



AGRI13009 Sustainable Agricultural Development: Local and Global

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 09/07/2025 08:27 pm

All details in this unit profile for AGRI13009 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

The global food system faces a range of economic, social, political, and environmental challenges. In this unit you will explore emerging challenges in agricultural systems in Australia and around the world, and assess opportunities for development of sustainable management solutions. Case studies will be drawn from a range of contexts across the globe, with a particular emphasis on resource-limited settings, including low- and middle-income countries. You will explore the effects of resource availability and management actions on primary production and discuss the social, economic, political, and ecological dimensions associated with them. You will undertake an investigation into a current challenge confronting a food or fibre production system and offer practical strategies for sustainable agricultural systems.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 3*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 7

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Minimum of 72 credit points

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Bundaberg
- Emerald
- Online
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Test**

Weighting: 30%

2. **Case Study**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Report**

Weighting: 50%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Student feedback

Feedback

Some students expressed that content from some guest lecturers was material repeated from other units that the students had previously undertaken. This, the students reported, resulted in a lack of engagement on their part. Though, some students would not have taken these other students.

Recommendation

While this unit's forthcoming update unit proposal will mitigate some of these issues, guest lecturers should be requested to modify their content, where possible, to suit the specific aims and learning outcomes of this unit.

Feedback from Unit coordinator reflections

Feedback

This unit's theme is rather broad. While this lends itself to a varied exploration of sustainable and resource-smart food production, AGRI13009 would benefit from a refined and updated focus.

Recommendation

Many of AGRI13009's themes explore sustainable development and global challenges to food production. To give the unit some more coherence and focus, this unit should be updated to explicitly align content with the sustainable development goals and international agricultural development. This will provide greater coherence across the unit and align with CQUni's strategic plan and research strengths.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Evaluate how challenges facing the global food system are impacting agricultural management actions
2. Integrate scientific knowledge for the development of sustainable management solutions for the cropping or livestock industry
3. Develop solutions to the complex challenges facing agricultural systems.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
---	--	--	--	--	--

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Online Test - 30%	•		
2 - Case Study - 20%	•	•	
3 - Report - 50%		•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Communication	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving		•	•
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•	•	•
5 - Team Work		•	•
6 - Information Technology Competence		•	
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•		
8 - Ethical practice			
9 - Social Innovation			•
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing styles below:

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Philip Brown Unit Coordinator
p.h.brown@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1: The global picture: crisis, opportunity and the Sustainable Development Agenda. - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Sustainable Agricultural Development: Local and Global		

Week 2: International Agricultural Development and Global Food Security - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
International Agricultural Development and Global Food Security (including nutrition sensitive agriculture).		

Week 3: Biophysical and Socioeconomic interactions in agriculture - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The History of Biophysical and Socioeconomic interactions in agriculture, highlighting the evolution of current agricultural system shaped by millennia of these interactions.		

Week 4: Biophysical and Socioeconomic Dimensions of Contemporary Agricultural Systems - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Examination of Biophysical and Socioeconomic Dimensions of Contemporary Agricultural Systems using case studies		Assessment 2 Case Study: Discussion board open for group sharing of content for case study development.

Week 5: Global plant production inputs - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Challenges and solutions associated with inputs in plant production systems.		

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

Week 6: Global livestock production inputs - 19 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Challenges and solutions associated with inputs in livestock production systems.		

Week 7: Energy use and climate change - 26 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Agriculture and global climate change.		Assessment 1: Online Test Due: Week 7 Friday (30 Aug 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Week 8: Waste - 02 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Food waste, agricultural waste, circular economies for reusing waste in agricultural systems		

Week 9: Market forces in agriculture - 09 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Examination of market drivers influencing agricultural production: global populations, rising incomes, consumer expectations, government policies		Assessment 2: Case study Due: Week 9 Friday (13 Sept 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Week 10: Supply chains and value chains - 16 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Functional aspects of supply/value chains and their impact on agriculture		

Week 11: People in agriculture - 23 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The agricultural workforce and complexity of the labour market.		

Week 12: Effective change implementation - 30 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
How to implement change in agriculture to adapt to challenges and opportunities of the next few decades.		

Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Assessment 3: Agriculture Systems Challenge Report Due: Review/Exam Week Wednesday (9 Oct 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

Assessment Tasks

1 Assessment 1: Online Test

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

Assessment 1: Online Test will assess your understanding of the topics in Weeks 1 - 7. It will be administered as a test through Moodle in Week 7. You will have two hours to complete the test. You will be allowed one attempt at this assessment. There are 15 short answer questions each worth two (2) marks.

Assessment Due Date

Week 7 Friday (30 Aug 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

The online test will open at 9AM on Monday of Week 7 and close by 5PM on Friday of Week 7.

Return Date to Students

Week 9 Friday (13 Sept 2024)

Results of the online test will be returned within 10 working days after the test has closed

Weighting

30%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed on your knowledge of concepts covered in Weeks 1 - 7, as reflected by correct responses in the Online Test.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The Online Test will be administered through Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Evaluate how challenges facing the global food system are impacting agricultural management actions

2 Assessment 2: Case study

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

Assessment 2: Agricultural Systems Case Studies has two parts. Part A is a group task and Part B is an individual task. Part A will involve participation in a whole-of-class discussion board on Moodle. Students will contribute to compilation of information on crop production and livestock production systems, leading to identification of 2 specific industry case studies (1 cropping, 1 livestock) for Part B.

In Part B you will be required to use the information compiled in Part A to address a case study question posed by your lecturers. You may choose to from either the cropping case study or the livestock case study. Details of the case study question will be available on Moodle. You are required to submit a 1500 word case study report.

Assessment Due Date

Week 9 Friday (13 Sept 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 11 Friday (27 Sept 2024)

Feedback will be returned by Friday in Week 11

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed on:

- Your understanding of agricultural production systems
- Your research skills and critical analysis of the literature
- Your understanding of how challenges facing the global food system are impacting agricultural management actions
- Your ability to integrate scientific knowledge for the development of sustainable management solutions for the cropping or livestock industry
- Your ability to resolve complex challenges with insightful use of evidence
- Your written communication

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online Group

Submission Instructions

All students in the class are expected to contribute via the assigned discussion board to Part A. Part B is to be submitted through moodle and is an individual task.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Evaluate how challenges facing the global food system are impacting agricultural management actions
- Integrate scientific knowledge for the development of sustainable management solutions for the cropping or livestock industry

3 Assessment 3: Agriculture Systems Challenge Report

Assessment Type

Report

Task Description

In Assessment 3: Agricultural Systems Challenge Report you will select one from a list of topical global agriculture industry challenges selected by your lecturers and outline strategies for overcoming the selected challenge. In this assessment, you are required to conduct a desktop review of the academic literature to identify and describe the challenges as well as to provide evidence to back up the solutions to the challenge that you have identified.

The word count for Assessment 3 is up to 3000 words, not including headings, subheadings, references, tables, figure legends and appendices.

Assessment Due Date

Review/Exam Week Wednesday (9 Oct 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Wednesday (16 Oct 2024)

Weighting

50%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

For Assessment 3 you will be assessed on:

- Your description of the relevant production system challenge
- Your analysis of innovations and options for addressing challenges in food production systems
- Your development of viable solutions to overcome the relevant challenges
- Your use of reputable sources of evidence to support your report
- Your written communication skills

A marking rubric will be available on Moodle.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Integrate scientific knowledge for the development of sustainable management solutions for the cropping or livestock industry
- Develop solutions to the complex challenges facing agricultural systems.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?

**Be Honest**

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own

**Seek Help**

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

**Produce Original Work**

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem