

BEHV 1001 BEHAVIOUR AND ENVIRONMENT

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 101182

Coordinator David Arness ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/David Arness/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/David%20Arness/))

Description This is a fully online subject. Everything we do depends on our environment, but rarely do we ask the question "what is the environment?" In this subject, we examine our various environments, the natural world, our built physical spaces and things, and the social, biological, and psychological domains. We then examine questions of: How do we interact with these environments, and how do they shape and influence our behaviour? How does understanding this interaction help us improve the human condition, while also maintaining the integrity of the environment? Drawing from psychology to understand human behaviour, the subject has application to as many discipline areas as there are spheres of human activity.

School Psychology

Discipline Behavioural Science

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 1 subject

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Apply key concepts related to the human-environment relationship.
2. Apply/integrate principles of psychology and the broader social sciences to interpret/explain aspects of the human-environment relationship.
3. Evaluate real-world situations to articulate problems of behaviour-environment interaction.
4. Construct/develop evidence-based arguments for change, drawing on subject content and scholarly research.
5. Propose solutions to problems of behaviour-environment interaction, justifying your decisions based on scholarly research evidence.
6. Apply knowledge and skills gained from the subject to enhance better person-environment fit in a variety of design contexts.

Subject Content

Scene Setting:

1. Subject Introduction: What is the Environment?
2. Consciousness, Brain Processes and Culture
3. Sense of Place and Attachment

Natural Environments

4. The Natural Environment
5. Environment Stressors
6. Restorative Environments

Built Environments

7. Navigating the Environment: Wayfinding and Cognitive Mapping
8. Person/Environment Fit
9. Design of Usable Spaces

10. Future Environments

Social Environments

11. The First People and the Environment

12. Social Environments Across the Lifespan

13. Social Shifts: Smartphones, Social Media, and Pandemics

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Log/ Workbook	2 x Log/ Workbooks: 500 words each	35	N	Individual	N
Case Study	1,300 Words	45	N	Individual	N
Participation	Ongoing discussion board participation, combined total of 700 words	20	N	Individual	N

Teaching Periods

Spring (2025) Online

Online

Subject Contact David Arness ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/David Arness/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/David%20Arness/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV1001_25-SPR_ON_2#subjects)