



Course Outline

BIOS1301

**Ecology, Sustainability and
Environmental Science**

School of BEES

Faculty of Science

T1, 2022

2.1 Course summary

This course is designed to introduce students to the topics of ecology, sustainability and environmental science.

- The course develops student skills in critically assessing scientific information, routinely

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

There are five major components to this course. The various streams re-enforce but do not duplicate each other:

- 1) Lectures which outline the main elements of the environment, problems of sustainability and ways of addressing these problems with environmental science. Lectures are primarily given by academics from the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences. However, to expand students understanding and provide real world examples, guest lecturers (specialist half of the course), to give lectures in their areas of expertise. Sometimes lectures will not be sequential as consideration has to be made for some of the guest lecturers who have busy schedules. Always refer to the module to see where lectures fit.
- 2) Practical classes which provide "hands on" experience teaching the basic skills of environmental monitoring and data collection. There are 6 set practicals (1-6) in weeks 1-7 and an additional self-guided practical to Taronga zoo. The self-guided practical incurs an entry fee. You can do this practical at any time, including the designated practical time for which it is designed for in week 8.
- 3) Assessments which are designed to enhance skills such as data collection, analysis, report writing, problem solving and scientific communication.
- 4) Revision sessions which are offered as an optional resource and support for students. The aim of the revision sessions is to reinforce themes learnt throughout the lectures, to encourage deep learning and is referred to as an optional resource and

Practicals

The practical aspect of ecology is so important that participation in practical classes is a fundamental requirement for the award of a pass. During each practical class, time is spent working on assignments for the course. If you miss a practical class, you may miss out on valuable information (data collection, analysis, groupwork) required for the completion of your assignments. You can only attend the lab in which you are enrolled. Should you be unable to attend your practical class for any reason, you should contact Hayley Bates (BIOS1301@unsw.edu.au) to arrange an alternate time in the same week as the missed class. All make-up labs have to be approved. For unavoidable absences from practical classes that cannot be made up at an alternate time, you must apply for special consideration- please refer to Moodle for details on how to do this. Any student who misses more than one practical class and does not provide a medical certificate to cover any such absence may be awarded an unsatisfactory failure (UF) grade for having failed to complete essential elements of their assignments for the subject.

The location of practical classes changes each week. Please pay attention to the course schedule and the weekly course announcements made on Moodle.

4. Course schedule and structure

There are four major modules (themes) for the lectures in this course:

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Course Schedule:

BIOS1301 schedule for T1, 2022

Week
Date

Lecture 1
Async

Lecture 2
Async

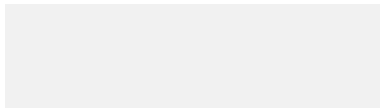
Lecture 3
Async

Online
Content

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks and feedback

See Moodle for full details of all assessments, including instructions and marking rubrics



5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Please see Moodle for detailed instructions for assessment submission. Generally, all written assessments are to be submitted electronically via Moodle. Videos are to be submitted via YouTube link via the course email – see Moodle for detailed instructions closer to submission date.

If, due to sickness or some equally compelling reason, you must miss a practical the first thing you should do is contact Hayley Bates via the course email in the same week as the missed day in order to see if it is possible to slot you in with another class. One day of sickness does not grant an automatic one-week extension. If your absence is on the day of a test or examination, a zero mark will be recorded unless a medical certificate covering that day is submitted via special consideration. If your certified absence is from a test or examination, you must be prepared to do an equivalent assessment in subsequent weeks. Like all rules, these may not fit every situation. If you have a problem that is not covered, please ask Hayley Bates or e-mail Bios1301@unsw.edu.au. Most problems are easily solved with timely notice.

Assignments submitted after the due date will be penalised at the rate of 5% per day unless accompanied by a medical certificate and special consideration application. All outstanding assignments must be handed in by the end of Week 10. Work will only be accepted after this date if accompanied by a special consideration application.

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

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 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.¹

