



UNSW
SYDNEY

Faculty of Science

**School Of
Biological Earth
and Environmental Sciences
(BEES)**



**GEOS 3731
COASTAL PROCESSES AND
HAZARDS**

**T1
2021**



Welcome to GEOS3731 - A Slightly Different Year!

The course is going to be run a little differently this year due to the ongoing COVID19 situation. Last year we had to transition to 100% online after Week 4 and could not run the field trip. This year, while the lectures will all be online, the labs will be run face-to-face and we are allowed to run the field trip. This may change if the COVID19 situation worsens, but I hope not! However, some students in the course this year will be completing the course fully online, but they will not be disadvantaged by this and I'll try and come up with some creative ways that we can still get to know them through class interaction.

When we had to transition online last year I made it a personal mission to make the course as enjoyable as possible for the students given the situation and together we all made it work. The MyExperience scores for the course were the highest ever with a 5.64/6 for 'Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course'. I've got the same goal for this year: to make this course as good as it can possibly be for all of you. The content of the course remains the same and I'm committed to providing you with a high quality course and learning experience. Communication is the key. I'll do my best to keep you aware of everything that is happening in the course, but I also need you to pay attention to all the Moodle announcements I make and to let me know if something is not working, or if you are having some trouble with the content.

The very first thing you should do in the course is watch the 'Welcome to GEOS3731 from the Course Convenor' video recording on the Course Moodle Page prior to commencing the course in Week 1. This introductory video will describe the logistics of the course and what to expect this year.

We'll be relying a lot on Moodle so please familiarize yourself with how the Course Page is structured. The lectures will all be recorded and available online. It won't be possible to record the face-to-face labs, but I'll be holding separate online lab sessions for those students that are taking the course fully online – that lab will be recorded and made available to all. All recordings will be done using Blackboard Collaborate. Information about how to use it can be found on the Course Moodle Page.

1. Course Information

Year of Delivery	2021
Course Code	GEOS 3731
Course Name*	Coastal Processes and Hazards
Academic Unit	BEES
Level of Course	3 rd Year Undergraduate
Units of Credit	6
Session(s) Offered	T1
Assumed Knowledge, Prerequisites or Co-requisites	None, but GEOS1701 and GEOS2721 are useful.
Hours per Week	7
Number of Weeks	10
Commencement Date	Tuesday Feb 16, 2021 (T1 Week 1)

1.1 Course Description

This course provides a lecture, laboratory and field-based study of the processes responsible for shaping and modifying Australian and global coastal environments. The foundation of the course is an application of the morphodynamic approach to understanding coastal processes and hazards. Topics covered include coastal evolution, nearshore waves, currents and sediment transport, beaches and coastal hazards and management. A strong emphasis is placed on practical applications related to coastal monitoring techniques. Fieldwork is an important component of the course and a multi-day fieldtrip will involve expense to individual students. Online students will be given an alternate Field Trip assessment. More information on the course is provided in the Course UNSW Handbook entry:

<https://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/undergraduate/courses/2021/GEOS3731/>

1.2 Aims and Learning Outcomes

Coastal geomorphology is a field of coastal and marine science that involves an understanding of process and form relationships operating over a range of spatial and temporal scales. Originally, coastal geomorphologists were motivated by curiosity and the desire to describe and interpret the coastal landscapes with which humans interact. More recently, application of coastal geomorphologic principles has become an integral component of contemporary coastal hazard management in terms of how humans and coastal systems are impacted by coastal processes.

The **aims** of this course are to:

- Provide students with a solid understanding of fundamental coastal geomorphologic principles associated with process-form relationships in a range of Australian and global coastal environments;
- Provide some students with an opportunity to conduct coastal related fieldwork;
- Introduce students to a range of coastal field monitoring techniques that will provide students with theory and practical skills to conduct coastal environmental field work;
- Relate coastal geomorphologic principles to coastal hazards and related management issues.

Some of the **learning outcomes** of the course include:

- An understanding of coastal processes and their relevance to hazards and contemporary coastal management issues;
- An appreciation of the variety of coastal monitoring techniques available and the logistics, planning, and data analysis involved in obtaining coastal environmental data;

- An ability to critically evaluate the role of human interactions in coastal systems and hazards and indicate key management strategies for sustainable maintenance of coastal environments;
- The ability to design and implement independent research and field studies involving team work and presentation skills.

