



IEST5008

Large-scale Conservation in Practice

Term One // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Rosalie Chapple	r.chapple@unsw.edu.au	Note: Also the course lecturer.		0418883387

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course takes you into the landscape to apply theory to practice and have experiential inquiry and engagement. You will encounter large-scale inclusive conservation practices that include people, culture, and the more-than-human world in the context of protected areas and learn from a range of participants who hold different orientations and perspectives. You will grapple with the challenges to conservation and protected areas through co-learning and rethinking what we do in rapidly changing socioecological contexts. By meeting with people and place, and hearing their stories, you will engage with the big issues and questions of conservation and landscape management to inform your understandings and your personal and leadership actions.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Outline the key elements of large-scale conservation in Australia, such as protected areas, including protection of values and management of threats
2. Explain the challenges of integrating the range of values and knowledge systems into environmental management and policy for protected conservation areas
3. Appraise an environmental management issue in the Blue Mountains using an interdisciplinary problem-solving framework
4. Reflect upon and evaluate the impact of place and nature-based experiential learning within the context of contemporary conservation practice

Teaching Strategies

The complexity and challenges of large-scale conservation are explored using the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, inland of Sydney, as a case study. Classroom-based learning prior to a required 3-day field trip builds knowledge about nature conservation in theory and practice and presents a problem orientation framework used during the field trip to assimilate knowledge and understand values encountered in the field.

Assessment

There are 4 assessments for this course, to be submitted through Moodle by the due dates. Each of the first two assessments provide ground-work for the final two assessments (the field journal informs the essay, and the group presentation informs the individual report).

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Group presentation	25%	31/03/2021	2, 3, 4
Online Learning Tasks	25%	11/03/2021	1, 3
Report and journal	50%	25/04/2021	1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Group presentation

Details:

After the field trip, groups of up to 4 students present for 20 minutes an appraisal of a conservation management issue using a problem orientation framework. Assessment criteria reflect the steps in the framework.

Feedback will be given in the form of a rubric, numerical mark, and comments. Marking will be by the course convenor.

Assessment 2: Online Learning Tasks

Start date: 15/02/2021

Details:

There will be two key online learning tasks that precede the field trip. These include getting students familiarised with a problem orientation framework that forms the basis of the group presentation and the report. The other key task is to build students' knowledge about protected area conservation.

Learning will be based on recorded lectures and presentations, readings, and online quizzes that are hurdle assignments.

Number of total assessments in online learning tasks: 3 i.e. 1 500-word task (15%) + 2 hurdle tasks (300 words each, 5% each)

Feedback will be given in the form of a rubric (including the hurdle tasks), numerical mark, and comments.

Additional details:

See moodle for details.

Assessment 3: Report and journal**Details:**

Students are required to write a report of about 2,500 words (not including tables, appendices) as their final assignment. This assignment will incorporate a field trip journal (maximum 1,500 words) as a hurdle task which requires completion prior to the submission of your final report.

Assessment criteria for the report will be based on the categories of a problem orientation framework.

The report is on the same topic as the initial group presentation, but the report is an individual task that expands on the group presentation and presents a deeper level of detail.

Feedback will be given in the form of a rubric (including the hurdle task), numerical mark, and comments.

Marking will be by the course convenor.

Attendance Requirements

Please note carefully the schedule below.

T1 weeks 1 - 4: Online study (minimum 6 hours plus reading time) based on moodle modules, recorded lectures, readings and online activities including assessment tasks.

T1 weeks 4 & 5 - Friday March 12 & 19: Two half days on campus (2-6pm). Attendance is **strongly preferred** but is not mandatory for students who do not live in Sydney and cannot make this in advance of the field trip, or who cannot get extra time off work); For those who cannot attend in person, please contact the course convenor to make arrangements for online study and online group discussion over these two weeks before the field trip.

T1 week 6 March 26-28 (Friday – Sunday): **Mandatory attendance for all students including distance** - a 3-day field trip in the Blue Mountains (staying overnight on Fri and Sat) (starts in **Katoomba** at 10am Friday and ends 5pm Sunday). Do not enrol if you cannot attend the field trip. Students must also note that the field trip fee is approximately \$170 to cover accommodation, travel, guest presenters and some food expenses.

T1 week 7 March 29-30 (Mon-Tues): Prepare group presentation (no class attendance)

T1 week 7 March 31 (Wednesday): Group presentations on-campus (attendance in person is strongly preferred but not mandatory if some students cannot attend, in which case they would present online)

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 15 February - 19 February	Online Activity	Online study (estimate 2 hours) based on moodle modules, recorded lectures, readings and online activities including assessment tasks. Details will be provided on moodle before the start of term.
Week 2: 22 February - 26 February	Online Activity	Online study (estimate 2 hours) based on moodle modules, recorded lectures, readings and online activities including assessment tasks. Details will be provided on moodle before the start of term.
Week 3: 1 March - 5 March	Online Activity	Online study (estimate 2 hours) based on moodle modules, recorded lectures, readings and online activities including assessment tasks. Details will be provided on moodle before the start of term.
Week 4: 8 March - 12 March	Seminar	Friday March 12 2-6pm on-campus The seminar includes lectures, discussion and group work. Detailed schedule will be provided on moodle at the start of term. Topics include: biodiversity conservation & protected area management and policy; understanding ecological

