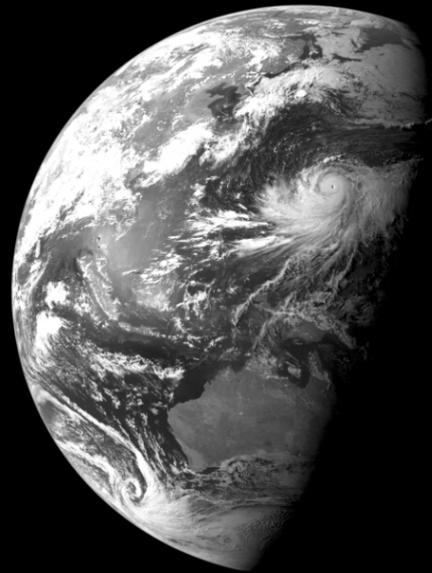


**School of Biological, Earth
and Environmental Sciences,
Faculty of Science**



GEOS 1701
**Environmental Systems,
Processes and Issues**

Trimester 2 (T2) 2020

Online Course

Welcome to GEOS1701 - A Very Different Year!

The course is going to be quite different this year as, due to the COVID19 situation, it will run fully online for the first time. If social distancing measures change during the trimester such that face-to-face teaching becomes possible, please note that students will still be able to complete the course fully online. While the online delivery will involve significant changes to how the course is run, the content of the course remains the same and we are committed to providing you with a high quality course and learning experience. We also hope to make it enjoyable by generating community interaction for students and staff alike. We are all in this together so let's make the most of it!

The very first thing you should do in the course is watch the 'Welcome to GEOS1701 from the Course Convenor' and 'Welcome to GEOS1701 from the Lab-Coordinator' recordings on the Course Moodle Page prior to commencing the course in Week 1. These introductory videos will describe the logistics of the course, how it will run and basically go over this Course Outline.

As the course is fully online, it will be run through the Course Moodle Page so please familiarize yourself with the structure of the Course Page. The lectures, labs and tutorials will also be available online and both live and recorded sessions will be done using Blackboard Collaborate. Information on how to use Blackboard Collaborate can be found on the Course Moodle Page.

1. Staff

Lecturers: Several academic staff contribute to the lectures in this course:

Professor Rob Brander (Course Convenor)

Biological Sciences North (D26) Room 401B; Office Telephone 9385-2899;
Mob: 0401 420 962; Email: rbrander@unsw.edu.au

Associate Lecturer David Edwards

Biological Sciences North (D26) Room 401C; Office Telephone 9385-8064;
Email: d.edwards@unsw.edu.au

Dr. Adrian Fisher

Samuels Building (F25) Room G14A; Office Telephone 9385-3393; Email:
Adrian.fisher@unsw.edu.au

Associate Professor Scott Mooney

Biological Sciences North (D26) Room 410D; Office Telephone 9385-8063;
Email: s.mooney@unsw.edu.au

All lecturers are available for meeting or consultation with students by appointment via email.

Laboratory Staff: The **Lab Co-ordinator** for the course is David Edwards although most lecturers will participate in some of the labs.

Tutorial Staff: Tutorials will be run by David Edwards and Prof. Rob Brander.

2. Course Information

Course Code: GEOS 1701

Units of Credit: 6

Hours per Week: 3 Lecture, 3 Practical (Lab), 1 Tutorial (in alternating weeks)

Prerequisites: None

Online Timetable: <http://timetable.unsw.edu.au/2020/GEOS1701.html>

2.1 Course Summary

GEOS 1701 explores the role of environmental processes, operating over a range of temporal and spatial scales, in shaping patterns of the physical environment in the context of human interactions and resulting management issues. This important topic incorporates the fields of Physical Geography, Environmental Science, Environmental Management and Biogeography. Specifically, we examine the variety of processes operating in atmospheric, terrestrial, hydrological, coastal and ecological systems. Course material provides a broad overview of global physical environments, although emphasis will be placed on Australian examples. More information is provided in the Course UNSW Handbook entry available at:

<https://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/undergraduate/courses/2020/GEOS1701>

2.2. Course Aims

There are two fundamental aims of this course: i) to provide students with an understanding of physical environments and the processes that form and influence them; and ii) introduce students to a range of physical environmental management issues by examining the nature of interactions between humans and natural systems. Students will also gain an appreciation of how we monitor environmental process and change.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLOs)

The Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) for this course describe what you should be able to do by the end of the semester if you participate fully in all learning activities and successfully complete all assessment items. These CLOs also relate to some of the overall Program Learning Goals for all undergraduate students taking Geoscience and Environmental Science degrees. The following table shows how the CLOs for this course relate to these Program goals and indicates where in the course the CLOs are assessed.

Table 1. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) for GEOS1701.

Program Learning Goals	Course Learning Outcomes	Course Delivery Method
<i>This course helps you to achieve the following learning goals:</i>	<i>On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:</i>	<i>The learning outcome will be assessed in the following items:</i>
1. Knowledge	Describe fundamental process and form relationships of physical environmental systems Interpret past, present and future controls on physical environments Discuss complex human-physical relationships causing Australian and global environmental management issues Identify pathways and challenges involved in solving these environmental problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures • Lab assessments • Lab workshops • Tutorials • Mid-Term/Final exam
2. Critical thinking and problem solving	Formulate and solve real problems in relation to environmental data using basic statistical analysis, presentation of data plots, using methods appropriate to the problem and available data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab assessments • Lab workshops • Mid-Term/Final exam
3. Written communication	Construct written work which is logically and professionally presented using the scientific method Convey data, statistics and graphical results so that non-experts can understand the key outcomes of analyses Self-manage successful time management strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab assessments • Mid-Term/Final Exam
4. Oral communication	Articulate formulated and reasoned opinions and arguments on environmental issues in front of your classmates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorials
5. Team/group work	Participate actively and productively in team-based discussions of environmental issues and problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab workshops • Tutorials
6. Personalised, self-guided, flipped classroom and blended, learning skills	Complete independent research and learning using a variety of internet based resources and computing skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lab material • Self-guided lab workshops
7. Practical skills	Be aware of various methods, techniques and approaches used to monitor and measure different physical environments Use word processing, data spreadsheet and geo-spatial software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures • Labs • Lab assessments • Tutorials

2.5 Continual Course Improvement

This course has always been popular with students and we continually adjust the course to make it better based on student feedback. In this regard we have changed the nature of how the tutorials will run and be assessed in 2020. We have also introduced new lectures and a lab assignment related to the field of Remote Sensing, which will introduce students to state of the art environmental monitoring applications that are vital for future work involving assessing environmental change.

We have modified the course so that it can run fully online due to the COVID19 situation. All lectures will be recorded (some will be pre-recorded) and made available online for students to watch in various formats. Many aspects of the Labs and Tutorials will also be pre-recorded and made available online. However, there will be multiple opportunities each week for live interaction online between staff and students to answer questions and help deliver course material.

Unfortunately, we cannot run a field trip this year and we also changed the assessment structure in the course by reducing the number of individual assessments to 4 x 10% Lab Assignments, a 10% Tutorial assessment (seminar), a Mid-Term Exam (20%) and a Final Exam (30%).

2.6 Follow On Courses

This course is intended to provide you with basic skills and knowledge for upper level courses that might interest you such as:

GEOS 2711 Australian Climate and Vegetation (runs in T2 in 2020)

GEOS 2721 Australian Surface Environments and Landscapes (runs in T3 in 2020)

GEOS 3721 Australian Soil Use and Management (runs in T3 in 2020)

GEOS 3731 Coastal Processes and Hazards (runs in T1 in 2021)

GEOS 3761 Environmental Change (runs in T2 in 2020/2021)

This course can also be taken with the course *BIOS1301 Ecology and Sustainability* as part of the first year of the Bachelor of Science Major in Geography.

3. Strategies and Approaches to Learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

The course learning outcomes (CLO's) are achieved through a range of instructional techniques including lectures, laboratory classes, assessments and tutorials. Lectures provide learning through delivery of the core content of the course. Lab classes provide a range of learning strategies and students will gain experience in online interpretation of landscapes using geo-spatial software such

as Google Earth and NearMap. Tutorials will provide students with essential skills required for researching, reviewing, and presenting a topic as well as conducting peer assessment.

3.2 Expectations of Students

Announcements: Announcements regarding the course will be made online via the Course Moodle page. It is the responsibility of students to ensure they are aware of and read all announcements.

Assistance: General enquiries should be directed to the Science Student Centre Nucleus Student Hub on Level 2 of the Library Building (Ph: 9385-6125) or lodge an online enquiry via unsw.to/webforms with your zID. Specific BEES course and program related enquiries will be re-directed to Faye Mo who can be emailed directly (faye.mo@unsw.edu.au). Queries relating specifically to the course should be directed to Professor Rob Brander or your lecturer at the time.

Attendance: Lectures are recorded and students are strongly recommended to listen to these in a timely manner and encouraged to participate when they are held live online. Students must complete all online material related to Labs and Tutorials and participate in online sessions when required to. Students who miss a significant amount of course material, or miss an assessment task, due to ill health or other issues are advised to contact Prof Rob Brander (Course Convenor) as soon as possible and provide certified documentation.

Illness: You can apply for **Special Consideration** when illness or circumstances that are beyond your control, or are unexpected, interfere severely with your academic performance. More information on Special Consideration can be found at: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

Exam Period: The Mid-Term Exam will be held online on Thursday July 2 from 3-4 PM (Week 5; Section 5.1). Students who cannot do the Mid-Term Exam at this time should contact the Course Convenor Rob Brander as soon as possible. The University expects that all students (domestic and international) be present and available for the entire duration of the UNSW end of trimester examination period (Aug 14-27). Please bear this in mind when making end of trimester work or travel plans. The final exam timetable is usually not released until late in the Trimester. It is likely at this stage that the final exam will be held online. This will be confirmed before the end of term.

Online Needs: As the course will be run online, it is expected that students ensure they will have regular and reliable access to the internet while off campus via home computers, personal laptops or through personal electronic devices (e.g. mobile phone, iPad). There will be numerous direct online sessions for staff and students to interact. Students should ensure that their device has a

working microphone and while a camera is not essential, it is highly recommended.

Course Evaluation: Student evaluative feedback on the course is gathered every year through the use of UNSW MyExperience, which is available through your MyUNSW account and on the Course Moodle page towards the end of the trimester. MyExperience allows you to provide feedback on both the course itself and the teaching provided in the course. Student feedback is taken very seriously and influences continual course improvements so please contribute. More information on MyExperience can be found at:
<https://student.unsw.edu.au/myexperience>

4. Course Schedule and Structure

GEOS1701 consists of 6-7 hours of dedicated class hours per week (Lecture + Lab + Tutorial). You are expected to spend an additional 6-8 hours of non-class contact hours on average to complete assessments, pre-lab material, suggested readings and exam preparation.

Students will be notified via Moodle about the specific Lecture, Lab and Tutorial requirements prior to the start of each Week. Please be aware that the structure and delivery method of each may vary week to week, but students will be informed in advance how each Week will run.

4.1 Lecture program

All lectures will be recorded. Based on lecturer preference, some will be pre-recorded and some will be done live online (but also recorded). Some lecturers may choose to split their lecture recordings into shorter segments to assist with student learning. Regardless of the approach, students will be able to listen/watch the lectures at their own convenience.

