Course Outline (Higher Education)

School: School of Health and Life Sciences

Course Title: AUSTRALIAN FAUNA 2

Course ID: SCENV2100

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (ENVGC1022 or ENVGC1711 or SCENV1002 or SCENV1502)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): (BIOGC3132 and ENVGC2712 and SCENV2111)

ASCED Code: 050901

Description of the Course :

Students investigate the key vertebrate taxa of Australia, as well as a broad coverage of the invertebrate fauna. There is an emphasis on describing the distinct features, life history characteristics, behaviour, adaptationsand ecology of the major taxa. Throughpractical exercises, includingfield-based studies, students apply and demonstrate their developing knowledge and skills to identify, classify and investigate the ecology of Australia fauna. Students knowledge of the Australian faunais displayed in science-based outputs that are typically used by industry and government agencies.

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:

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

Learning Outcomes:

Students undertaking this course are expected to be able to demonstrate the following knowledge and skills.

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Knowledge:

- **K1.** Characterise the key vertebrate and invertebrate taxa of Australia.
- **K2.** Describe the diversity, ecology and life history strategies of significant taxa of Australia`s vertebrate and invertebrate fauna.
- **K3.** Evaluate the role that behaviour, physiological, reproductive and nutritional adaptations plays in the ecology of fauna.
- **K4.** Describe the origin, taxonomy, zoogeography and evolutionary trends of the Australian fauna.

Skills:

- **S1.** Identify key characteristics that are fundamental to the classification of the Australian fauna.
- **S2.** Engage in studies and practical exercises investigating the ecology and biology of Australian fauna that may assist their management and conservation.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- **A1.** Demonstrate the techniques and processes of identifying Australian fauna.
- **A2.** Observe and collect field data on the ecology of Australian fauna.
- **A3.** Communicate the outcomes of information gathering and field studies to a scientific audience.

Course Content:

Students investigate the key vertebrate taxa of Australia, as well as a broad coverage of the invertebrate fauna. There is an emphasis on describing the distinct features, life history characteristics and ecology of the major taxa. Throughpractical exercises and field-based observation, students apply and demonstrate their developing knowledge and skills to identify, classify and investigate the ecology of Australian fauna. The knowldege gained is collated and evaluated to construct pieces of scientificoutput that are typically used by industry and government agencies.

Topics may include:

- Origins, taxonomy, zoogeography and ecology of Australian fauna.
- Life history strategies, behaviour and adaptations of Australian fauna.
- Identification of key Australian fauna.
- Observation and survey of Australian fauna.

Values:

- **V1.** Recognise the need for ethical considerations and scientific permit regulations when observing and handling animals.
- **V2.** Appreciate the variety of ways in which animals sense and respond to their world in an objective, rather than anthropomorphic, fashion.
- **V3.** Appreciate the value of biodiversity in maintaining healthy ecosystems and global sustainability.

Graduate Attributes:

FedUni graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

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Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Students learn in a range of settings including lectures, practical exercises and in the field, developing new approaches to collecting information and building new knowledge that increases competency in the discipline of environmental and conservation science.	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Students are exposed to opportunities to learn through different means with an advancement of building self-driven learning. This includes engaging in out-of-class learning and independent field-based studies to gather new information that is then collated and analysed.	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Students will develop a well-rounded knowledge of the Australian fauna that will facilitate valued contributions to local, regional and national communities, and make them stand out as work ready graduates.	High
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Students are reminded of their social responsibility as scientists. Consideration of animal ethics and scientific regulations is strongly emphasised when observing animals. Students are actively engaged in activities and data collection practices that contribute to citizen science.	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, A1	Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of material and practical exercises undertaken.	Quiz(zes)	10-20%
K2, K3, S1, S2, A1, A2	Undertake practical exercises that investigate Australian fauna.	Practical exercises	10-30%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, A1, A2, A3	Undertake field-based observation of Australian fauna and produce a scientific output based on the findings.	Scientific communication	20-30%
K2, K3, K4, S2, A2, A3	Investigate, review and analyse the ecology of an Australian fauna taxa and compile a taxa profile	Scientific communication	10-30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, A1	Application and interpretation of knowledge and synthesis of material presented during the course.	Examination	30-40%

Adopted Reference Style:

Australian