

Final Examination Format

The final examination in REN1201 Environmental Studies is a CLOSED examination and of 2 hours duration (with 10 minutes reading time). You are permitted to write during the perusal time. The exam will consist of two sections:

- Short answer questions
- Extended answer (essay-style) question

Section A: Short Answer Questions

This section consists of four questions, divided into the broad themes of the course (*Biophysical Environment; Politics, Economics & Society; Human Impact on the Natural Environment; and, Environment & Society*). These four questions will contain a number of parts (sub-questions).

You are required to answer all questions and answer all parts of each question in this section. These will require brief descriptions, outlines, definitions etc, and some may require a simple labelled drawing to help illustrate an answer. Questions are of equal value (15 marks each) and you should allow approximately **90 minutes** for this section (i.e. you should spend around 20 minutes per question).

Examples of these types of short answer questions were given in the “Review Questions” of the Study Book materials at the end of each module.

Section B: Extended Answer (Essay) Question

You are required to write **one essay** from this section. You are provided with a choice of seven essay topics. All essay questions are of equal value (40 marks each) and you should allow about **30 minutes** answering this section. Essay questions will be drawn from the “Discussion Questions” in the Study Book materials at the end of each module.

Your essay should be well structured and draw upon material presented in the course. Use of figures and diagrams is encouraged as are examples taken from your readings. It is important that you take some time (say, about 5 minutes) to adequately plan your essay. We will be looking for your level of integration and synthesis of material into reasoned arguments - facts and figures are not overly important!

You can probably expect essay questions to be structured around some of the main themes that we have been exploring throughout the semester and may include something on:

- biodiversity, human population growth, demands of population growth on food production, health etc, rise of environmentalism;
- human activities leading to such problems as land degradation, water pollution and resource use, renewable/non-renewable energy, waste production;
- the incorporation of the environment into mainstream politics, sustainable development, approaches and developments in environmental planning.

Dr Andy Le Brocque
REN1201 Examiner, 4 April 2008