The scheduled lecture times for the course are below. You will be notified in advance of each week regarding which times will be used for a live online lecture and which ones will be used for live online question and answer and review sessions. Lectures and online review sessions will all be done using Blackboard Collaborate:

Monday	12 – 1 pm
Monday	4 – 5 pm
Thursday	3 – 4 pm

The live online lectures and review sessions will start at 5 minutes past the hour, which is similar to normal face to face lectures. However, students are able to join the sessions 15 minutes in advance, which is a good opportunity to talk to the lecturer and your classmates. Some of the online lectures may go over time in order to finish the lecture material. When this occurs, students who have other commitments can leave the online session and not worry because the entire lecture will be recorded. In terms of the online review sessions, while some of these sessions may go for the entire hour, if

there are no more students participating after 30 minutes, the online session will be concluded. These review sessions will be also recorded.

Lectures will be made available starting in Week 1 as outlined in Table 2.

4.2 Laboratory program

Lab classes are scheduled as 3 hours per week. You should be enrolled in one of the following Lab times and should stick to your Lab once enrolled:

Lab Class 1 = Tues 10 – 1

Lab Class 2 = Tues 2 – 5

Lab Class 3 = Wed 10 – 1

Lab Class 4 = Wed 2 – 5

Most of the labs will have a **pre-recorded introduction** and/or **pre-lab material** to the lab class that students are required to view and/or complete before their lab starts. This material will be made available to students in advance to allow students enough time to complete any tasks.

Most of the labs will also have a live online interaction where students will receive additional instruction from staff and can ask questions about their lab activity. Students will be notified in advance at what time these online sessions will commence each week.

Lab classes commence in Week 1 as outlined in Table 2.

4.3 Tutorial program

Tutorials are scheduled as 1 hour per week in one of the following Tutorial times listed below:

Tutorial 1 = Thurs 10-11

Tutorial 2 = Thurs 11-12

Tutorial 3 = Friday 10-11

Tutorial 4 = Friday 11-12

Tutorial 5 = Friday 1-2

Tutorials commence in Week 1 but they will not run every week during the Trimester. The tutorial schedule is outlined in Table 2.

You will need to stick to your Tutorial time once enrolled. Some of the tutorials will require students to interact online at these times while others will be able to be done independently. You will be notified in advance of the requirements and methods of delivery for your Tutorials each week.

Table 2. GEOS 1701 Lecture, Lab and Tutorial Program for T2 2020.

Week	Lecture #	Lecture Topic	Who	Lab Details	Tutorials
1 (June 1-5)	1	Life, The Earth and Everything	RB	Lab Assessment 1. Part A: Google Earth and Air Photos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete pre-lab material • Complete self-guided online workshop 	Intro to Tutorials and Seminars - allocation
	2	Landscape Evolution			
	3:	Landform Movement and Hazards			
2 (June 8-12)	4	Arid Environments	RB	Lab Assessment 1. Part B: Mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete pre-lab material • Complete self-guided online workshop 	
	5	Catchment Hydrology			
	6	Water Resources and Pollution			
3 (June 15-19)	7	River Systems	RB	Lab Assessment 1. Part C: Google Earth/ Mapping Quiz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete online quiz during lab class Intro to Lab Assessment 2. Coastal Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete pre-lab material for Coastal Lab 	Q and A Seminar Preparation Assistance
	8	River Processes and Management Issues			
	9	Coastal Processes			
4 (June 22-26)	10	Coastal Environments	RB	Lab Assessment 2. Coastal Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete self-guided online workshop • Complete Significant Figures Exercise (optional) 	Mid-Term Exam Review (Optional)
	11	Coastal Hazards and Management Issues			
	12	Earth's Atmosphere and Energy Balance	DE		

Week	Lecture #	Lecture Topic	Who	Lab Details	Tutorials
5 (June 29- July 3)	13	Climate Elements	DE	Lab Assessment 2. Coastal Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit by 11 am on Monday June 29 Lab Assessment 3. Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete introductory exercises 	Q and A Seminar Preparation Assistance and Peer Assess Training
	14	Global Circulation Systems			
	15	Global Climates			
6	Monday July 6 – Friday July 10 = UNSW FLEXI WEEK NO CLASSES				
7 (July 13-17)	16	Climate Change and Variability	DE	Lab Assessment 3. Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete self-guided online workshop 	Q and A Seminar Preparation Assistance and Peer Assess Training
	17	Human Induced Climate Change 1			
	18	Human Induced Climate Change 2			
8 (July 20-24)	19	Earth Observation: Satellites, Planes and Drones	AF	Lab Assessment 3. Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit by 11 am on Monday July 20 Lab Assessment 4. Remote Sensing and Env. Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete introductory exercises 	Submit Student Seminars before 4 pm Friday July 24
	20	Remote Sensing of Environmental Change			
	21	What is Biogeography?	SM		

Week	Lecture #	Lecture Topic	Who	Lab Details	Tutorials
9 (July 27-31)	22	The Distribution of Individuals	SM	Lab Assessment 4. Remote Sensing and Env. Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete self-guided online workshop 	Complete Peer Assess of Student Seminars before 4 pm Friday July 31
	23	Is Biodiversity Important?			
	24	Is there a Limit to Human Populations?			
10 (Aug 3-7)	25	Are Australian Ecosystems Different?	SM	Lab Assessment 4. Remote Sensing and Env. Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit by 11 am on Monday August 3 My Experience/Course Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete by Friday August 7 	Seminar Debrief and Reflective Task
	26	Humans as Agents of Change			
	27	Inter-Disciplinary Environmental Science			

Note: RB = Professor Rob Brander; DE = David Edwards; AF = Dr Adrian Fisher; SM = Associate Professor Scott Mooney

Please be aware that the topics listed in Table 2 may change at the discretion of the Lecturers. Students will be notified in advance of any changes to the lecture topics or sequence.

For due dates/weeks of assessments, please refer to Table 3. **Students will be notified of specific due dates and times for assessments and methods of handing in assessments during the course.**

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

Assessment of your performance in this course will utilise a range of different tasks and methods. Each assessment item will focus on different elements of the course. Course assessment will consist of three components as shown in Table 3:

Table 3: GEOS 1701 Assessment Guide

Assessment Item	Assessment Details	Due Date	Value (%)
Lab Assessments (4 @ 10% each)	1. Google Earth and Mapping Quiz	Online Quiz in Week 3 Labs	40
	2. Coastal Landforms and Monitoring	Submit Monday June 29 by 11 am (Week 5)	
	3. Climate Change	Submit Monday July 20 by 11 am (Week 8)	
	4. Remote Sensing and Environmental Change	Submit Monday Aug 3 by 11 am (Week 10)	
Student Presentations and Peer Assessments	In Tutorials	Submit Week 8 by 4 pm Friday July 24 Submit Peer Assess Week 9 by 4 pm Friday July 31	10
Mid-Term Exam	Week 5 Online	Thurs July 2 (3-4 PM)	20
Final Exam	End of Session Exam Period	Aug 14-27 (TBA)	30

Please note the time of the Mid-Term Exam. This will be held online on Thursday July 2 (Week 5) from 3-4 PM. This is the regularly scheduled lecture time so the lecture for this day will be pre-recorded. This exam will take the place of the usual online Q@A session. Students who have a clash with this time or who are unavailable for other reasons should contact the Course Convenor Professor Rob Brander as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made.

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Lab Assessments are assessed on how students take theory and apply it into practical tasks. Literacy and numeracy are also assessed as part of these exercises. Lab assessments should be mostly completed during lab class times, but often extend over multiple Lab Weeks. The **Mid-Term Exam** is based only on material from Lectures 1-11 and the **Final Exam** is based only on material from Lectures 12-27.

We follow the UNSW grading system: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/grade>. We will follow the normal grading of HD/D/CR/P etc. You should also familiarise yourself with the UNSW assessment policy: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Students will be advised how to submit their assessments in their Lab and Tutorial Classes and via announcements made on Moodle.