		<p>and social dimensions of conservation; applying the problem orientation framework</p> <p>Guest lecturer: Peter Cochrane (IUCN Councillor, Ex-head Parks Australia, Chair of Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute)</p>
Week 5: 15 March - 19 March	Seminar	<p>Friday 19th 2-6pm on-campus</p> <p>The seminar includes a combination of lectures and group work.</p> <p>Topics include: adaptive management of protected areas, with focus on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area; assimilating knowledge & understanding values & management conflicts about the field trip site.</p> <p>Guest lecturer: Professor Richard Kingsford https://www.bees.unsw.edu.au/our-people/richard-kingsford</p>
Week 6: 22 March - 26 March	Fieldwork	<p>Blue Mountains field trip: 3 full days from 8am Friday 26th March to 6pm Sunday 29th</p> <p>The upper Blue Mountains will form the focus of the 3-day field trip. The Gundungurra, Dharug, Wanaruah, Darkinjung, Wiradjuri and Tharawal language groups are acknowledged as the Traditional Owners of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.</p> <p>The field trip includes bushwalks, site visits, and indoor presentations with guest presenters (detailed schedule to be provided before the field trip). Students meet with a range of people in the Blue Mountains including Traditional Owners, environmentalists, and government agency staff, to discuss on-ground management challenges.</p> <p>A basic level of fitness is required as there is quite a lot of walking (including some uphill. Please email Rosalie if you are concerned about your fitness or have any injury (alternative arrangements can be made for you).</p> <p>Overnight accommodation (4-person dormitories) is pre-arranged in Katoomba (Fri & Sat nights), which is 2 hours by train from Sydney (approx. 1.5 hours by car). If students wish to make alternative accommodation arrangements, please discuss with Rosalie as soon as possible.</p>

		<p>Indicative schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretive bushwalks with local ecologists • Meet with local Indigenous community representatives • Meet with National Parks and Council staff • Site visits at urban-bush interface <p>Further details about the field trip including a detailed schedule will be provided on Moodle and in class.</p>
Week 7: 29 March - 2 April	Group Work	<p>NO CLASS Monday-Tuesday March 29-20 - Work with your group to prepare your presentation (Distance students can work individually if they need, and form a group of one).</p> <p>Distance students need to advise the course convenor in advance whether they can present in class on the Wednesday.</p>
	Group Activity	<p>Wednesday March 31 9.00am-4.30pm</p> <p>9-11.30am Final preparation for group presentations</p> <p>12pm Distance students submit recorded powerpoint if they cannot attend in person</p> <p>12-4.30pm Group presentations on management topics</p>
Week 8: 5 April - 9 April	Assessment	No class. Work on final assessments: journal and report.
Week 9: 12 April - 16 April	Assessment	<p>No class.</p> <p>Journal submission is due by this week.</p> <p>Work on report for submission next week.</p>
Week 10: 19 April - 23 April	Assessment	No class. Final assessment (report) due April 25.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Please see Moodle and Leganto for detailed list of readings and resources.

For any pre-course reading, you can access the following e-book through UNSW library:

Clark, T.W. 2002. *The Policy Process: a practical guide for natural resources professionals*. Yale University Press: New Haven.

Read the following chapters:

- Introductory chapter. pp32-55.
- Chapter 3. Social process - mapping the context.
- Chapter 5. Problem orientation – focusing on problems to find solutions.

Recommended Resources

For further pre-course reading, access this ebook through USNW library: Dudley, N. and Stolton, S. 2020. *Leaving space for nature: the critical role of area-based conservation*. Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY : Routledge.

For a valuable up-to-date assessment of the Blue Mountains see: <https://worldheritageoutlook.iucn.org/explore-sites/wdpaid/220294>

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is sought both informally in class discussion at the end of the course, as well as through the online myExperience survey.

Feedback from previous courses:

During the course I felt a shift not only in my thinking but also in my identification with the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. In fact, I now feel connected and responsible for it's future. There should be more courses like this, which can begin to change the paradigm and remind us of our intrinsic 'love of nature'. The course forces you to think about what we value as important in the world around us.

If students/people can make a genuine real-life sensory connection with what they are 'fighting' for, then their level of commitment to the 'cause' is often proven to be stronger.

The course allows you to face the realities and the nitty-gritties of daily management challenges, especially for large and complex protected ecosystems. You don't get that kind of learning sitting in a classroom. It also gives students the chance to talk to experts in the field (literally) and such an opportunity in university life is rare.

A fully immersive learning experience, illustrating the importance of the varied stakeholder and interest groups associated with landscape-scale conservation. It covers a range of management issues, with

ample opportunity for discussion with stakeholders and with other participants.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.