Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Health and Life Sciences
Course Title:	BIOLOGY AND DIVERSITY
Course ID:	ENVGC2712
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(ENVGC1711) (BIOGC1711 or BIOGC1722)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	050999

Description of the Course :

An introductory section on systematics and phylogeny will establish relationships between the structure, function and evolutionary history of major groups of organisms. These major groups will be introduced and defined in terms of their basic structure and features. Life cycle, habits and habitat will be discussed. Attention will be paid to the diversity of ways in which various members of each group achieve key biological functions such as: feeding; reproduction; gas exchange and locomotion. Representative organisms will be chosen to illustrate the importance of their ecological roles. The process of ecological restoration in degraded ecosystems will also be considered.

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

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..

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit students will be able to:

1. Identify the requirements of living things and demonstrate an understanding of the different ways in which organisms meet these requirements;
2. Identify the major plant and animal phyla, and the major lineages within these;
3. Explain the importance of several key evolutionary events;
4. Relate the taxonomy of the major plant and animal phyla, and the major lineages within these, to their structure and function;
5. Use field guides and dichotomous keys to identify organisms;
6. Describe the ecological role of several representative species and relate this to the use of such species in restoring degraded ecosystems.

Course Content:

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Values and Graduate Attributes:

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
End of semester examination (3 hours)	End of semester examination (3 hours)	End of semester examination (3 hours)	60%
Practical and tutorial exercises	Practical and tutorial exercises	Practical and tutorial exercises	20%
Major assignment - restoring ecosystems	Major assignment - restoring ecosystems	Major assignment - restoring ecosystems	20%

Adopted Reference Style: