Course Co-ordinator:  Terry Leahy  
Room: W342  
Ph:  02 49 216106  
Fax: 02 49 216933  
Email: Terry.Leahy@newcastle.edu.au  
Consultation hours:  Tues 11-12; Wed 11-12; Thurs 1-2  

SOCA3060 - Environment and Society  
Course Outline
SOCA3060 - Environment and Society
Course Outline

Course Coordinator  Terry Leahy
Semester  Semester 2 - 2009
Unit Weighting  10

Teaching Methods
Field Study
Lecture
Tutorial

Brief Course Description
Develops a sociological approach to environmental issues. Deals critically with environmental controversies within social science, within the environmental movement and within society at large. Key areas are environmental problems of present society, ecologically sustainable technologies and strategies for moving to a sustainable society; gender and the environment; indigenous peoples, Aborigines and the environment; deep ecology; socialist and anarchist approaches; the environment in developing countries. The course covers aspects of the Key Learning Area (KLA) of Human Society and Its Environment for primary and high school teachers.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Tutorial for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Field Study for 8 Hours per Term for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts

Recommended:

Essential:

SOCA3060 Environment and Society 2009 – Book of Readings
To be obtained from UPrint at Shortland Union building below Godfrey Tanner Bar for Callaghan students. Port Macquarie students will be informed by Jai Cooper as to location.
This book of readings will be used each weeks and students are expected to have read at least 20 pages from each week’s readings. These resources are also a first source for essay topics.

Course Objectives
On successful completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:
1. An understanding of a sociological approach to environmental issues and controversies.
2. Ability to analyze and deal critically with environmental perspectives as instances of social theory.
3. Ability to consider a range of sociological interpretations of environmental problems.
4. Skills in writing an academic essay, in reading critically and in doing research.

Course Content
1. Environmental problems today and the response of major social institutions. How do people, governments and environmentalists respond to environmental problems?
2. Environmental technologies and the social context of implementation - includes two field trips. Are alternative technologies viable in today’s economy?
3. Aborigines, indigenous peoples and environmental issues. Were indigenous technologies of the past environmentally sustainable?
4. The social movements associated with environmentalism - eco-feminism; deep ecology; social ecology; socialist environmentalism. What reforms and utopias do these movements propose?
5. The developing world and environmental issues. How does the world economic structure contribute to environmental problems in developing countries?
### Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Major essay, 2,500 words, Weighting 50% due Week 7.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Minor Essay, 2,000 words, Weighting 40% due Week 13.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group/tutorial participation and contribution</td>
<td>10% Assessed on the basis of completion of the required readings and seminar tasks.</td>
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</table>

### Assumed Knowledge

40 units of study at 1000 level.

### Callaghan Campus Timetable

**SOCA3060**

**ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY**

Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science

**Semester 2 - 2009**

**Seminar**

Thursday 12:00 - 13:00 [W243]

or

Thursday 14:00 - 15:00 [W238]

and **Lecture**

Thursday 10:00 - 11:00 [V10]

and **Seminar**

Thursday 15:00 - 16:00 [W243]

**PORT MACQUARIE NTH COAST INST TIMETABLE**

**SOCA3060**

**ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY**

Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science

**Semester 2 - 2009**

**Lecture**

Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00 Day & Time to be advised.

and **Tutorial**

Tuesday 11:00 - 12:00 Day & Time to be advised.

### IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

**Academic fraud** is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

- a) falsification of data;
- b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;
- c) reusing one's own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);
- d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;
- e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and
f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one's own.

**Plagiarism** is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

**Turnitin** is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

**RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS**

Students can access the University's policy at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html)

**MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM**

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS**

*Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations* items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy.

**Requests for Extensions of Time** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
- whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**Note:** different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

**Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:**

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

**Late applications may not be accepted.** Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating
circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

**STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS**

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au. As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

**CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT**

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

**Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term,** except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

**STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS**

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:

www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
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</table>

**OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>General enquiries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/</a></td>
<td>Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards</td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.