2016 COURSE GUIDE

BIOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

- Biological Sciences
- Conservation & Wildlife Biology
- Environmental Management
- Marine & Freshwater Biology
- Science
- Sustainability
Our world is more dynamic than ever before, creating new ideas and new possibilities. So how do you engage with this ever-changing environment? You learn. And the best way to learn is from experience. ECU is a university for our times, where students learn in hands-on environments and in industry relevant courses. Our lecturers have extensive experience in their fields and place the needs of students above all else. We’re a university where you can learn the combination of theory and practical skills needed to take advantage of every opportunity. Skills that will allow you to understand and meet new challenges, and to thrive in an evolving world.

Are you ready? Apply to ECU for 2016.
Why choose Biology & Environmental Sciences at ECU?

When it comes to studying in the areas of science and the environment, ECU’s world-class research in environmental science and recognised excellence in teaching quality (The Good Universities Guide, 2015) leaves other universities green with envy. You’ll find a range of practical degrees that can lead to distinctly different careers in fields such as marine and freshwater biology, environmental management, conservation and wildlife biology, and more.

SUSTAINABILITY AT ECU

It has never been more important to protect and preserve what we can for our future. ECU’s Sustainability degree is a carefully planned exploration of disciplines that will enable students to collaborate in solving problems for our future. Students will learn from highly qualified academics and have the opportunity to major in Developing Sustainable Communities, Humanities & Arts, Sustainable Business Management, Sustainable Environments and Sustainable Planning.

SCIENCE AT ECU

ECU’s Science course provides students with a range of study combinations to increase their career options. By combining two of the sixteen available majors across a range of fields such as chemistry, physics, nutrition, human biology, computer science and sports science, students can prepare themselves for entry into a range of fields. Combining occupational safety and health with environmental management is advantageous if you want to work in the resource industry sector. Or by selecting a particular major relevant to teacher education, students can qualify themselves to study a postgraduate course and become a high school science teacher.

STEP AHEAD WITH ECU INTERNSHIPS

ECU facilitates a number of opportunities to apply for internship programs with key organisations in the natural science and management sectors. Students with an interest in environmental management, marine and freshwater biology, conservation biology or general science can apply to have the opportunity to work with a relevant organisation such as Astron or DFS to gain invaluable direct experience in their chosen field while studying.

This can place students on the front foot and provide an edge when they graduate.

STUDY THE FIELD

Our students are immersed in a stimulating and highly supportive teaching and learning environment, with all courses structured to have a strong practical component. Most include work experience in relevant organisations and each year students have the option to undertake an international study tour in places such as Thailand, Vietnam, China and the United States.

Industry professionals regularly give lectures, and students are exposed to ‘real-world’ experiences in the classroom, laboratories and on field trips. Our students also get the chance to conduct research that will benefit the community and environment.
Facilities, Services and Support

At ECU, we provide a supportive learning environment through our excellent range of facilities, services and support programs.

**STUDENT CENTRAL**

On each campus, Student Central is your point of reference for all enquiries regarding academic progress and enrolment assistance, as well as for a range of support services.

**FACILITIES**

- Fully-equipped modern libraries
- E-labs available 24-hour/7-days/52 weeks and free Wi-Fi
- The Co-op shop to assist you with all your educational needs
- Faculty Student Information Offices dedicated to assist students, both undergrad and postgraduate, in each of our faculties

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

- Learning Advisers
- Career, Volunteering, Mentoring and Leadership Services
- Faculty Student Information Offices
- Off-campus Student Support Services
- Equity, Diversity & Disability Services
- Academic Mentoring
- Study Abroad and Exchange Program
- Kurongkurl Katitjin, ECU’s Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research

**EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND DISABILITY**

ECU’s Equity, Diversity and Disability (EDD) services support students whose studies may be affected by a medical condition or disability in accessing support and services that can help them succeed. EDD staff can assist with arranging alternative assessment conditions, access to some aids and equipment, note taking, AUSLAN interpreting and transcription services. Every campus has a specially designed Accessible Technologies Room that provides students with access to adjustable chairs and desks, specialised software, computer, scanner and other adaptive technology. All ECU locations have access for people with disabilities, and specific details are provided via ECU’s access and mobility maps at www.ecu.edu.au/about-ecu/our-campus/campus-maps
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- **Medical Centres (Joondalup and Mount Lawley)**
- **Free Counselling service**
- **Multi-faith Chaplaincy service**
- **Fully-equipped sports, recreation and fitness centres (Joondalup and Mount Lawley)**
- **Mini-gym and playing courts (Bunbury)**
Bachelor of Science

Duration: 3 Years
Availability & Campus:

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Provides high quality studies in a wide range of science and technology disciplines. Students take introductory science and mathematics units, and can then select combinations of disciplines relevant to their interests and aspirations in a wide range of professions in science and technology.

Majors are available in the following disciplines: Addiction Studies, Applied Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Computer Science, Conservation Biology, Environmental Management, Health Promotion, Human Biology, Mathematics, Nutrition, Occupational Safety and Health, Physics, Sports Science

Admission Requirements
One or more of the majors in this course has admission requirements. Refer to the website for more information.

Careers
Government Scientist, Scientific Adviser, Scientific Consultant, Conservation Field Officer, IT Consultant, Environmental Consultant, Research Officer, Nutritionist

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/Y83

“BY UNDERTAKING THIS INTERNSHIP, I AM NOT ONLY GOING TO GRADUATE WITH A DEGREE, I AM GOING TO GRADUATE INDUSTRY READY.”

Aside from the passionate lecturers, great facilities and hands-on nature of the course, the opportunity to do an internship has been the most valuable part of my studies.

I was able to spend time working with Astron Environmental Services, being involved in a range of activities such as mining rehabilitation and conducting flora and fauna surveys, predominantly in the Pilbara areas of Western Australia.

I was given a run sheet for the week with the opportunity to sit with different scientists to find out about what they do, how they do it and why. I was even asked to present at Astron’s annual seminar day.

The experience taught me the invaluable tools required by scientists, provided me with field work experience and has allowed me to set myself apart from the competition.

Chanelle Webster
Conservation and Wildlife Biology student
Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Business

**Duration:** 4 Years  
**Availability & Campus:**

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**Note:** Students should be aware that they will be required to attend classes across both campuses to complete the course.

Allows students to undertake four years of concurrent study in science and business across a wide range of disciplines.

**Business Majors are available in the following disciplines:**

**Science Majors are available in the following disciplines:**

Mathematics, Nutrition, Occupational Safety and Health, Physics, Sports Science

**Admission Requirements**
One or more of the majors in this course has admission requirements. Refer to the website for more information.

**Professional Recognition**
One or more of these majors/unit sets is externally recognised. Refer to the website for details.

**Employment Opportunities**
Graduates of this double degree will contribute to the development and marketing of products and services which utilise and extend Australia’s strong scientific and technological expertise.

**Careers**
Sustainability Officer, Climate Change Adaptation Manager, Scientific Consultant, Government Scientist, Scientific Adviser

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/Y88

"ANYTHING IS ACHIEVABLE."

Coming from a farming background, I was always interested in studying biology. So I made the decision to move here and begin my studies at ECU. ECU offered me a course with exciting field work and lecturers who were so welcoming and even helped me to find work experience positions. I recently completed volunteer work at the Western Australian Herbarium. I’ve learned that anything is achievable if you set your mind to it and focus on your goals and dreams.

Rebecca MacMillan  
ECU Science graduate
Bachelor of Science (Biological Sciences)

**Duration:** 3 Years  
**Availability & Campus:**

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Designed for students with a strong interest in the living world, this course covers areas such as cellular and molecular biology, genetics and evolution, zoology, animal and plant physiology, botany and ecology. The course also has a strong emphasis on biodiversity and evolution.

**Employment Opportunities**  
Graduates will be skilled for professional employment in biology-related research, industry, teaching, government agencies and science-based businesses.

**Careers**  
Biodiversity Manager, Biomedical Researcher, Nature Conservationist, Environmental Consultant, Zoologist, Botanist, Catchment Officer, Natural Resource Officer, Conservation Field Officer

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/Y18

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**“MY COURSE GAVE ME LOTS OF HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE.”**

I’ve always been passionate about wildlife and the environment, so I chose to study Biological Sciences at ECU. Before starting my studies, I didn’t know how hands-on my course would be.

I’ve participated in a lot of lab work, been able to use modern equipment and even gone on camps as well. The lecturers have been amazing. They are so enthusiastic about the subjects they teach and are extremely knowledgeable.

Zigourney Nielsen  
ECU Biological Sciences student
Bachelor of Science (Conservation and Wildlife Biology)

Duration: 3 Years
Availability & Campus:

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Enables students to gain the knowledge and skills to understand why biodiversity is in decline worldwide and its significance, and offers approaches to tackle this important issue.

The course covers ecology, genetics, wildlife management, animal biology and ecosystem management, to allow students to investigate, monitor and manage biodiversity.

Employment Opportunities
The strong practical focus of this course prepares graduates for careers in government agencies and industries which deal with conservation of biodiversity, environmental impact assessment, and the management of specific ecosystems such as land, wetlands, forests, coastlines and arid regions.

Careers
Biodiversity Manager, Nature Conservationist, Environmental Consultant, Botanist, Wildlife Conservation Worker, Environmental Educator, Natural Resource Officer, Biologist, Environmental Management Officer

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/K57

“"I GOT REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE WITH DOLPHINS IN MONKEY MIA."”

I wanted to pursue a career that would allow me to work outdoors. I chose the ECU course because of how practical it was. The facilities were great, the lecturers were really helpful and I made life-long friends. I was also able to get real-world work experience with the Department of Environment and Conservation in Monkey Mia at the dolphin reserve. It was one of my favourite experiences throughout uni.

Abbie Milne
ECU Conservation and Wildlife Biology graduate
Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management)

**Duration:** 3 Years

**Availability & Campus:**

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Introduces students to the multidisciplinary nature of environmental management and provides an understanding of the environment and the knowledge and skills used in its management.

**Employment Opportunities**
The strong management focus of this course prepares graduates for careers in government agencies and industries which deal with conservation of biodiversity, environmental impact assessment and management of activities, environmental planning and the management and rehabilitation of specific ecosystems such as wetlands, forests, coastlines and arid regions.

**Careers**
Sanctuary Manager, Catchment Officer, Ecotourism Officer, Natural Resource Officer, Environmental Management Officer, Conservation Field Officer, Land Management Officer, Environmental Consultant, Landcare Officer

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/Y39

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“I’ve always been really interested in the natural environment and concerned with the multitude of stresses which threaten its condition. ECU’s course offered the perfect avenue to enable me to understand the way catchments and ecosystems function and how we can successfully manage our environment and natural resources. The great thing about ECU is the combination of both theoretical and practical course components which I believe will make me highly employable.”

Vanessa Stylianou
ECU Environmental Management graduate
Bachelor of Science (Marine and Freshwater Biology)

Duration: 3 Years
Availability & Campus:

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Enables students to make a positive contribution to the management and understanding of marine and freshwater environments. The course focuses on both the theoretical and practical dimensions of aquatic environments.

Employment Opportunities
Graduates will possess skills that are applicable in a wide range of aquatic science professions in research, industry, teaching and government agencies.

Careers
Marine Scientist, Aquatic Biologist, Marine Park Manager, Marine Biologist, Environmental Officer, Water Manager, Catchment Coordinator, Aquatic Scientist, Natural Resource Manager

See more course information: reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/G87

"THE LECTURERS ARE AWESOME! THEY PUT MARINE BIOLOGY THEORY IN CONTEXT WITH EXPERIENCE."

I’ve always found the water both fascinating and beautiful. What’s more, a career in marine biology has endless possibilities, and the potential to take me all over the world. Why ECU? It was the combination of theory, field trips and prac-work, and the way the lecturers make the learning process easier by relating the three. Since beginning my degree, I’ve been offered a job at AQWA, which has helped me apply my knowledge in what I consider to be an incredible workplace. This has been a really big step along my career path. I can start applying my knowledge to make a positive difference to our marine environment.

Ben Jones
ECU Marine and Freshwater Biology graduate
ECU’s Science degree was extremely flexible and gave me the opportunity to study across a number of faculties and study a range of units.

What really surprised me about ECU was how much field experience there was. Going out in the field, working, networking and really practising what I had learned in lectures while outdoors was really important in the area I was studying.

Holly Winkle  
ECU Marine and Freshwater Science graduate

“ECU PROVIDED ME WITH ALL OF THE THEORY AND FIELD EXPERIENCE I NEEDED FOR THE REAL WORLD.”
Bachelor of Sustainability

Duration: 3 Years
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Note: Students may be required to attend classes on both the Mount Lawley and Joondalup campuses to complete the course, depending on the chosen Major.

Presents students with a unique opportunity to contribute to an emerging challenge that we all face — how to make our lives, livelihoods, communities, environments and spaces sustainable.

To meet this challenge society will need graduates with an awareness and understandings of disciplines from across environmental, social and economic domains. The environmental domain covers the water, air and soil and the biota that inhabit them, while the economic domain deals with the financial and managerial aspects of business and resource decisions. The social domain recognises that people are both the cause and solution to sustainability issues.