Late work will be penalised by 10% of the value of the assignment per day (not including weekends). After 7 late days the work will be given a value of 0%. This is School of BEES policy and there are no exceptions unless an extension is provided. Extensions are only provided by the Course Convenor (Prof. Rob Brander) or the Lab Co-ordinator (David Edwards) for valid reasons (medical or otherwise) and official certification must be appended to the work when handed in.

Only valid reasons will be accepted for missing the Mid-Term or Final Exam and appropriate documentation relating to your absence is required.

5.4 Feedback on assessment

Marking of your assessments will be provided by lecturers with assistance from academic staff in the School of BEES and a peer review process on occasion. Where multiple markers are involved, the marks will be checked for consistency. Depending on the nature of the assessment, feedback on assessments will be provided either on the returned Assessment and/or discussed verbally in an online Lab Class session. There will be numerous interactive online Lab sessions that will involve assessment feedback and course revision.

Feedback on the final exam is possible by appointment only. Final examinations are retained in the School for a period of 6 months, after which they are destroyed.

5.5 Grade Summary

A final grade summary for all assessments during the course prior to the Final Exam will be posted on the course Moodle website **once the MyExperience student course evaluations (Section 3.2) reach a 75% response rate**. This summary is valuable as it allows students to check for any data entry errors.

6. Academic Integrity, Referencing and Plagiarism

Academic Integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage (Fishman, 2013). At UNSW this means that your work must be your own and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, **plagiarism** may be detected in your work.

Every year at UNSW, many students are caught copying or cheating in various ways resulting either in severe penalty for the assignment in question or in automatic failure of a course. If you think we do not recognize copying and plagiarism, you are very mistaken!

In addition to the UNSW Policy on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism, the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES), also considers any work submitted that has been produced outside of a given course in a given year to be plagiarism *i.e.*:

- Work produced for a third party e.g. your place of employment, is considered intellectual property of the third party, and as such if such work is submitted in place of a required course work, it is deemed plagiarism.
- All work submitted for assessment must be created specifically for the given assessment task in the given year. Work produced in previous years or for other assessments is not acceptable.

Further information about academic integrity and plagiarism can be located at:

- The Current Students site <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>, and
- The ELISE training site <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting>

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on, or replicate, someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

For further information about referencing styles see <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

For example, the Fishman (2013) reference above would be listed in a reference list as:

Fishman, T. (Ed.) 2013. *The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity*. International Center for Academic Integrity, Clemson University.

7. Resources and Readings

7.1 Moodle

This course is available online through the UNSW Moodle system which can be accessed via your MyUNSW or by:

1. Going to <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index.php>

2. Enter your Username (your UNSW zID) and Password (your zPass) and click the 'Agree and sign on' button
3. Look for GEOS1701 under the 'My Courses Tab'

The GEOS1701 Moodle site will contain information regarding course announcements, lectures, labs, tutorials and assessments – everything basically! You will find that the course has been divided into various sections related to Course Information, Lecture/Lab/Tutorial Recordings, Trimester Weeks, and others.

Please visit the Support Section at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support> for more information and tutorials about Moodle.

7.2 Online lecture notes

Copies of lecture powerpoints will be made available to students on Moodle in a variety of formats depending on Lecturer preference.

Generally, lecture powerpoints provide only a brief overview of the material actually presented in Lectures. All lecture material (both slide content and verbal content) is assessable on the Mid-Term and Final Exam and if you rely solely on the online powerpoints and do not take advantage of the online lecture recordings (see below), then you will not do well in the course. For this reason we strongly encourage you to take additional notes from the lectures

7.3 Online lecture recordings

All lectures for this course will be recorded and made available using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra. Lecture recordings can be found in the Lecture, Lab and Tutorial Recordings section on the Course Moodle page. Some lecturers may choose to pre-record some of their lectures, while others will be given live during the scheduled lecture time (and recorded). Some lecturers may also choose to record their lectures in 15-20 minute blocks rather than 50 minute blocks in order to aid student concentration and learning. You will be advised on how the lectures will run prior to each Week.

