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Bachelor of Environmental Science



Why study environmental science?

An environmental scientist's job is focused on creating a better future for all of us. No human can survive without a healthy environment. As society grows and develops, industries like forestry, mining, tourism, transport, energy, agriculture, fisheries and manufacturing will need people with knowledge of environmental science to minimise any impact on the environment.

A career in this field offers interesting and vitally important work, attractive starting salaries, work in incredible locations, and a sense of achievement in making our earth a better place to live.

Why study CSU's Bachelor of Environmental Science?

Students completing this course have the skills and knowledge in physical, biological and social sciences needed to manage our environment sustainably. Graduates have the interdisciplinary knowledge to help address a range of complex environmental problems including land conservation, loss of biodiversity, climate change, and environmental water management. The emphasis is on real-world examples, field studies, and vocationally focused training so students graduate ready to play a key role in environmental management.

Specialisations

Students choose one of the following specialisations:

- Catchment Management
- Conservation and Management
- Land and Water.

Organisations that regularly employ CSU graduates include:

- Catchment Management Authorities
- Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSW)
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (Victoria)
- Department of Primary Industries (including Fisheries NSW)
- Landcare
- Murray Darling Basin Authority.



Industry recognition

Industry organisations such as Catchment Management Authorities, local government, the Department of Sustainability and Environment (Victoria), and several businesses involved in environmental management sponsor our students.

In the first national evaluation of research strengths of all Australian universities, Charles Sturt University was ranked as being above the world standard in environmental science and management.

The School of Environmental Sciences fosters working links with the following industry bodies:

- Catchment Management Authorities and the Murray Darling Basin Authority
- Department of Primary Industries (including Fisheries NSW)
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (Victoria)
- Office of Environment and Heritage
- State Water (NSW) and North East Water (Victoria)
- the National Water Commission and other Commonwealth departments.

Specialisations

Students choose one of three areas of specialisation:

Catchment Management

Graduates of the Catchment Management specialisation have in-depth knowledge and skills of the human landscape, particularly as they interact with the biological and physical environments, so they can contribute to natural resource issues and problems on a catchment wide scale

Conservation and Management

Graduates of the Conservation and Management specialisation have the in-depth knowledge and skills needed to conserve and restore Australia's unique ecosystems.

Land and Water

Graduates of the Land and Water specialisation have in-depth knowledge and skills in water resources, soils, geomorphology and spatial science so they can contribute to the management of these natural resources.

Immerse yourself in the environment

Our program offers a range of life-changing experiences to ensure our students have the skills necessary to gain employment when they graduate.

The people who teach this course also have roles managing or providing advice to government agencies on environmental management. This includes providing advice on nature conservation, water management, cultural heritage management, natural resource management, and private land conservation. This means each subject is designed to teach you the latest concepts and thinking regarding environmental management.

If you do not work in the industry, you will be supported in taking at least six weeks of full-time work placement in Australia or overseas. Placement opportunities in Australia include:

- businesses involved in environmental monitoring and planning
- Catchment Management Authorities
- environmental management agencies
- your own workplace (for people doing the course distance education and in a relevant workplace).



“It really opened my eyes and helped me appreciate all the complex processes going on around me every time I stepped out the door. I loved the field trips; they were a great opportunity to get out and do things, instead of just sitting around hearing about them.”

Sue Bradshaw, CSU graduate



You can elect to take units of specialised study that provide you with amazing opportunities and experiences. International experiences are offered through subjects that take you overseas to countries such as East Timor and Nepal. In Australia, there are opportunities to look at arid zone field ecology, the Australian Alps, the Murray Darling Basin, and the NSW Far South Coast.

Career opportunities

Graduates are employed in Australia and internationally as environmental scientists and managers, Landcare officers, catchment management officers, land and water officers, or ecologists in environmental consulting services.

Graduates work on community development projects, environmental restoration and rehabilitation programs, river and stream management, and protecting healthy, resilient ecosystems. They are involved in sustainable agriculture, nature conservation, natural resource management and integrated water resource management.

Conservation and Management careers include:

- catchment management officer
- conservation officer
- environmental manager
- environmental scientist or environmental manager
- natural resource manager.

Land and Water careers include:

- catchment management officer
- environmental scientist or environmental manager
- hydrogeologist
- manager – water resources.

Catchment Management careers include:

- catchment management officer
- environmental scientist or environmental manager
- extension officer
- implementation officer
- landcare officer.

Some reasons for studying environmental science at CSU:

- a course designed and well recognised by environmental managers that gives you the opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge needed to address many of the world's environmental problems
- subjects focused strongly on field instruction and real-world situations
- study at Australia's leading provider of distance education
- a growing area of employment opportunities.



CSU Global

CSU's student exchange program, CSU Global, allows you to study and gain credit at an international institution for up to two sessions. Some of the international institutions we have a relationship with include the Lakehead University (Canada), University of Montana (USA), and Humboldt University (USA).

In addition to CSU Global, students can undertake cross-institutional studies through most other universities in Australia or overseas.

About Charles Sturt University

Charles Sturt University is a national university focusing on excellence in education for the professions, strategic and applied research, and flexible delivery of learning and teaching.

We work in close association with industry, professions and government to ensure our courses meet and support industry needs, resulting in high graduate employment levels and starting salaries. We attract more than 35,000 students from Australia and around the world and are well-known for our innovative approach to education, offering practical, hands-on courses, supported online to provide our students with accessible, world class education.

Studying by distance education

CSU has developed innovative study methods that allow students the flexibility to choose when, where and how they study. Indeed CSU is a leading provider of distance education (DE) in Australia. Our courses blend the benefits of online education with additional learning materials and support.

How to apply

Applications for distance education study are made directly to the University.

For further information call 1800 334 733 or visit:

www.csu.edu.au/courses/undergraduate/environmental_science

“I am very pleased with the opportunities my degree has opened up for me and would highly recommend it for anyone with an interest in the environment, natural processes and flora and fauna.”

Rebecca Fraser, CSU graduate

Bridie Wetzel

Bachelor of Environmental Science

“From the moment I commenced my Bachelor of Environmental Science at CSU by distance education, I was impressed by the well-structured delivery of the course. Students have access to a range of written and online support material which is supported by easy access to lecturers, subject forums, an extensive library and occasional field trips.

“The course structure at CSU combines theory with practical components that are essential in gaining real-life experience. Residential schools were the highlight, as this is where I met likeminded people from all over, which led to greater exposure of national environmental issues.

“I currently have a full-time job managing weeds issues in Victoria, yet I have loved every minute of completing my degree part-time while working full-time and having a life in between.

“The course provided me with valuable knowledge and improved skills both personally and professionally, enabling me to grow and move forward in my ambitions and in making a difference in the natural resource management industry.

“Studying by distance education allowed me to continue to work in the natural resource management industry, whilst working towards my qualification.”

For more information about courses and how to apply, please contact info.csu:

Free call in Australia: 1800 334 733

International callers: +61 2 6338 6077

Facsimile: +61 2 6338 6001

www.csu.edu.au

