

In Progress

Please note that this Unit Profile is still in progress. The content below is subject to change.



CHEM19085 *Environmental Chemistry*

Term 1 - 2027

Profile information current as at 04/09/2026 05:52 pm

All details in this unit profile for CHEM19085 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

In Environmental Chemistry, you will examine how chemical processes shape the condition of the environment and influence the decisions we make about managing land, water and energy. You will explore why certain problems emerge, how we detect them and what chemistry can tell us about the best way to respond. You will begin by looking at the major environmental spheres and the standards used to judge environmental quality. From there, you will investigate natural waters and the chemical signals that reveal whether an aquatic system is healthy or under stress. You will also study acid mine drainage and other forms of contamination to understand how pollutants move and why some sites are harder to remediate than others. As the term continues, you will turn your attention to the atmosphere. You will explore the chemistry behind ozone loss, air pollution, smog and the greenhouse effect, and you will examine the evidence that links human activity to climate change. You will then consider how energy choices, industrial processes and natural systems interact to influence emissions and long-term environmental quality. You will also work with the chemistry of toxic metals, sampling needs and environmental monitoring before finishing with radioactivity and risk communication. By the end of the term, you will be able to interpret environmental data and explain the chemical behaviour that drives major environmental issues.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Pre-requisites: CHEM11043 Atoms, Molecules and Matter

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 1 - 2027

- Mixed Mode

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

Information for Class and Assessment Overview has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 11 January 2027

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
- Academic Progression Policy and Procedure
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- 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 requested more worked examples for the mathematical-based questions.

Recommendation

Review tutorial content to provide further worked examples where possible. Consider options for additional mathematical support for students.

Feedback from Student feedback

Feedback

Some students experienced confusion with the lecture material labelling and understanding background textbook readings.

Recommendation

Review and update the organisation of unit content as necessary. Provide resources for key concept review.

Unit Learning Outcomes

Information for Unit Learning Outcomes has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 11 January 2027

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

Information for Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 11 January 2027

Textbooks and Resources

Information for Textbooks and Resources has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 15 February 2027

Academic Integrity Statement

Information for Academic Integrity Statement has not been released yet.
This unit profile has not yet been finalised.