Students will receive practical and theoretical guidance in a set of skills that are essential for solving problems: systems thinking, critical thinking, and decision-making, and will build personal attributes that will enable them to work in teams to generate new ideas, and new solutions. Studies will include an emphasis on field-based exercises and workplace learning.

Majors are available in the following disciplines: Developing Sustainable Communities, Humanities and Arts, Sustainable Business Management, Sustainable Environments, Sustainable Planning

Employment Opportunities
Sustainability officers are employed predominantly by local government, by larger corporations and by consulting firms. Most businesses and industries in Western Australia have sustainability as a business focus with many positions specifically targeting this interdisciplinary area.

Lines of employment opportunity include conventional professions such as engineering, environmental management, law and business, as well as in providing qualification profiles for policy analysis and policy development, regional and community development, corporate reporting, risk management, innovation, strategic planning and leadership.

Careers
Sustainability Officer, Sustainability Practitioner, Sustainability Consultant

See more course information:
reachyourpotential.com.au/courses/C55
Postgraduate Courses

We also offer a range of research and coursework postgraduate courses.

**RESEARCH**

For researchers we offer:

**Honours Programs (1 year*)**
A mixture of some specialist coursework units and a major research thesis, available for Biology, Chemistry and Environmental Management.

**Masters Programs (2 years*)**
A major research project resulting in a thesis, plus some specialist coursework units.

**PhD Program (3 and 4 year options*)**
A substantial research project and thesis, available for any research in the field of natural sciences.

**COURSEWORK**

For those with degrees in any discipline (or the required amount of relevant work experience) seeking to upgrade skills or gain qualifications in a new discipline, we offer a Graduate Certificate (0.5 years*), Graduate Diploma (1 year*) and Masters (2 years*) in the field of Environmental Management.

These very flexible online-only courses have been designed to meet the needs of industry, government and consulting sectors. The courses develop an understanding of the principles and procedures necessary for professionals to practice applied environmental management.

Some of the key areas covered in the courses include environmental impact assessments, planning and monitoring, environmental management systems, environmental auditing, and emphasis on the global, regional and local nature of environmental issues.

*Full-time or part-time equivalent.
Pathways to Uni

At ECU, we believe everyone should have the opportunity to access a university education. That’s why we’ve created a range of innovative entry options. We have entry pathways available for school leavers, recent school leavers and mature age applicants, and we provide the support and flexibility to anyone wanting to further themselves through education.

ATAR APPLICANTS

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is a ranking based on eligible subjects studied in year 12. As an ATAR student seeking entry, you must meet the following entry requirements:

- English competency (WACE Course Stage 2 or 3)
- Minimum ATAR for the course you wish to study
- Achievement of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)
- Any prerequisites for the course that you wish to apply for

If you think you may not achieve the required ATAR for the course you wish to study, you should consider submitting a portfolio of your work and experience via our Portfolio entry pathway.

PREVIOUS STUDY AT A REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATION (RTO) – INCLUDING STUDIES COMPLETED IN YEAR 12

If you have successfully completed RTO/Vocational Education and Training qualifications from a recognised institution (for example, a Certificate IV or Diploma), you may be able to use this study to fulfil minimum admission requirements into one of our undergraduate courses or University Preparation Courses.

OTHER APPLICANTS

School leavers (including those who have left school but are still under the age of 20) and mature age students who will not obtain an ATAR may be able to apply using our Portfolio entry pathway.

Portfolio Pathway

Our Portfolio entry pathway assesses your application to ECU based on a portfolio of evidence that includes your qualifications, school results, work and life experiences. Portfolio can be an entry pathway into undergraduate courses.

The Portfolio entry pathway is for:

- School leavers and recent school leavers with a near-miss ATAR for their chosen course
- School leavers and recent school leavers who will not/did not obtain an ATAR
- Mature age applicants, who are over 20 years of age in the semester they commence studies, who may or may not have completed year 12

Note: Some courses do not accept applications through the Portfolio entry pathway. For a list of these courses and more information on the Portfolio entry pathway, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au
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Pathways to Uni

University Preparation Courses (UniPrep)

Our range of UniPrep Courses provide a pathway to many of our undergraduate courses. These provide you with essential skills and prepare you for uni studies.