1.3 Learning Strategies

The learning goals for this course will be achieved through a variety of instructional techniques including online lectures, face-to-face and online laboratory classes, a field trip (or alternate assignment) and a major group project assignment. The goal is to stimulate your interest in the subject matter by providing a variety of teaching methods that promote student interaction and ability to think critically. The course uses many real-world examples to achieve learning outcomes and also uses elements of problem-based and self-driven learning.

You will be introduced to new field and analytical skills and further refine those taught to you in previous courses. Assignments will develop skills in accessing scientific literature and databases, data collection, analysis, interpretation and presentation, writing ability, and seminar presentations. In addition to individual assessment tasks, students will have the opportunity to work in groups in labs, workshop classes and on the field trip.

Online students will not be able to take part in any of the field-based labs and field trip, but will have alternate assessments involving material that will achieve the same learning outcomes.

1.4 Continued Course Improvement

This course, like most at UNSW, continually strives to improve. 2020 was an interesting year as we had to transition fully online almost half way through and cancel the field trip. The course still received very high MyExperience scores in T1 2020 (overall satisfaction = 5.64; n=34). While there will be little change to how the course is run in 2021, lecture material is always updated and online students will have a separate online lab session that they can attend to receive additional instruction and ask questions. One change is that how groups for the Course Project will be assigned. In the past this was done randomly, but based on student feedback, students will now be allowed to choose their own group members.

2. Staff

Lecturers: **Professor Rob Brander (Course Convenor)**
Office: Biological Sciences North (D26) Room 401B
Phone: 9385-2899
Email: rbrander@unsw.edu.au
Meetings: by appointment

There will be several guest lecturers throughout the course.

Other Staff: Some technical support for the labs and field trip will be provided by Mira Van Der Ley (m.vanderley@unsw.edu.au). David Edwards (d.edwards@unsw.edu.au) will provide support during the course field trip and for the Field Trip Report.

Notices: Any notices relevant to the course will be announced and posted on the Course Moodle site on a regular basis. Each Friday I will send out a 'What's in Store in Week X' Moodle announcement. It is the responsibility of students to ensure that they are aware of due dates, timetables (and any changes therein).

Assistance: General enquiries should be directed to the Science Student Centre Nucleus Student Hub on Level 2 of the Library Building (Ph: 9385-6125) or lodge an online enquiry via unsw.to/webforms with your zID. Specific BEES course and program related enquiries will be re-directed to Faye Mo who is based in the School of BEES School Office on Level 5 D26. Students can email Faye directly if they wish to contact her (faye.mo@unsw.edu.au). Queries relating specifically to the course should be directed to the Course Convenor, Professor Rob Brander.

3. Course Schedule

3.1 Lectures

There are three (3) hours of lectures scheduled **online** per week:

Tuesday 11-12

Wednesday 11-12

Thursday 11-12

These will be mix of pre-recorded and live lectures. In general, the Tuesday and Wednesday lectures will be pre-recorded and the Thursday lectures will be live, but you will be notified in advance each week of the schedule. Please be aware that all of the lectures will be new (i.e. not recordings from previous years!).

ALL lectures will be given and recorded using Blackboard Collaborate and will be made available online on the Course Moodle page. All lecture powerpoints will also be made available to students on Moodle. **Table 1** lists the lecture sequence by date and topic. However, this is a guide as changes to the timing and content of each topic may occur. Students will be advised of any changes to the timetable as soon as possible.

Please note that the learning requirements for the course (based on content taught prior to adoption of the Trimester system) does not require a full 10 weeks of 3 x lectures and 2 x labs per week. This means that lectures/labs are not scheduled for certain days – please refer to the Course Program in **Table 1**. Students may do independent study and revision during these times.

