

## Subject overview

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This subject aims to provide a broad introduction to the interdisciplinary field of environmental studies. It will explain what is meant by the environment, describe the nature of major environmental problems and discuss their causes. Remedial measures that we, as a society or individuals, need to take to alleviate these problems will be suggested. Both the science of environment and the sociological aspects of management, as well as planning and legislative control are considered.

## Learning Outcomes

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At the completion of this subject, students will be able to:

- Identify natural processes and man-made factors that interact to cause environmental problems
- Identify current management strategies of major problems and suggested remedial measures
- Identify global natural systems and the implications for determining management strategies
- Be aware of the natural influences, mechanisms and man-made frameworks that are necessary to consider for effective environmental management
- Assess, sort and synthesize information
- Present information verbally in small group discussions or in written form.

## Assessment overview

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- Class participation and Class summaries 20% of total assessment
- Mid-semester test 20% of total assessment
- Essay (2000 words) 20% of total assessment
- Final Exam 40% of total assessment

## Subject modules

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- Major physical and biological systems of planetary environments
- Environmental problems (i.e. population, energy use, land degradation or water pollution).
- Current management processes
- Legal and legislative mechanisms
- Suggested strategies to alleviate existing problems.

## Required readings

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- Cunningham, W. P., Cunningham, M.A., & Saigo, B.W. (2002). *Environmental science: A global concern*. McGraw-Hill.
- Miller, G. T. (2003). *Living in the environment: Principles, connections, and solutions* (11th Ed.). California, USA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.
- Wright, R.T. & Nebel, B.J. (2004). *Environmental science: Toward a sustainable future* (9th Ed.). Prentice Hall
- Students will also read a variety of journal articles assigned by Academic Teaching Staff.

## Questions?

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If you have any questions about any of the course summaries, please contact us.