

# LAWS 7020 INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 200907

**Coordinator** Beatriz Garcia De Oliveira ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Beatriz Garcia De Oliveira/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Beatriz%20Garcia%20De%20Oliveira/))

**Description** This subject provides an overview of international environmental law and policy. It investigates legal and policy measures for managing and protecting the environment in a sustainable manner. The subject will begin by exploring the economic, political, and legal concepts relevant to international environmental legal regimes. It will then apply these concepts to concrete regimes designed to deal with specific international environmental problems, such as climate change, ozone depletion, air pollution, hazardous waste, freshwater resources, marine pollution, world heritage, human rights, biodiversity and habitat loss. The subject focuses principally on the dynamic of treaties, negotiations, and state and non-state actors in the international arena. Special attention will be given to 21st Century environmental problems. Appropriateness of the present environmental legal regimes and challenges for the future will also be mooted in the subject.

**School** Law

**Discipline** International Law

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

**Pre-requisite(s)** LAWS 7057

**Restrictions**

Students must be enrolled in program 2824 Master of Laws or 2826 Juris Doctor to enrol in this subject.

Students in programs 8083 Bachelor of Research Studies should seek permission from the law school via a rule waiver to enrol in this subject.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts relating to the protection and preservation of the global environment.
2. Critically evaluate principal institutions and operation of the international legal system and demonstrate understanding of key actors, sources of law and dispute resolution processes.
3. Apply international environmental management principles and concepts to contemporary environmental issues and in problem solving.
4. Undertake independent research and analysis that demonstrates an understanding of the application of international environmental law in a defined context, that is clear, analytical and appropriately structured and referenced.

5. Make some assessment of where international environmental law and policy can be expected to develop in the future.

## Subject Content

Sources and Development of International Environmental Law and Policy

International Environmental Management Principles and Concepts  
The Changing Nature of International Environmental Law and Policy  
The Role of International Institutions  
Climate Change Regime  
Ozone Depletion Regime  
International Control of Hazardous Waste  
State Responsibility  
Marine Environment  
Control of Marine Pollution  
International Watercourses  
Protection of the Polar Regions  
Conservation of Biodiversity  
Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage  
Human Rights and Environment  
Trade and Environment  
Strengths and Weaknesses of International Environmental Regimes

## 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
Quiz	20 minutes	10	N	Individual	N
Participation	On going	10	N	Individual	N
Presentation	30 minutes (including 10 minutes for questions)	45	N	Individual	N
Essay	2,000 words	35	N	Individual	N

## Summer On-site

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
Quiz	20 minutes	10	N	Individual	N
Participation	On going throughout semester	10	N	Individual	N
Presentation	30 minutes in total	45	N	Individual	N
Essay	2,000 words	35	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- There is no prescribed textbook for this subject. Readings will be uploaded to vUWS.