Table 1: GEOS 3731 Lecture and Lab Program

Week	Lecture	Lecture Topic	Lab Topic	Lab and Assessment Details
1	1. Tues Feb 16	Introduction to Course	Lab 1 Tues Feb 16: Introduction to Course Project Lab 2 Wed Feb 17: Course Project Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to Labs and WHS • Group selections; Group Project Due Fri April 2 (Week 7) • Work on Group Project
	2. Wed Feb 17	Fundamentals of Coastal Geomorphology		
	3. Thurs Feb 18	Coastal Hazards: Long Term		
2	4. Tues Feb 23	Coastal Hazards: Short Term	Lab 3 Tues Feb 23: Coastal Hazard Communication Lab 4 Wed Feb 24: Coastal Project Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops on Group Project • Field Trip Information
	5. Wed Feb 24	Guest Lecture by Anna Attard: Community Understanding of Hazards		
	6. Thurs Feb 25	Shoreline Change		
3	7. Tues Mar 2	Beach Morphology	Lab 5 Tues Mar 2: Coastal Project Workshop Lab 6 Wed Mar 3: Beach Video Imaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Project Progress Reports • Beach Imaging Assignment due Monday March 15 @ 5 PM (by email)
	8. Wed Mar 3	Beach Monitoring		
	9. Thurs Mar 4	Beach Types and Models		
4	10. Tues Mar 9	Beach Types and Models	Lab 7 Tues Mar 9: Beach Video Imaging Lab 8 Wed Mar 10: Bronte to Bondi Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach Imaging Assignment • Coastal Evolution and Landforms walk – Meet at Bronte Beach SLSC Wed Mar 10 at 10:45 am
	Wed Mar 10	<i>No Lecture (Due to Lab)</i>		
	11. Thurs Mar 11	Coastal Dunes and Barriers		
5	Tues Mar 16	<i>No Lecture (Independent Study)</i>	Lab 9 Tues Mar 16: Mid-Term Exam (online) Lab 10 Wed Mar 17: Beach Surveying Coogee Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Exam (all material up to March 11) • Return Beach Imaging Assign. • Field Trip Information • Project Seminar Information
	12. Wed Mar 17	Guest Lecture by Dr Mitch Harley: SMART Shorelines		
	13. Thurs Mar 18	Wave Characteristics		

Week	Lecture Number and Date	Lecture Topic	Lab Topic	Lab and Assessment Details
6	Monday March 22 to Friday March 26 = UNSW FLEXI WEEK = NO CLASSES			
Course Field Trip Saturday March 27 to Monday March 29 (Field Trip Report due Thursday April 15 @ 1 PM (by email))				
7	14. Tues Mar 30	Wave Dynamics	Lab 11 Tues Mar 30: Mid-Term Exam/Field Trip De-Brief Lab 12 Wed Mar 31: Project Seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Exam review • Field Trip De-Brief • Group Project Seminars
	15. Wed Mar 31	Project Seminars		
	16. Thurs Apr 1	Wave Dynamics and Measurement		
8	17. Tues Apr 6	Wave Measurement/Surf Zone Processes	Lab 13 Tues Apr 6: Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on Field Trip Report /Alternate Assessment
	18. Wed Apr 7	Surf Zone Processes	Lab 14: Wed Apr 7: Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment	
	Thurs Apr 8	Nearshore Currents		
9	19. Tues Apr 13	Nearshore Currents	Lab 15 Tues Apr 13: Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment • Field Trip Report due Thursday Apr 15 @ 1 PM
	20. Wed Apr 14	Sediment Transport	Lab 16 Wed Apr 14: Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment	
	Thurs Apr 15	<i>No Lecture (Independent Study)</i>		
10	21. Tues Apr 20	Beach Safety Research	<i>Tues Apr 20 – No Lab – Independent Study</i> Lab 17 Wed Apr 21 – Course Review and Final Exam Revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand back assessment material • MyExperience Course Review • Final Exam Review
	22. Wed Apr 21	Beach Safety Research		
	Thurs Apr 22	Bad Science!		

3.2 Laboratory Classes

Most students are required to attend two (2) x 2 hour Lab classes per week between Weeks 1-10:

Tuesday 12-2	Teaching Lab 05 (Biological Sciences South – E26)
Wednesday 12-2	Teaching Lab 05 (Biological Sciences South – E26)
Online Only	Dedicated online session time to be announced.

Table 1 lists the sequence of Lab topics by Trimester Week and topic. Please note that Lab 8 (Wed Mar 10) involves walking from Bronte Beach to Bondi Beach. Lab 10 (Wed Mar 17) will be held at Coogee Beach. Both are weather permitting. If weather is not suitable, the Labs will be devoted to a Course Project Workshop. Online students are not required to take part in these labs and will not be assessed on any associated material.

It is an OHS requirement that all students wear closed shoes in Biological Sciences South E26 Teaching Lab 05.

Students will be given instructions about logistics of labs in the lectures and on the course Moodle internet site **at least one week before the lab**. It is the responsibility of students to make sure they receive and follow these instructions.

There is no lab manual for the course. All relevant documents will be provided on the course Moodle site or in lectures/labs as appropriate.

Students who are doing the Labs online will be able to work on the material presented in the labs independently online and a separate online information session will be arranged each week for these students to ask questions and receive more instruction.

