Course Outline (Higher Education)

School: School of Science, Psychology and Sport

Course Title: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Course ID: SCENV1002

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED: 010905

Description of the Course :
This course introduces students to the global environment and its basic natural systems. It is designed to develop in students an understanding of the application of biological and ecological principles to the conservation of global biological diversity. Major themes include the diversity and interrelationships of the biotic and abiotic components of the environment, plant and animal diversity, threatening processes, threatened species, conservation strategies, wildlife exploitation and conservation, and wildlife forensics. The course is taught by internal lectures, tutorials and fieldwork, and is also available on-line.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks.

Program Level:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory			✔			
Intermediate						
Advanced						

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

K1. Describe living systems including diversity, classification and importance.
K2. Explain the application of ecological and biological principles in conserving global biodiversity
K3. Describe threats to wildlife and general biodiversity
K4. Discuss differing attitudes to wildlife and the impact these can have on conservation strategies
K5. Describe the use of molecular genetics in wildlife conservation

Skills:

S1. Communicate scientific ideas and information both orally and in writing
S2. Identification of flora and fauna in the field

Application of knowledge and skills:

A1. Integrate biodiversity concepts in assignments
A2. Critical analysis of peer reviewed research articles

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Biodiversity at various ecological levels and its significance
- Significance of biodiversity, sustainability and loss on a global scale
- Global threatening processes and species loss
- Biodiversity conservation strategies
- Wildlife exploitation, illegal trade and conservation
- Genetic diversity
- Wildlife forensics
- Australian Biodiversity and Conservation

Values:

V1. Appreciate the importance of biological diversity and ecosystem organisation
V2. Value the uniqueness and complexity of the global environment
V3. Recognise the impact that humans have on ecosystems
V4. Appreciate the importance of environmental education and communication

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University FedUni graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor	Development and acquisition of GAs in the course

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		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Code A. Direct B. Indirect N/A Not addressed	Assessment task (AT#)	Code A. Certain B. Likely C. Possible N/A Not likely
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	S1, S2, A1, A2	A, B, A, A	AT1, AT2,	A, A
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K1, K2, K3, K4, S2, A1, A2	B, A, A, A, B, B, B	AT1	B
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	S1, A1, A2	A, A, A	AT1, AT2	A, A
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, A1	Produce a report displaying Australian biodiversity	Written Report	20 - 30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S1, S2, A1, A2	Critically assess a published research article	Oral Presentation	20 - 30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5	Comprehension and synthesis of course content	Online quizzes / tutorial activities	40 - 60%

Adopted Reference Style:

Australian Harvard