



# EVST13019 *Environmental and Social Impact* Assessment Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 15/07/2025 06:06 am

All details in this unit profile for EVST13019 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

Human activity and development impact the natural environment and social capital. To what extent, then, can the associated issues be identified and mitigated? The professional practice of Environmental (and Social) Impact Assessment answers the question. In this unit, you will become familiar with the enabling concepts behind Environmental Impact Assessment employment. You will evaluate an industry Environmental Impact Study and assess current practice at the intersection of Earth and social system stewardship.

### Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 3*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

### Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Completion of 18 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

- Online

### 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. **Portfolio**

Weighting: 20%

#### 2. **Portfolio**

Weighting: 30%

#### 3. **Case Study**

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](#).

## Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain the concepts that underpin an environmental and social impact assessment
2. Apply environmental policy, legislation and current procedures for conducting an environmental impact assessment
3. Assess an industry Environmental Impact Statement against current and emerging environmental impact assessment concepts and practices.

N/A

## Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



### Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Portfolio - 20%	•		
2 - Portfolio - 30%		•	
3 - Case Study - 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 style: [Vancouver](#)  
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

**Shaneel Chandra** Unit Coordinator  
[s.chandra@cqu.edu.au](mailto:s.chandra@cqu.edu.au)

**Michael Hewson** Unit Coordinator  
[m.hewson@cqu.edu.au](mailto:m.hewson@cqu.edu.au)

## Schedule

### Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): a Definition and Context.	There is no prescribed textbook. The Moodle site contains readings, videos, activities, and exercises for each week of the term.	

### Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
EIA: Various Assessment Types.		

### Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
EIA: in Australian Government Legislation.		

### Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Contents 1.		<b>Portfolio #1</b> Due: Week 4 Monday (29 July 2024) 9:00 am AEST

### Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
EIS: Contents 2.		

### Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

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

Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
EIS: Contents 3.		
Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Impact Assessment (SIA): a Focus.		
Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Walking Country – Australian Indigenous Peoples Cultural Heritage.		<b>Portfolio #2</b> Due: Week 8 Monday (2 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST
Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Public Consultation – When?		
Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Case Study 1.		
Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Case Study 2.		
Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Case Study 3.		
Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		<b>Case Study</b> Due: Review/Exam Week Monday (7 Oct 2024) 9:00 am AEST
Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Portfolio #1

#### Assessment Type

Portfolio

#### Task Description

Portfolio #1 is a consolidated submission of one Microsoft Word file containing written answers to questions from the learning activities of weeks 1 and 2 of. The portfolio is to be submitted as a single MS-Word file by the due date.

The unit Moodle website contains a detailed exercise explanation in the relevant week:

Portfolio #1 Week 1 – EIA: a Definition and Context. 10 marks.

Portfolio #1 Week 2 – EIA: Various Assessment Types. 10 marks.

#### Assessment Due Date

Week 4 Monday (29 July 2024) 9:00 am AEST

To be submitted via Moodle

#### Return Date to Students

Week 7 Monday (26 Aug 2024)

Returned with feedback via Moodle

**Weighting**

20%

**Minimum mark or grade**

50%

**Assessment Criteria**

Marking criteria – the degree to which:

- the submission demonstrates mastery of the unit learning material;
- each written answer or drawn diagram is complete, engaging and insightful;
- answer paragraph/sentence construction presents logical argument progression; and
- the learning material (or external sources) informs an answer.

**Referencing Style**

- [Vancouver](#)

**Submission**

Online

**Submission Instructions**

Submit via Moodle

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Explain the concepts that underpin an environmental and social impact assessment

## 2 Portfolio #2

**Assessment Type**

Portfolio

**Task Description**

Portfolio #2 is a consolidated submission of one Microsoft Word file containing written answers to questions from the learning activities of weeks 3, 4, 5 and 6. The portfolio is to be submitted as a single MS-Word file by the due date.

The unit Moodle website contains a detailed exercise explanation in the relevant week:

Portfolio #2 Week 3 – EIA: in Australian Government Legislation. 10 marks.

Portfolio #2 Weeks 4-6 – EIS: Contents 1,2 and 3. 20 marks.

**Assessment Due Date**

Week 8 Monday (2 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST

To be submitted via Moodle

**Return Date to Students**

Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024)

Returned with feedback via Moodle

**Weighting**

30%

**Minimum mark or grade**

50%

**Assessment Criteria**

Portfolio marking criteria – the degree to which:

- the submission demonstrates mastery of the unit learning material;
- each written answer or drawn diagram is complete, engaging and insightful;
- answer paragraph/sentence construction presents logical argument progression; and
- the learning material (or external sources) informs an answer.

**Referencing Style**

- [Vancouver](#)

**Submission**

Online

**Submission Instructions**

To be submitted via Moodle

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Apply environmental policy, legislation and current procedures for conducting an environmental impact assessment

### 3 Case Study

**Assessment Type**

Case Study

**Task Description**

Write a case study report which critically evaluates a contemporary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concerning the learning resources of this unit and relevant research literature in the field of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (EIA/SIA).

In week four, you will be sent an email containing instructions to download a set of folders containing Government and Proponent EIS documents around the approval of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for a commercial development project.

You will not necessarily read every word of the EIS - given the document size in some cases. You will become very familiar with one section of the EIS from both a Draft and a Revised Draft EIS.

In the case study, you will assess if the EIS accords with theory generally – both the learning material and scholarly sources you will locate. Further, you will select one detailed EIS section to compare the content with further reading that you will undertake from academic sources. You will choose one focus section from:

- Flora and fauna (and biodiversity);
- Land rehabilitation;
- Water resources quality and rehabilitation;
- Social values and economics (thus Social Impact Assessment); or
- Cultural Heritage.

**Assessment Due Date**

Review/Exam Week Monday (7 Oct 2024) 9:00 am AEST

To be submitted via Moodle.

**Return Date to Students**

Exam Week Monday (14 Oct 2024)

Returned with feedback via Moodle

**Weighting**

50%

**Minimum mark or grade**

50%

**Assessment Criteria**

The assessment marking standards are contained in a rubric that further details the degree to which the submitted Case Study:

- ranges across the unit EIA/SIA learning material and scholarly sources;
- discusses one EIS section in detail comparing learning material and scholarly sources;
- discusses the final EIS for draft EIS deficiencies comparing learning material and scholarly sources;
- is engaging, clearly structured and advances discussion from the introduction to the conclusion in a logical manner; and
- accords with written communication conventions; use scholarly sources and cites references correctly.

**Referencing Style**

- [Vancouver](#)

**Submission**

Online



**Submission Instructions**

To be submitted via Moodle

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Assess an industry Environmental Impact Statement against current and emerging environmental impact assessment concepts and practices.

## 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