3.3 Field Trip

A 3 day field trip to the Mid-North Coast, NSW region will take place at the end of Week 6 from Saturday March 27 to Monday March 29. We will be staying at the UNSW field station at Smiths Lake (Table 2).

Table 2: Dates and Key Times for Field Trip

Location	UNSW Departure	UNSW Return
UNSW Smiths Lake Field Station	9 am Saturday March 27	6 pm Monday March 29

The cost for this field trip will be **\$120** per student and includes transport, accommodation and food (2 x breakfast, 2 x lunch, 2 x dinner + goodies).

Please note that there is a COVID restriction of 27 students who are allowed to stay at the Smiths Lake Field Station. A registration and payment link for the field trip will be made available on the course Moodle site in **Week 3**. Registration will be done on a first come, first serve basis (i.e. first 27 students to register). Payments must be made **before** you attend the field trip.

If you register and subsequently cannot attend the field trip for a **valid reason**, please notify Professor Brander as soon as possible as there may be a waiting list.

We would normally not run the field trip over a Monday during the trimester teaching period. However, these were the only dates available due to other usage at the Smiths Lake Field Station and the following weekend being the Easter Holidays.

If you will miss any commitments for other courses as a result of your attendance on the field trip you need to notify Professor Rob Brander as soon as possible so he can ensure you are not disadvantaged by this situation.

Any student not attending the field trip and will be given an alternate assessment of equal value to the Field Trip Report.

3.4 Attendance

You are encouraged to attend any of the 'live' online lectures as this provides an additional opportunity to interact with your lecturer and classmates. However, all lectures will be recorded and made available to you on the Course Moodle page.

Attendance in Lab classes (either face-to-face or online) is important as the Labs are the focus of much of the course assessment and involve group work.

Please note that all material in Lectures and Labs is assessable on the Exams. This includes any material given by guest lecturers.

Students that miss classes or assessment tasks due to ill health or other problems are advised to seek Special Consideration (see Section 4.2) and notify the Course Convenor as soon as possible.

The University expects that all students are available for the entire duration of the UNSW end of trimester scheduled examination period (Apr 30 – May 13). Please bear this in mind when making end of trimester work or travel plans.

4. Assessment

The assessment for the course is outlined in **Table 3**. Specific details and requirements of each assessment will be discussed in the relevant Lab class and/or on Moodle. Students are expected

to submit ALL assessable work and a Fail Grade may be given if you have not submitted work without a valid reason.

Table 3: Course Assessment

Assessment Item	% Value	Date Given	Due Date
Mid-Term Exam*	20	Tues March 16 (Week 5)	Tues March 16 (Week 5)
Final Exam*	20	Final Exam Period	Final Exam Period
Course Project	30	Tues Feb 16 (Week 1)	Friday April 2 (Week 7)
Beach Imaging Assignment	15	Wed March 3 (Week 3)	Mon March 15 (Week 5)
Field Trip Report/Alternate Assessment	15	Sat March 27 (Week 6/7)	Thurs Apr 15 (Week 9)
TOTAL	100		

*All exams will be conducted online

4.1 Submission of work

Please note that the Ground Floor Bioscience Student Office has been closed permanently and this includes the Assessment Box. Please do not submit any work at this location.

The Beach Imaging Assignment and Field Trip Report should be submitted by email **in WORD format only** to the Course Convenor Professor Rob Brander (rbrander@unsw.edu.au).

The Course Project must be submitted in **hard copy form** to the Course Convenor by the due date.

The Project Seminars will be assessed equally by student peers and the Course Convenor.

You are expected to make a back-up copy of everything you hand in.

Both the Mid-Term and Final Exams will be held online.

Late work will be penalised by 10% of the value of the assignment per day. After 7 late days (including weekends) the work will be given a value of 0%. This is School of BEES policy and there are no exceptions unless an extension is provided. Extensions are only provided by the Course

Convenor for valid reasons (medical or otherwise) and official certification must be appended to the work when handed in.

Only valid reasons will be accepted for missing an Exam or requesting extensions to assessment due dates. Appropriate documentation is required and should be provided to the Course Convenor. Alternative dates can be made for missing an Exam for valid reasons.

4.2 Special Consideration

Students who believe that their academic performance during the trimester may have been affected by personal or physical health problems or any other serious issues outside of their control may apply for Special Consideration. Applications can be made for compulsory class absences, such as labs and assessment tasks. **Students must make a formal application for Special Consideration** for the course(s) affected as soon as practical after the problem occurs and **within three working days of the assessment to which it refers**.

