Postgraduate Research Degrees

Doctor of Philosophy

Program code: 1425
Length of study: 3 to 4 years of advanced study leading to the submission of a thesis. Minimum duration for completion is 3 years.
Scholarship: UNSW offers scholarships to domestic postgraduate researchers of exceptional research potential; top up scholarships are available for eligible students.

The PhD is coordinated by the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES) and is run in conjunction with the Institute of Environmental Studies (IES). Students will have the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinary and policy-oriented research in areas such as renewable energy, biodiversity, climate change adaptation/mitigation, sustainability, conservation and natural resource management, environmental markets and corporate social responsibility. Students may have the opportunity to provide paid sessional teaching in the IES.

Master of Philosophy (by Research)

Program code: 2475
Length of study: A minimum of 1.5 years full-time leading to the submission of a thesis.

The MPhil provides an alternative to the honours degree for students who have previously completed a BSc and wish to proceed to a research degree. It provides an alternative to the Master of Science (by Research) as a precursor to undertaking a PhD. The degree comprises the equivalent of between 18 and 24 units of credit of coursework (to be undertaken in consultation with the Program Coordinator), with the remainder of the degree allocated to the production of a thesis, to be supervised by a relevant faculty specialist. A candidate may be granted up to 24 units of credit advanced standing for subjects undertaken at the appropriate level determined by the Committee, towards the coursework component.

Master of Science (by Research)

Program code: 2040
Specialisation: Environmental Studies - stream ENVPMR2040
Length of study: 2 years full-time or 4 years part-time, leading to the submission of a thesis

This interdisciplinary research degree allows students to undertake a MSc (Research) in Environmental Policy and Management. The program plan is coordinated through the Institute of Environmental Studies, and runs in conjunction with the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences. Students will have the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinary, policy-oriented research in areas such as renewable energy, climate change adaptation/mitigation, sustainability, conservation and natural resource management. On completing the program of study a candidate shall submit a thesis embodying the results of the original investigation.

"Undertaking the MEM afforded me a wonderful opportunity to indulge in my passion for sustainability at a broad scale level, and to meet and share ideas with fellow students from all walks of life. The programme prepared me for operating in the corporate environment, promoting a good business and best practice approach to sustainability. I feel that my investment in the MEM has been one of the best career decisions I've made to date."
Nina James
Sustainability Manager, Investa Land.

"I am a trained physicist and environmental manager with eight years consultancy experience. I began my environmental studies in Sweden in 1995, and before coming to Australia I worked as a systems engineer in vehicle electronic and software development projects in Europe and the US. The Master of Environmental Management (MEM) program at UNSW provided me with a seamless link from my previous experiences and expertise to develop a cross-disciplinary framework and master the right tools to address the sustainability challenges facing businesses and governments in Australia today. Beyond the curriculum, the MEM program enabled me to establish a rich network of contacts in academia, industry and government which has been instrumental for my career."
Jonas Bengtsson
MEM, MSc Phys., Dip. Psych
Director Edge Environment Pty Ltd

Environmental Management
Postgraduate Degrees 2015

Never Stand Still Science Institute of Environmental Studies

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Or visit ies.unsw.edu.au

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ies.unsw.edu.au
Position yourself for the growth in environmental management and technology

The world is changing. Sustainability and environmental management have become crucial issues, presenting significant opportunities and challenges for business, government and civil society. As organisations across the world redefine their approach to environmental management to ensure that sustainability targets and environmental commitments are met, there is a strong demand for skilled professionals who can offer solutions to complex environmental issues.

Degree focus

Our environmental management degrees have been developed to provide a bridge across relevant environmental disciplines, as well as providing important applied interdisciplinary knowledge that has practical application in the workforce. Our students gain a global perspective on environmental issues through analysis of international and regional environmental issues and their governance.

Who are these degrees for?

Whether you are an environmental professional, hope to become one or simply wish to expand your knowledge of environmental issues, we have an environmental management degree to meet your needs.

You may:

- be working in the environment field and wish to retrain or upskill
- be looking for a career change into the environment field
- be a recent graduate wanting to establish a career in environmental management
- simply want to better understand environmental management.

Advanced disciplinary courses

Providing a basis for critical appreciation of the frameworks, tools and ways of addressing environmental issues.

Frameworks for Environmental Management

- The complex and interdisciplinary nature of environmental management
- Sustainability as a framework for environmental management and critical analysis
- Principles of sustainable development
- Applying the principals
- Alternative frameworks: human ecology and adaptive management

Tools For Environmental Management

- Introduces the tools of environmental management including:
  - Environmental impact assessment
  - Environmental management systems
  - Life cycle assessment
  - Risk assessment
  - Environmental monitoring and auditing
  - State of the environment
  - Reporting and indicators
  - GIS
  - Sustainability Indexes

Addressing Environmental Issues

- Inherent challenges in multi-disciplinary approaches to environmental management
- Exploring environmental decision making
- Analysis and problem solving in multi-disciplinary teams
- Interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary approaches to analysis and problem solving
- Case studies in addressing environmental issues

Graduate Certificate in Environmental Management

Start Length of Study Entry requirements

| Code: 7339 | Semester 1 and Semester 2 | 6 months full-time or equivalent part-time | A recognised Bachelor degree in any discipline of study. Performance in the degree and/or relevant experience will also be considered for admission. In special circumstances, students who do not have such qualifications may be considered for admission into the Graduate Certificate. |

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Start Length of Study Entry requirements

| Code: 5499 | Semester 1 or Semester 2 | 1 year full-time or equivalent part-time | A recognised Bachelor degree in any discipline of study. Performance in the degree and/or relevant experience will also be considered for admission. Articulation into the Masters program is possible. |

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Start Length of Study Entry requirements

| Code: 8623 | Semester 1 or Semester 2 | 1-2 * years | *Advanced standing awarded based on previous study or experience |

The degree accepts a range of graduates and professionals (not restricted to the Sciences), usually with a Bachelor degree in any field, holding a weighted average mark (WAM) of 65, or an Honours degree from a recognised or reputable university. Students may be eligible for some recognition of prior learning (RPL) if they have studied in a cognate discipline.

Degree description

This degree offers students an interdisciplinary and applied set of courses which outline some of the main decision-making frameworks and tools for environmental management. This degree also provides discipline-specific knowledge relevant to environmental professions. It can be taken by environmental specialists and non-specialists from a wide range of disciplines and interests. Students can custom-design the degree to suit their specific needs (within pre-requisite constraints) as this degree offers a broad range of electives from diverse fields. Lectures and seminars are usually scheduled in the evening, allowing flexibility for those who work during the day.

Professional qualifications

The MEM qualification contributes to the requirements for full membership of the Environment Institute of Australian & New Zealand (EIANZ). The MEM qualification can also contribute to gaining certification as an environmental practitoner (CEEnP).

Degree structure

The MEM is a suite of disciplinary courses with applied environmental content and advanced disciplinary courses, typically containing interdisciplinary content with specific technical focus, along with an extensive list of affiliated electives.