



# EVST28001 *Climate Change: Risk and Assessments*

## Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 16/07/2025 05:01 am

All details in this unit profile for EVST28001 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

Climate change is now widely recognised as one of the biggest challenges facing the world. Its effects are already severe in Australia as well as in many other parts of the world. This unit will present you with in-depth knowledge of the issues related to climate change, with a focus on assessing risks of climate change and approaches to deal with the impacts. You will be introduced to the nature of climate change as well as to interdisciplinary approaches and integrative perspectives to problems of anthropogenic climate change. These include response strategies and programs to avert, mitigate, and adapt to climate change.

### Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 8*

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 Postgraduate 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. **Report**

Weighting: 50%

#### 2. **Written Assessment**

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. Interpret the scientific concepts underpinning climate change and identify anthropogenic climate change
2. Critically analyse the short-term and long-term effects of climate change on societies and ecosystems
3. Apply interdisciplinary approaches to assess climate change risk and formulate strategies for climate change mitigation and adaption.

N/A

## Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
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### Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
<b>1 - Report - 50%</b>	•	•	
<b>2 - Written Assessment - 50%</b>	•		•

### Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
<b>1 - Knowledge</b>	○	○	○
<b>2 - Communication</b>	○	○	○
<b>3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills</b>		○	○
<b>4 - Research</b>		○	○
<b>5 - Self-management</b>			
<b>6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility</b>			
<b>7 - Leadership</b>			
<b>8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures</b>			

## 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: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)  
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

**Jiaping Wu** Unit Coordinator  
[j.wu@cqu.edu.au](mailto:j.wu@cqu.edu.au)

## Schedule

### Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Global atmospheric systems and climates	No textbook is required for this unit. Weekly learning materials will be provided on the unit's Moodle site.	

### Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Climate change: What and how?		

### Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Climate change: Unveiling the drivers		

### Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Australia's climate: Past, present, and future		

### Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Navigating the consequences of climate change		

### Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

### Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Systems thinking for climate change: Modeling impact, mitigation and adaptation		

### Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Evaluating climate change vulnerability: Risk management frameworks		

### Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Managing change: Adaptive capability		

### Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Systems modelling strategies and impacts		<b>Climate Change Impact Report</b> Due: Week 9 Monday (9 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST
<b>Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Climate change impacts on Australian biodiversity: Case studies		
<b>Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Climate change impacts on public health in Australia: Case studies		
<b>Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Innovation in the face of climate change		
<b>Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		<b>Climate Change Management Plan</b> Due: Review/Exam Week Monday (7 Oct 2024) 9:00 am AEST
<b>Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Climate Change Impact Report

#### Assessment Type

Report

#### Task Description

This assessment tasks you to investigate potential climate changes and their implications for a selected topic in Australia. Students must choose a specific subject, such as a community, region, organization, industry, species, or ecosystem, and compose a report assessing the potential impacts of climate change on the chosen topic. This involves collecting climate change data and employing system modelling techniques and risk assessment frameworks to analyse the impacts. The report should be a minimum of 2,500 words.

Detailed instructions and guidelines are provided on the unit's Moodle site.

#### Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI):

Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows: Gen AI content is used to generate ideas and general structures.

#### Assessment Due Date

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

#### Return Date to Students

The reports will be marked and returned within two weeks, or as soon as practicable after the due date.

#### Weighting

50%

#### Assessment Criteria

Your report will be evaluated based on the overall quality of your research and the effectiveness of your written communication. The assessment criteria include:

1. Understanding of Climate Change Impacts: the understanding of climate change and its specific impacts on the

selected study topic.

2. Synthesis of Knowledge: the ability to synthesize knowledge acquired from unit learning activities, including the application of the systems model of impacts and the risk assessment framework to analyze the chosen topic.
3. Research Quality: the quality of research conducted, including the relevance and reliability of climate change data and sources utilized to support your analysis.
4. Written Communications: the expression and presentation, including clarity, coherence, organization, and the effective incorporation of research evidence to support your arguments.

A marking rubric is available on the unit's Moodle site.

### Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

### Submission

Online

### Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Interpret the scientific concepts underpinning climate change and identify anthropogenic climate change
- Critically analyse the short-term and long-term effects of climate change on societies and ecosystems

## 2 Climate Change Management Plan

### Assessment Type

Written Assessment

### Task Description

This assessment builds upon the findings of Assignment 1 and tasks students with writing a research paper. The focus of the paper is to outline and discuss a plan or strategy for mitigating and managing the impacts of climate change on the chosen topic. This involves discussing strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as evaluating the capability and capacity of the topic or responsible agencies to address these impacts.

The paper should be at least 3,000 words in length. Detailed instructions and guidelines are provided on the unit's Moodle site.

### Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI):

Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows: Gen AI content is used to generate ideas and general structures.

### Assessment Due Date

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

### Return Date to Students

The paper will be marked and returned at the end of the term.

### Weighting

50%

### Assessment Criteria

Your paper will be evaluated based on the overall quality of your research and the effectiveness of your written communication. The assessment criteria include:

1. Demonstrated understanding of the feasibility of managing climate change impacts.
2. Quality of discussion on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and management.
3. Appropriate application of knowledge and analysis tools learned in the unit.
4. Quality of written expression and presentation, including clarity, coherence, organization, and the effective incorporation of research evidence to support your arguments.

A marking rubric is available on the unit's Moodle site.

### Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

### Submission

Online

### Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Interpret the scientific concepts underpinning climate change and identify anthropogenic climate change

- Apply interdisciplinary approaches to assess climate change risk and formulate strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## 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