Students should consult the “Special Consideration” section of the UNSW Students’ website for further information on how to apply: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

4.3 Feedback on assessment

Feedback on the course assessments will be provided either on the assessment directly when handed back or discussed verbally in the relevant Lab Class.

We follow the UNSW grading system: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades>. You should also familiarise yourself with the UNSW assessment policy: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

4.4 Course evaluation and grade summary

Student evaluative feedback on the course is gathered every year through the use of UNSW MyExperience, which is available through your MyUNSW account and on the Course Moodle page towards the end of the course. MyExperience allows you to provide feedback on both the course itself and the teaching provided in the course. Student feedback is taken very seriously and influences continual course improvements so please contribute. More information on MyExperience can be found at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/myexperience>. Student feedback is taken seriously and influences continual course improvements.

A final grade summary of assessments for the course will be posted on the course Moodle website once the My Experience course evaluations reach an **80% response rate**. This summary is valuable as it allows students to check for any data entry errors.

5. Resources and Readings

5.1 Moodle

This course is available online through the UNSW Moodle system which can be accessed via your MyUNSW or by:

1. Going to <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index.php>
2. Enter your Username (your UNSW zID) and Password (your zPass) and click the 'Agree and sign on' button
3. Look for GEOS3731 under the 'My Courses Tab'

The GEOS3731 Moodle site will contain basic information regarding course announcements, lectures, labs, and assignments. You will find that the course has been divided into blocks of material relating to Lectures, Labs and Assessments where you will find all the information you need.

Please visit the Support Section at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support> for more information and tutorials about Moodle

5.2 Online lecture and lab recordings

All lectures for this course will be recorded using Blackboard Collaborate. Some of these lectures will be pre-recorded and uploaded in advance of the the scheduled lecture time or given 'live'. These recordings consist of the audio of what the lecture is saying as well as what is shown on their presentation. Professor Brander will also provide copies of his lecture Powerpoint presentations for students to print out if they wish.

It is **important to remember** that the the PowerPoint slides in lectures provide only a brief overview of the material actually presented in the lectures. All material is assessable on the Class Exams and if you rely solely on the content on the online PowerPoint slides to study from, you will not do well in the course. You should therefore listen to the online lecture recordings and take good notes from them!

The face-to-face labs are not recorded, but a separate online lab session will be arranged for those students taking the course online. These lab sessions will be recorded using Blackboard Collaborate and will be available to all students in the class.

For more information on Blackboard Collaborate see <https://student.unsw.edu.au/blackboard-collaborate-ultra>

There is no hardcopy Lab Manual for this course. Instead, relevant pre-lab and lab material related to the Labs and Assessments will be provided on Moodle in advance. Any material related to the Field Trip/Alternate Assessment Report will also be uploaded onto Moodle in a separate folder.

5.4 Readings

There is no set textbook for this subject. Instead, appropriate chapters from relevant coastal textbooks and/or journal papers will be assigned for each lecture as recommended readings. Most chapters can be obtained from eBooks via the UNSW Library and some books may be on high use loan in the UNSW Library.

Some students like to follow a textbook for a course. The following books are recommended if you wish to purchase a text that relates to most of the content of the course. They are reasonably priced (for textbooks) and are available through various internet booksellers and are also available as ebooks:

This one is available from the University Library in ebook form:

Davidson-Arnott, R., *Introduction to Coastal Processes and Geomorphology*. Cambridge University Press.

There is a more recent edition that is NOT available through the library, but is not that expensive if you look for it online:

Davidson-Arnott, R., Bauer, B. and Houser, C. (2019). *Introduction to Coastal Processes and Geomorphology, 2nd Edition*. Cambridge University Press.

Another good text has the exact same title, but a different publisher – I didn't know that was possible, but apparently it is:

Masselink, G., Hughes, M.G. and J. Knight (2011). *Introduction to Coastal Processes and Geomorphology, 2nd Edition*. Hodder Education, London.

Please note that the 1st Edition of this book by Masselink and Hughes (2003) is just as good.

Most of the recommended readings for the course are taken from these two books.

Coastal (Text) Books

There are many coastal related textbooks available that may be of use to you during the course. Some of the following examples are available on high use/short term loan or as ebooks from the UNSW Library

Butt, T. and Russell, P. (2002). *Surf Science*. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu.

Carter, R.W.G. (1989). *Coastal Environments*. Academic Press, London.

Carter, R.W.G. and Woodroffe, C.D. (1994). *Coastal Evolution: late quaternary shoreline morphodynamics*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Harvey, N. and Caton, B. (2003). *Coastal Management in Australia*. Oxford University Press, New York.

