



Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Science, Psychology and Sport
Course Title:	SUSTAINABLE EARTH
Course ID:	SCSUS1500
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	Nil
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	(SCENV1500 and SE505)
ASCED:	019999

Description of the Course :

This course looks at the impact humans have had on the Earth. We address, in turn, the main components of the habitable parts of the planet and examine the fundamental, natural processes within each. With this grounding we then superimpose the impact of indigenous people, and then the excesses of post-industrial humanity, upon the Earth to reveal the consequences of the activities of modern society. The course emphasizes that environmental sustainability requires an understanding, not only of the processes that can be identified today, but of the rate, sequence and nature of changes which have taken place in our recent past. Further, that environmental sustainability demands consideration, not only of environmental processes, but also the social and political constraints to change.

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	■	■	✓	■	■	■

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

Learning Outcomes:

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

Knowledge:

- K1.** Recognise Australian and global environmental management processes and issues
- K2.** Describe and evaluate the process of ecologically sustainable development and implications for natural resource management
- K3.** Investigate the processes that have lead to recent climate and environmental change
- K4.** Explore positive steps that can be made at local, regional and global levels toward a sustainable future

Skills:

- S1.** Ability to source and critically assess popular and peer-reviewed scientific literature
- S2.** Identify and evaluate human impact on the landscape

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Evaluate competing scientific arguments and including questioning prior assumptions
- A2.** Communicate complex environmental issues to a lay audience in both oral and written forms
- A3.** Scrutinise choices made in daily life that can contribute to a sustainable future

Course Content:

This course investigate's the impact that humans have had on the Earth over time and questions whether this is sustainable into the future. We cover various aspects of natural resource management including soil, water and biota.

Topics may include:

- Environmental problems
- Natural capital
- Climate change
- Hazards and pollution
- Environmental economics
- Environmental law

Values:

- V1.** Appreciation of the values of sustainability, encompassing environmental, social and economic issues
- V2.** Explore how our life-style and the attributes of our society impact on the Earth, with the view that knowledge and balance leads to a sustainable future.

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			
		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.	k1, K2, S1, A1	B,A,A,A	1,2,3,4	B,B,B,B
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.	K3, K4, S2, A3	B,A,A,A	2,3	B,B,
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.	K2, S2,A3	B,B,A	1,2,3	B,B,A
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.	K2, S2, A2	B,B,A	2,3,4	B,B,B,
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.	K4, S2, A3	B,B,A	2,3,4	B,B,B

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K3, S2	Practical exercises worked through in class	Practical reports	10-30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, A1, A2, A3	Group presentation to tutorial class	Oral presentation	20-40%
K1, S1, S2, A3	Written report	Research report	20-40%
K1, K2, K3, K4	Short and extended answer	Test	10-30%

Adopted Reference Style:

Australian Harvard