USC

PUB262 Environmental Health Risk Management

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2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

ON CAMPUS Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

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

In this course you will develop knowledge and skills to assess and manage risks to human health from hazards in natural and built environments. You will identify hazards and exposure pathways relevant to water, air, soil, food, waste, noise, radiation, pests, and vectors. You will also develop skills to locate and apply legislation and regulations relevant to public health and occupational health and safety. You will work in multi-disciplinary teams to characterise risks and develop risk mitigation strategies for managing mass events, disasters and communicable disease outbreaks.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1	3hrs	Week 1	13 times
Fieldwork	21hrs	Not applicable	Once Only
Online – Blended learning activities	1hr	Week 1	13 times

1.3. Course Topics

Environmental health theory and practice

Environmental health risk assessment and mangement frameworks

Environmental health guidelines and legislation

Toxicology and ecotoxicology

Biological hazards (microorganisms, vectors and pests)

Epidemiology

Air pollution

Soil based hazards

Food related health risks, HACCP and foodborne illness outbreaks

Water and sanitation

Noise and occupational health

Waste management

Risk perception and communication

2. What level is this course?

> 200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

> 12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	GRADUATE QUALITIES Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Identify and critically evaluate evidence and policies for environmental health issues	Creative and critical thinker
2 Apply risk assessment concepts, methodologies and frameworks to understanding and managing human health risks from environmental hazards	Empowered
3 Identify and evaluate options to reduce risk and meet regulatory requirements related to food, air, water, land and noise pollution	Empowered
4 Develop appropriate risk management strategies for managing human health risks in prescribed settings	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. Pre-requisites

> Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

> Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

> Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Feedback for Task 1 will be provided during workshops in weeks three and four.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1a	Plan	Individual	0%	Completion of template	Week 4	Online Assignment Submission
All	1b	Written Piece	Individual	35%	1500 words max)	Week 6	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Report	Individual	30%	1500 words max	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3a	Oral	Group	15%	15 minutes	Week 13	In Class
All	3b	Plan	Group	20%	2000 words max	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1a: Critical literature review plan (formative)

GOAL:	To develop your skills in planning and conducting a critical literature review and to give you feedback on your organisation and planning. This element is key for your success in Task 1b.		
PRODUCT:	Plan		
FORMAT:	The critical review plan will follow the template provided		
CRITERIA:	**No.**		**Learning Outcome assessed**
	1	Appropriateness of literature review question	① ②
	2	Appropriateness of search terms and strategy	① ②
	3	Accuracy of literature review structure	① ②

All - Assessment Task 1b: Environmental health hazard critical review

GOAL:	To develop your skills in: Applying the health risk assessment framework to a specific environmental health hazard; andSourcing, critically evaluating and summarising scientific evidence.
PRODUCT:	Written Piece
FORMAT:	The critical review will address all stages of the environmental health risk assessment framework, identify gaps in existing knowledge and provide recommendations for future research

CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Quality and appropriateness of literature included in the review;	① ②
	2	Application of environmental health risk assessment framework;	① ②
	3	Critical appraisal of literature and knowledge gaps;	① ②
	4	Communication and synthesis of findings and conclusion;	① ②
	5	Adherence to genre and quality of syntax and grammar.	① ②

All - Assessment Task 2: Epidemiology and risk management report

GOAL:	To develop your skills in: sourcing, critically evaluating and summarising epidemiological data, and identifying and critically evaluating risk management strategies in place at local, national and global levels for a specific environmental health hazard.
PRODUCT:	Report
FORMAT:	The epidemiology report will include the following sections: status report on incidence and prevalence of health outcomes associated with exposure to a specific environmental health hazard for two defined Australian communities; a stakeholder analysis for managing the health risks within a defined community; and an assessment of further research needs.

CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Quality and appropriateness of data and legislative resources	① ② ③
	2	Accuracy of the exposition of data and legislative resources management framework	① ② ③
	3	Identification and critical evaluation of similarities and variances in exposure, health status and risk management related to the hazard for the defined communities	① ② ③
	4	Adherence to genre and quality of syntax and grammar.	① ② ③

All - Assessment Task 3a: Environmental health risk management plan for a mass event and disaster management scenario - oral presentation

GOAL:	To develop your skills in creating and communicating environmental health risk management plans for mass event and disaster management scenarios
PRODUCT:	Oral
FORMAT:	No standard required format; Creativity and innovation is encouraged.

CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Scope and complexity of contingency planning for environmental health hazards;	② ③ ④
	2	Clarity and effectiveness of communication;	② ③ ④
	3	Contribution to team, and Quality of syntax and mechanics.	② ③ ④

All - Assessment Task 3b: Environmental health risk management plan for a mass event and disaster management scenario - Supporting portfolio

GOAL:	To develop your skills in compiling evidence to support an environmental health risk management plan		
PRODUCT:	Plan		
FORMAT:	No standard required format Creativity and innovation is encouraged		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Application of appropriate risk management strategies for the prescribed scenario	② ③ ④
	2	Identification and application of appropriate legislative resources for managing environmental health risks in the prescribed scenario;	② ③ ④
	3	Quality of syntax and mechanics.	② ③ ④

7. Directed study hours

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.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: 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) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Required	Friis, R.H.	2019	Essentials of Environmental Health	Jones & Bartlett Learning

8.2. Specific requirements

Protective clothing including footwear for field work activities.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Risk assessments have been performed for all field activities and low to moderate levels of health and safety risk exists. Moderate risks may include working in an Australian bush setting, working with people, working outside normal office hours for example. It is your responsibility 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 and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online induction training 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

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may 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 to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the Learning Advisers web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to Student Hub, email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, AccessAbility Services can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to Student Hub, email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. 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

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - 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