1. **What is this course about?**

1.1 **Description**

This is your opportunity to explore and develop your scientific knowledge on Fraser Island, one of the world’s largest sand islands & an iconic national park. The island is a globally significant example of geological processes and biological evolution and is World Heritage listed. The island has the most complete age sequence of any dune system in the world and many unique ecosystems that thrive upon these sands. In this course you will examine soil, water, plant, and animal systems and processes on & around Fraser Island. Extra costs for the field trip (for example cost of meals) will be at your expense.

1.2 **Course topics**

- Introduction to Fraser Island;
- Field work safety and sampling;
- Data analysis;
- Project report writing.

2. **What level is this course?**

300 level Graduate - Independent application of graduate knowledge and skills. Meets AQF and professional requirements. May require pre-requisites and developing level knowledge/skills. Normally taken in the 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate program.

3. **What is the unit value of this course?**

12 units
4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment Tasks</th>
<th>Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On successful completion of this course you should be able to:</td>
<td>You will be assessed on the learning outcome in task/s:</td>
<td>Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe and explain the unique natural features and processes of Fraser Island.</td>
<td>2. Fraser Island project report 3. Understanding Fraser Island – PowerPoint Presentation</td>
<td>Knowledgeable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement a fieldwork program and demonstrate safe fieldwork skills including collection and analysis of field samples</td>
<td>1. Fieldwork skills 2. Fraser Island project report</td>
<td>Empowered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate scientific findings in a formal report format</td>
<td>3. Fraser Island project report</td>
<td>Empowered.</td>
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</table>

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the USC Glossary of terms for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 Enrolment restrictions
Nil

5.2 Pre-requisites
SCI110

5.3 Co-requisites
Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites
Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)
SCI202 would be a benefit to you for some of the data analysis in the course, but it is not required

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1 Grading scale
Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress
In week 2 of this course, we will work together in a workshop environment to collaboratively review the class data and report outline for Task 2′.
6.3 Assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Assessment Tasks</th>
<th>Individual or Group</th>
<th>Weighting %</th>
<th>What is the duration/length?</th>
<th>When should I submit?</th>
<th>Where should I submit it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fieldwork skills)</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1500 words</td>
<td>At the end of the field trip</td>
<td>To your tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fraser Island Project Report</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Last Friday of Session</td>
<td>On-line via Safe Assign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Understanding Fraser Island- power point presentation</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>In scheduled class time after the field trip</td>
<td>In class during designated time</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

100%

Assessment Task 1: Fieldwork Skills

Goal: With initiative and judgement in planning, you will demonstrate critical fieldwork skills including: field safety, organisation, observation, interpretation and data recording. These skills and qualities of thinking are important elements in professional scientific practice.

Product: Completed field notebook, and an electronic copy of your data for the class to undertake data analysis.

Format: You will receive a field-safety induction, collect data and submit a handwritten copy of your field notes in a format advised by the tutor, along with an electronic copy of your data for class analysis in a format advised by the tutor.

Criteria: You will be assessed on:
- Completion of fieldwork program:
  - Completed field notebook (accuracy and comprehensiveness)
  - Collection of samples
  - Field safety and professional conduct

Assessment Task 2: Fraser Island Project Report

Goal: This task allows you to develop and communicate your data-collection skills and analysis of field-based observations using rigorous scientific approaches.

Product: Scientific report.

Format: You are required to submit a 2000 word scientific report on your data collected during the field trips written in the form of a scientific paper.

Criteria: You will be assessed on:
- Description and explanation of site/data
- Field work design – methods of collection
- Analysis of data, including statistical analysis
- Presentation of data
- Interpretation of data

Assessment Task 3: Understanding Fraser Island

Goal: This is a key assessment that allows you to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of Fraser Island environments. Much of this knowledge will be gained and developed through your site visit; therefore, it will be imperative that you take good notes, and photos and make careful observations.

Product: PowerPoint presentation

Format: You will be required to present a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation on the unique features of Fraser Island environments compared to other environments.
Course Outline: ENS330 K’gari-Fraser Island Field Studies

Criteria: You will be assessed on:
- Demonstration of your accurate knowledge and understanding of the unique features, structures and ecosystem processes on Fraser Island
- Integration and synthesis of ideas to form independent insights into the ecology of Fraser Island
- Quality of power point to support your representation of Fraser Island ecosystems

7. What are the course activities?

7.1 Directed study hours
The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Directed study hours for location:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USC Sunshine Coast</td>
<td>Field Trip: 7-day intensive field course on Fraser Island in November/December Laboratory: 1 day on-campus computer lab on data analysis and report writing Workshop: Optional drop-in data/report writing workshops. *There will be an allocated day on campus for Assessment Item 3 presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Fraser Coast</td>
<td>Field Trip: 7-day intensive field course on Fraser Island in November/December Laboratory: 1 day on-campus computer lab on data analysis and report writing Workshop: Optional drop-in data/report writing workshops. *There will be an allocated day on campus for Assessment Item 3 presentations</td>
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7.2 Course content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week # / Module #</th>
<th>What key concepts/content will I learn?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 1</td>
<td>Fieldwork safety, fieldwork organisation skills, professional ethics. Travel to Fraser Island, receive fieldwork induction, commence field data collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 2</td>
<td>Fieldwork Sampling: Conduct, soil, plant, water and animal surveys and collect data/samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 3</td>
<td>Fieldwork Sampling: Conduct, soil, plant, water and animal surveys and collect data/samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 4</td>
<td>Introduction to Fraser island landscapes, earth science and vegetation. Travel to various sites around Fraser Island to examine soils, vegetation succession, and hydrology (some field sampling)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 5</td>
<td>Travel to various sites around Fraser Island to examine soils, vegetation succession, and hydrology (some field sampling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 6</td>
<td>Travel to various sites around Fraser Island to examine soils, vegetation succession, and hydrology (some field sampling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: Field Day 7</td>
<td>Field work completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2-6: Data analysis and report writing workshops</td>
<td>You will learn data analysis techniques and report writing skills for your project report. N.B. Some of these sessions (most likely Week 3) will be compulsory, while others will be non-compulsory drop-in sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7: Presentation of Assessment Item 3</td>
<td>You will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the unique processes/environment of Fraser Island</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?
Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.
8.1 Prescribed text(s)
N/A

8.2 Specific requirements
You will be required to travel to Fraser Island for one week for field studies. You may be required to pay a fee for accommodation, transport and food. You will be required to wear covered footwear, hat, long-sleeved shirt and long trousers for field safety.

9. Risk management
You will need to complete a fieldwork induction and adhere to field safety protocols at all times. In particular, you will need to wear protective clothing to prevent risks of sun exposure dehydration, insect bites and snake bite be aware of the risks associated with dingoes at all times. Student will need to take care to stay in groups and be aware of the risks associated with the natural environment such as bushfires and getting lost. Students need to be aware of 4WD safety when on the beach.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University’s general health and safety principles by reviewing the online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity
Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements
Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment
Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent on the following conditions applying:
 a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
 b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
 c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties
Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

• 5% (of the assessment task’s identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
• 10% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the third day
• 20% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
• A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help
In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to Student Hub.

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Links to relevant University policy and procedures
For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:
• Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
• Review of Assessment and Final Grades
• Supplementary Assessment
• Administration of Central Examinations
• Deferred Examinations
• Student Academic Misconduct
• Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:
http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.6 General Enquiries
In person:
• USC Sunshine Coast - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
• USC South Bank - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
• USC Gympie - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
• USC Fraser Coast - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
• USC Caboolture - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890
Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au