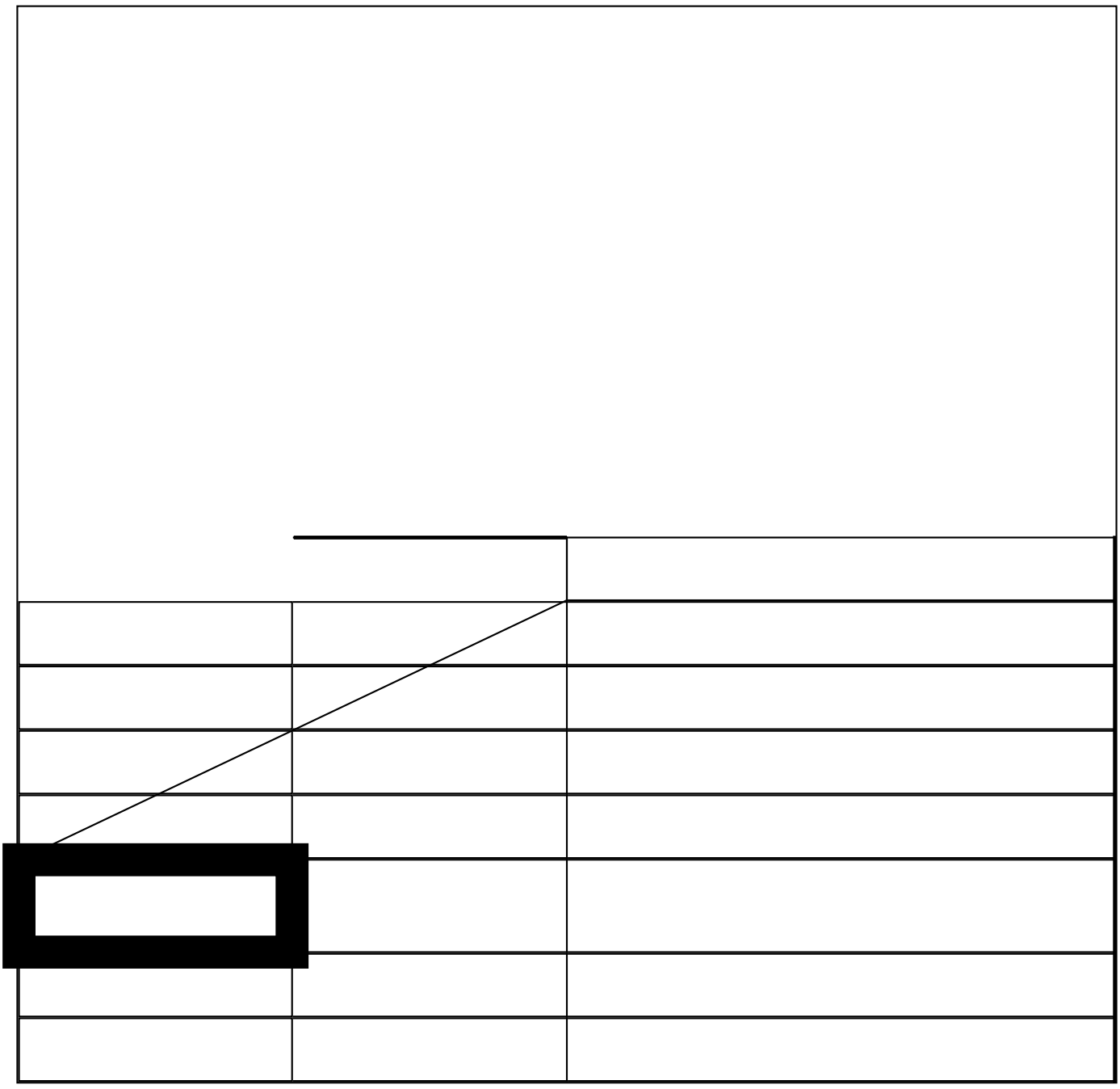
Length: 3000 words. May vary depending on format

Details: Students will be required to submit a 3,000 word report based on a field assignement

Additional details:

A major reflective essay (3000 words), based around indepdent research.

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



Resources

Prescribed Resources

Information about resources will be via the course Moodle site. Readings will be listed and made available through the LEGANTO system.

Recommended Resources

Information about resources will be via the course Moodle site. Readings will be listed and made available through the LEGANTO system. You will also be expected to conduct independent research that leads you to other specialised sources.

Course Evaluation and Development

MyExperience will be used at the end of session to evaluate the course. Focus groups will provide additional feedback towards the middle of the course.

Based on past student experience and resulting course development, the focus will be on approaches that foster independent research and writing that is of a scholarly high standard; and outputs that are of

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

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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