

Course Outline

Code: OES302

Title: Outdoor Environmental Studies Extension

School of:	Education
Teaching Session:	Semester 2
Year:	2019
Course Coordinator:	Brendon Munge
Course Moderator:	Glyn Thomas

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description

You will participate in a range of learning experiences to prepare you for an extended field trip to explore the socio-cultural and environmental features of a particular place in the context of outdoor environmental studies practice. The field trip will expand your knowledge, skills, and experience in outdoor environmental studies. The exact nature and location of the field trip may vary from year to year as determined by the course coordinator.

1.2 Course content

Advanced environmental knowledge, natural and cultural history, outdoor experiential education theory and practice, environmental interpretation, safety management planning and implementation.

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?

24 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course you should be able to:	Assessment Tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcome in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming:
Conduct research to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of one aspect of the natural and cultural history for a particular place and their application to outdoor environmental studies.	Task 1	Knowledgeable. Empowered.
Participate in, and contribute to, the planning and implementation and leadership of an extended outdoor environmental studies field trip (including safety management).	Task 2 Task 3	Engaged. Creative and critical thinkers.
Critically evaluate individual learning on an extended field trip and encapsulate that learning in a creative presentation or artefact.	Task 4	Creative and critical thinkers. Empowered.

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

This course is only available to students enrolled in ED312.

5.2 Pre-requisites

OES240, Permission required for enrolment – please contact the Course Coordinator.

5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Nil

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

After workshop two students will provide a draft of their Essay associated with the Outdoor environmental studies research project activity.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Tasks	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Outdoor Environmental Studies Research Project	Individual	40	3000-word essay and 10-minute presentation	Essay in week 6, and presentation on the field trip	Blackboard (SafeAssign)
2	Field Trip Plan	Group	20	6000 words	1 week before trip	Blackboard (SafeAssign)
3	Field Trip Leadership	Individual	10	10-12 day field trip using self and peer assessment	Mid-semester break or post exam period	
4	Creative Presentation or Artefact	Individual	30	Equivalent of a 15-minute presentation	Week 13	Blackboard
			100%			

Assessment Task 1: Outdoor Environmental Studies Research Project

Goal:	Conduct research to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of one aspect of the natural and cultural history for a particular place
Product:	Essay and Presentation
Format:	You will conduct a research project on a topic to be negotiated with the course coordinator. You will produce a 3000-word essay and 10-minute presentation. Your project will explore an aspect of the cultural or natural history of the place being visited in the major field trip. You will use the literature to develop a fully referenced paper (3000 words) and a presentation that is provided to your peers on the major field trip. The presentations will be scheduled at a time and location off the field trip that is appropriate to the focus of each student's topic. Early feedback will be provided on your progress in this task in a workshop with your peers in week 4 or 5 depending on your extension trip.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of the natural and cultural history for a particular place • Application to the leadership of outdoor environmental studies • Written communication skills and academic literacies including English expression, grammar, spelling, punctuation, APA referencing conventions • Oral communication.

Assessment Task 2: Field Trip Plan

Goal:	Plan and implementation an extended outdoor environmental studies field trip (including safety management)
Product:	Field trip plan
Format:	Your comprehensive Field Trip Planning document, with clearly identified contributions from each individual, will outline the learning objectives, student details, planned activities, leadership, logistics, roles and responsibilities, and safety management planning. Marks will be allocated to the group's work as a whole (50%) and for your individual contribution (50%).
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and implementation of an extended outdoor environmental studies field trip (including safety management). • Detail and accuracy of plan • Attention to student safety • Written communication skills and academic literacies including English expression, grammar, spelling, punctuation, APA referencing conventions

Assessment Task 3: Field Trip Leadership

Goal:	You will demonstrate your ability to lead peers on an extended outdoor environmental studies field trip.
Product:	Effective contributions to the group functioning and leadership
Format:	In this task, your participation in the effective functioning of the group and your leadership contributions will be assessed.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and contribution to the learning process • Leadership and initiative • Problem solving and communication

Assessment Task 4: Creative Presentation or Artefact

Goal:	You will be able to summarise your learning from the experience by developing an original, creative presentation or artefact
Product:	Presentation or artefact
Format:	In this task, the output will be an original piece of work that encapsulates your learning on the major field trip using some combination of art, photography, video, or music. The presentations will occur in the final workshop after the major field trip.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical evaluation of individual learning on an extended field trip • Originality and creativity. • Quality of work and attention to detail • Communication of learning

7. What are the course activities?**7.1 Directed study hours**

A 24-unit course will have total of 300 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. A blended learning approach is used to deliver this course, including a mix of synchronous and asynchronous materials and activities accessed through Blackboard. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

7.2 Course content

Week # / Module #	What key concepts/content will I learn?
1	Introduction and overview to course, logistics, planning.
2	Trip planning and organisation, preparatory fieldwork (2 days - if required)
3	Major field trip (10-12 days)
4	Celebration of learning: Individual's presentation of Assessment Task 3 outputs

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)

Nil

8.2 Specific requirements

This course is structured to provide you with a sequence of workshops and fieldwork experiences that equip you with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to meet industry established safety standards. It is therefore an expectation of both the University and our industry partners that you will participate in all of the workshops and fieldwork trips and demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in the safety-related activities required for safe participation in the fieldwork in this course. You are required to complete the WHS fieldwork induction and successfully complete the quiz before the first practical session and wear appropriate clothing for fieldwork activities. Reasonable alternatives will be provided for students who cannot attend fieldtrips because of circumstances beyond their control.

You will need to provide the following items for the practical field trips components of the trip: suitable clothing for all weather contingencies; a sleeping mat; a sleeping bag; and other personal camping equipment. Tents and stoves will be provided to students.

Enrolment in this course requires the permission of the course coordinator. You'll need to be aware of the physical components and location requirements of the course. If you have a disability, medical condition or any concerns that may affect your participation in the compulsory practical components of the course, you are invited to discuss your options with the course coordinator or a USC Disability Advisor.

9. Risk management

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

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 of 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