



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.  
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: Environmental Politics and Policy

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
POL	8013	74166	1, 2008	WEB	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOBUS
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOB008
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	090101

### STAFFING

Moderator: Geoff Cockfield

### OTHER REQUISITES

Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to USQConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>

### SYNOPSIS

Environmental management is about the management of both physical problems and political and policy debates. This course provides students with the means to understand the origin of conflicts over environmental issues and some of the key aspects of current debates about environmental problems. In the first part of this course, students will learn about the development of environmental ideas awareness, and how environmental thinking entered mainstream politics. In the second part of the course there is a discussion of some of the major approaches to dealing with environmental problems. In particular, students will consider the arguments about the type and degree of policy and systemic change that is necessary to achieve an improvement in environmental outcomes. This course will provide students with a broad understanding of the history and politics of environmentalism and current directions in environmental policy, so they have the capacity to be informed participants in debates and decision-making that relate to the environment. Formerly MGT8013.

### OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item/s that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective is/are shown in parentheses after each objective. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. outline the development of environmentalism as a set of ideas (Assignment 1, Examination)
2. recognise and understand the assumptions and beliefs that underpin some of the major branches of environmentalist thinking (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)

3. outline the way in which environmentalism developed as a political movement and assess the current influence of environmental thinking within government (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Examination)
4. undertake a case study in environmental politics or policy that involves both review and analysis (Assignment 2)
5. outline and discuss the broad policy approaches that could be used to ameliorate environmental problems (Assignment 2, Examination)
6. debate the relative merits of using different policy approaches to solving environmental problems (Assignment 2, Examination)
7. place any environmental issue in the broad context of social and economic change and then be able to analyse the specific problems and discuss potential solutions (Assignment 2, Examination).

## TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Introduction	5.00
2. The growth of environmental awareness	10.00
3. 'Green' politics: formal and informal	20.00
4. Regulatory and market-based approaches to solving environmental problems	15.00
5. Sustainability: politics and policy	20.00
6. Ecological modernisation	10.00
7. The globalisation of environmental politics and policy	10.00
8. Major challenges for environmental politics and policy	10.00

## TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Summers, J & Smith, B 2006, *Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication*, 2nd edn, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Habitat, environmental monthly magazine.

Beder, S 1996, *The nature of sustainable development*, 2nd edn, Scribe Publications, Newham, Victoria.

Carter, N 2001, *The politics of the environment: ideas, activism, policy*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Dryzek, J & Schlosberg, D 2005, *Debating the earth: the environmental politics reader*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, England.

Eckersley, R (ed) 1995, *Markets, the state and the environment: towards integration*, MacMillan Education, South Melbourne, Victoria.

Turner, R, Pearce, D & Bateman, I 1994, *Environmental economics: an elementary introduction*, Harvester Wheatsheaf, Hemel Hempstead.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	55.00
Directed Study	85.00
Private Study	25.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	20.00	20.00	21 Apr 2008
ASSIGNMENT 2	40.00	40.00	26 May 2008
2 HOUR EXAMINATION	40.00	40.00	END S1 (see note 1)

### NOTES

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course.)
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval of the examiner, then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded.

- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
This is a restricted examination. Candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); English translation dictionaries (but not technical dictionaries).
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:  
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Student Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene university regulations. These regulations can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Policies and Procedures which can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>.

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the examiner. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) In accordance with university policy, the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. (iv) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience.
- 2 Course weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.
- 3 Make-up work: Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study.
- 4 Deferred work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).