There are various sources of information on how to use Blackboard Collaborate Ultra:

UNSW Student Guide to Blackboard: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/blackboard-collaborate-ultra>

Blackboard Website: https://help.blackboard.com/Collaborate/Ultra/Participant/Get_Started

We will also be providing our own information/help on the Course Moodle page.

7.4 Online lecture Question & Answer Sessions (Q&As)

Throughout the course, we will be holding some online Blackboard Collaborate Ultra interactive sessions during some of the regularly scheduled lecture times where you can talk to your lecturer(s) and ask any questions about the lecture material (from the lecture powerpoints and recordings) or anything else related to the course. This is an ideal time to get to know your lecturers and fellow students so we encourage you to join in! These sessions will also be recorded for those students who may be in inconvenient time zones or unable to join in.

7.5 Online laboratory material

There is no Lab Manual for this course. Instead, all the lab material and resources will be provided on Moodle. These materials will typically be found in the Moodle section corresponding to the week when the lab runs. *i.e.* All the Week 4 Lab material will be found in the Week 4 Moodle section.

Most labs will have some pre-lab exercises to be completed. It is the students' responsibility to complete this material before the start of each Lab class (when required to do so). All lab activities will be submitted via Moodle. An online quiz will be held in Week 3 during your allocated lab class time.

Instructions on lab activities will also be provided through online interactive Lab workshops delivered via Blackboard as outlined in Section 4.2.

7.6 Online tutorial material

All tutorial classes will be held in an online format using Blackboard Collaborate. Students will have signed up to a unique tutorial class time and it is a requirement that they attend the online sessions for that class only. Please note that there is a separate section on the Course Moodle page dedicated to information relating to the tutorials.

7.7 Discussion boards

In the '*Course Information*' section on the Course Moodle page you will find a link to a Discussion Board. If you have any questions about course material outside of online interactive sessions on Blackboard, you should first post the question on the Discussion Board rather than email the lecturers. Peer engagement with your classmates is a very effective learning method. Of course, we will also be checking the Discussions.

7.6 Readings

There is NO prescribed textbook for this course. However, if you would like to purchase a text for your own use, we recommend *Christopherson, R.W. (2018). Elemental Geosystems. Ninth Edition. Prentice Hall, New Jersey* as the course textbook which is available as an eBook for a modest price at <https://www.pearson.com.au/9780134817446>

Any previous editions of the Christopherson text, or any other used textbook relating to Physical Geography and/or Environmental Science will also likely include much of the material covered in the course. You may even find these types of texts in the UNSW Library.

Lecturers will also recommend readings where necessary throughout the Course that are relevant to the lecture and/or laboratory material and may post links to these on Moodle.

8. Additional Student Support and Other Stuff

8.1 ELISE tutorial

Information literacy is a UNSW graduate attribute. For commencing students, a basic level of information literacy is necessary to enable each student to undertake their academic program effectively. It has been found that many students, regardless of their UAI or other entry criteria, do not clearly understand the use of information in the university environment.

ELISE is a mandatory online tutorial on how information is organised and used in the university context. It is a UNSW requirement that all new undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students complete the tutorial and attain at least 80% in the ELISE quiz following the tutorial.

Students will not be able to enroll for next semester until they complete the ELISE quiz.

For more information about ELISE go to: <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise>

8.2 Equitable learning services and student well being

Those students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their teaching or learning environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the **UNSW Equitable Learning Services** <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els> prior to, or at the commencement of, the course. Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional exam and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.

UNSW takes student wellbeing, health and safety very seriously and if you find you need support to help with your personal life, getting your academic success on track or just want to know how to stay safe, then a number of options are available at:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>

8.3 Other services

- The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>

- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>