- Haslett, S.K. (2000). *Coastal Systems*. Routledge, London.
- Komar, P. (1998). *Beach Processes and Sedimentation*. 2nd Edition. Prentice Hall.
- Masselink, G. and Hughes, M.G. (2003). *Introduction to Coastal Processes and Geomorphology*, Oxford University Press, London.
- Nordstrom, K. (2000). *Beaches and Dunes of Developed Coasts*. Cambridge University Press, UK.
- Short, A.D. (Ed.) (1999). *Handbook of Beach and Shoreface Morphodynamics*. John Wiley & Sons, New York.
- Short, A.D. – Beaches of the NSW, QLD, SA, WA etc. Coast Series – University of Sydney Press
- Short, A.D. and Woodroffe, C.D. (2009). *The Coast of Australia*. Cambridge University Press, New York.
- Woodroffe, C.D. (2003). *Coasts; form, process and evolution*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

A simpler, but very good, overview of most of the material in this course is provided in my own book:

Brander, R.W. (2010). *Dr Rip's Essential Beach Book; everything you need to know about surf, sand and rips*. UNSW Press, Sydney.

It's now out of print, but is available as an ebook at <https://books.apple.com/au/book/dr-rips-essential-beach-book/id437395779>

Journal Papers

As an upper level undergraduate you should be familiarizing yourself with the scientific literature, particularly papers found in refereed journals. Students will be required to read journal papers throughout the course as part of your lectures and labs. You will be able to access papers online through the university library system and through links/pdf's available on the course Moodle site. Google Scholar is also a good source of journal papers.

Some examples of **coastal related scientific journals** include:

Coastal Engineering
Coastal Management
Continental Shelf Research
Earth-Science Reviews
Earth Surface Processes and Landforms
Geomorphology
Journal of Coastal Research
Journal of Geology
Journal of Geophysical Research
Marine Geology
Natural Hazards
Natural Hazards and Earth Systems Sciences
Progress in Physical Geography
Quaternary International

Sedimentology

Some examples of ***coastal related conference proceedings*** include:

Coastal Dynamics

Coastal Sediments

Proceedings of the International Coastal Symposium

International Conference on Coastal Engineering

6. Academic Integrity, Referencing and Plagiarism

Academic Integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage (Fishman, 2013). At UNSW this means that your work must be your own and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, **plagiarism** may be detected in your work.

Every year at UNSW, many students are caught copying or cheating in various ways resulting either in severe penalty for the assignment in question or in automatic failure of a course. If you think we do not recognize copying and plagiarism, you are very, very wrong.

In addition to the UNSW Policy on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism, the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES), also considers any work submitted that has been produced outside of a given course in a given year to be plagiarism i.e:

- Work produced for a third party e.g. your place of employment, is considered intellectual property of the third party, and as such if such work is submitted in place of a required course work, it is deemed plagiarism.
- All work submitted for assessment must be created specifically for the given assessment task in the given year. Work produced in previous years or for other assessments is not acceptable.

Further information about academic integrity and plagiarism can be located at

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on, or replicate, someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

For further information about referencing styles see <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Other services available to students include:

- The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>

7. Occupational Health and Safety

UNSW has adopted many important protocols in respect to Occupational Health and Safety. Information can be found at <https://safety.unsw.edu.au/>

As this course will involve both field and laboratory work, there will be several briefing sessions regarding appropriate OHS issues. It is an OHS requirement that all students wear closed shoes in Biological Sciences South (E26) Teaching Lab 05.

8. Equity and Diversity

Those students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their teaching or learning environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the **UNSW Equitable Learning Services** <https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services> prior to, or at the commencement of, the course. Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional exam and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.

UNSW takes student wellbeing, health and safety very seriously and if you find you need support to help with your personal life, getting your academic success on track or just want to know how to stay safe, then a number of options are available at:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>

9. Grievance Procedures

If you encounter any type of problem, concern or grievance about your studies in relation to this course, you can find out what your options are at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints>

In the first instance, students with grievances should first try to resolve issues with the Course Convenor. If this is unsatisfactory, you should contact the School Student Ethics Officers (A/Prof Stephen Bonser; s.bonser@unsw.edu.au) or the Deputy Head of School A/Prof Scott Mooney who is the School's Grievance Officer (s.mooney@unsw.edu.au)

Information on UNSW Counselling services is available at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/counselling>