The UniPrep Courses available are:

- University Preparation Course
- University Preparation Course (Education Assistant)*
- Indigenous University Orientation Course (IUOC)

Australian citizens, holders of a Permanent Humanitarian Visa, Permanent Residents and New Zealand citizens are eligible to study in a Commonwealth Supported place, making the University Preparation Courses free.

*The University Preparation Course in Education Assistance only leads to pathways in selected undergraduate teaching courses.

Previous Tertiary Qualifications

If you have successfully completed units at university level in Australia, you may meet the minimum entry requirements into ECU. Overseas university qualifications may also meet academic entry requirements however, applicants may require the successful completion of a recognised English examination to meet English competency standards.

Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)

This national test is designed to assess aptitude for learning in a tertiary environment. It comprises two tests, written English and multiple choice, and is available for mature age students, over 20 years of age. For more information on the STAT, visit www.tisc.edu.au

Indigenous Student Intake Test (ISIT)

This assessment is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants for entry into our UniPrep and undergraduate courses. For more information, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au/indigenous

English Competency Requirements

In addition to any academic or other special requirements, applicants must demonstrate English competency for entry into undergraduate degrees. For further information, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au/minimum-requirements
Applying to ECU

Applying to ECU will differ depending on your entry pathway and the time of year that you apply. To find out which process applies to you, visit reachyourpotential.com.au/entry

APPLICATIONS VIA TISC

Current Year 12 students who will obtain an ATAR should apply via TISC (Tertiary Institutions Service Centre) for Semester 1, 2016.

If you are a school leaver, and wish to have a portfolio assessed, apply through TISC and send your portfolio directly to us by 27 November to be guaranteed consideration for main round offers in 2016. For more information about TISC, visit www.tisc.edu.au. For more information about Portfolio pathways, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au/entry

DIRECT APPLICATION TO ECU

You can apply to ECU directly by completing our online application process at www.reachyourpotential.com.au/apply

The direct application process is available to:

- School leavers or recent school leavers who will not obtain an ATAR and wish to apply via our Portfolio entry pathway or for the University Preparation Course (UniPrep)
- Students who have previously studied with ECU
- Students applying for mid-year entry
- All mature age students

For school leavers, if you wish to be considered for main round offers in 2016, please submit your application and portfolio directly to us by 27 November. If you require assistance with a direct application, you are welcome to visit our Joondalup, Mount Lawley or Bunbury campuses and complete your application with us on-site, or call us for assistance on 134 328.

INTERVIEWS, FOLIOS AND AUDITIONS

Some of our courses require an interview, folio of work and/or audition. You can check the admission requirements of the course you are interested in to see if this applies to you.

Some important things to note are:

- The format and structure of the interview, folio of work or audition can change depending on the specific course you are applying for.
- In general, in an interview situation, staff interviewing you will be looking for a demonstration of abilities and cognitive skills in areas appropriate to the course.
- Staff assessing your folio of work or audition will be usually looking for a demonstration of abilities and/or skills appropriate to the course. We will contact you to arrange an audition, interview or submission of your folio of work if required.

To find out more, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au/interviews
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INTERVIEWS, FOLIOS AND AUDITIONS

Some of our courses require an interview, folio of work and/or audition. You can check the admission requirements of the course you are interested in to see if this applies to you. Some important things to note are:

- The format and structure of the interview, folio of work or audition can change depending on the specific course you are applying for.
- In general, in an interview situation, staff interviewing you will be looking for a demonstration of abilities and cognitive skills in areas appropriate to the course.
- Staff assessing your folio of work or audition will be usually looking for a demonstration of abilities and/or skills appropriate to the course. We will contact you to arrange an audition, interview or submission of your folio of work if required.

To find out more, visit www.reachyourpotential.com.au/interviews.

APPLYING TO ECU

Applying to ECU will differ depending on your entry pathway and the time of year that you apply. To find out which process applies to you, visit reachyourpotential.com.au/entry.
Our world is more dynamic than ever before, creating new ideas and NEW POSSIBILITIES.

So how do you engage with this ever-changing environment?

YOU LEARN.

Are you ready?

Start your journey.

Contact ECU by phone on 134 ECU (134 328)
For calls outside Australia phone (61 8) 6304 0000
Email us at futurestudy@ecu.edu.au or visit reachyourpotential.com.au

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GREENING ECU: Edith Cowan University is committed to reducing the environmental impact associated with its operations by conducting its activities in a socially and environmentally responsible manner. This includes implementing strategies and technologies that minimise waste of resources and demonstrate environmentally sensitive development, innovation and continuous improvement.