



# ENVS3463: Environmental Management Project

SESSION 2 2020 - 70 PACE ACTIVITY HOURS



- Groups of around 5 students will each undertake independent research on environmental management projects
- Combine theory with practice to contribute your knowledge, ideas and a fresh perspective to a real-world problem or issue that supports your partner organisation's mission and objectives, while enhancing your C.V. and professional experience
- No matter what stage you are at in life or career, this unit enhances professional pursuits

## HOW DOES THE UNIT WORK?

PACE units combine theory-based curriculum with practical experience (PACE activity). By working in a team, you will be able to bring a range of knowledges and skills together through real world environmental management practice. You must undertake all curriculum (e.g. workshops/lessons and assessment) and the PACE activity in order to be eligible to complete the unit.

To find out more about ENVS3463 and eligibility requirements visit the [Handbook](#).

## HOW DO I FIND MY PACE ACTIVITY?

ENVS3463 students have the opportunity to find and propose a group PACE activity or express an interest for a limited number of group activities available through the unit, using iParticipate (a system you will be given access to once enrolled). Arrangements will vary each offering and be communicated in advance of the session.

When you find and propose your own activity you can:

- gain first-hand experience in approaching future employers
- be more involved in negotiating your activity tasks and structure
- enhance your chances of securing an activity that meets your specific goals and interests
- build professional contacts and networks

For more information to support the finding of a PACE activity, visit the [FSE PACE webpage](#).

If you have found a PACE activity for your group, you will need to submit a Student Activity Proposal. This form and other resources to assist will be available to enrolled students through the ENVS3463 iLearn site and/or provided by the Faculty PACE Team.

## PACE-SPECIFIC TIMELINES

ENVS3463 Timelines (see Unit Guide for academic dates)	
Key dates	Activity information
ASAP	Plan ahead and prepare to enrol in ENVS3463 to maximise outcomes
Before the session	Research possible organisations/activities you could work with and contact organisations who might be able to host a group of you for a PACE activity.
Week 1 -2 of session	Express interest in an available group activity, or prepare to propose your own group project by consulting with the ENVS3463 teaching team
Week 3 of session	If you have expressed an interest for an available activity you will be notified to which you have been allocated. If you are proposing an activity you will be expected to submit an application by this time.
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throughout the session - spend time reflecting on your PACE activity experiences and the unit curriculum in preparation for completing assessments.</li> <li>• Regular engagement with your partner organisation will depend on what you and the host supervisor have negotiated.</li> <li>• Students should manage and plan carefully so they can meet their other commitments (e.g. part-time work or other university studies).</li> </ul>

## ENVS3463 STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

*"Working with the SOPA was a great experience that has significantly influenced my future career outlook. I really enjoyed working with my team, both from Macquarie and SOPA. The data collection skills have already helped me in my current role at the council."*

TOM RAMSEY, B.ENV, MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## IS RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) POSSIBLE?

As per the University's RPL Policy, if you can evidence prior achievement of the [Academic Senate's criteria for PACE units](#) then RPL for PACE might be possible. Acknowledgement of past or current employment alone is not sufficient for this purpose; however, evidence could include demonstration of achieving core PACE criteria through experiential learning that has occurred as part of that employment, or successful completion of a PACE-like unit elsewhere.

Refer to the PACE-specific information in the University's [RPL Policy](#) for more detail. Information on how to apply can be found [here](#).

## ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?

### STUDENT UNDERTAKING

Once enrolled, you will be asked to agree to your Roles and Responsibilities and provide emergency contact details via a Student Undertaking form in iParticipate. Doing this and receiving approval for your PACE activity are necessary before you can start your PACE activity.

### BACKGROUND CHECKS (WWCC, POLICE CHECK, HEALTH CHECK ETC.)

Some PACE activities require background checks before you commence such as Working With Children Check, National Police Check etc. The checks necessary (if any) will depend on your activity and the requirements of your partner organisation.

### REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

PACE activities are available to ALL undergraduate Macquarie students regardless of their personal circumstances. Students are encouraged to disclose and discuss any personal circumstances which may impact on their ability to complete a PACE Activity before selection or allocation of PACE Activities is finalised. For more information refer to the [PACE Activity Management Procedure](#) and the [Student Disability Support Policy](#).

Refer to our [reasonable adjustments video](#) for more information.

### PACE AND ETHICAL PRACTICE

Ethical practice features heavily in PACE and involves negotiating the ethical complexities of the context in which you are working, engaging in activities in an ethical manner, and ethical partnerships. Students should not undertake a PACE activity that would cause a conflict of interest (e.g. with a current employer). Please advise the Unit Convenor as soon as any ethical concerns (including conflict of interest) arise.

### ENVS3463 STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

*"The project to Broken Hill was a great experience. It provided us with hands on experience using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry, liaising with the EPA, and communicating and collaborating with the Broken Hill locals. We also got the opportunity to do interviews with the ABC and the local media to promote our study. The unit enhanced my research and communication skills and allowed me to meet amazing people with interesting stories. The project academically was a great success and has encouraged me to follow that field of science further in my future."*

KARA FRY, B.ENV, MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

It is possible that a PACE activity might result in the creation of intellectual property (IP). IP is a term that describes the application of the mind to develop something new or original. IP may exist in various forms, such as a new invention, brand, design, software program or artistic creation.

Discussion about this should occur with your partner organisation at the start of the session. You might even be asked to sign an IP agreement. Note: IP generated by students with substantial use of partner organisation resources and input (e.g. the initial problem for which a solution is being developed) will normally be required to be assigned to the partner organisation.

If you are uncertain about your rights, speak with your Unit Convenor or Faculty PACE team. The University does not provide students with legal advice in respect of IP creation, ownership or rights of use and recommends students obtain independent legal advice before signing an IP agreement. The University has developed a draft agreement that could be used by students and partners to assign IP and this is available through your Unit Convenor.

For further advice you can contact the Office of Commercialisation and Innovation by emailing [commercialisation@mq.edu.au](mailto:commercialisation@mq.edu.au)

## FIELDWORK

Not all ENVS3463 activities involve fieldwork, however, in some cases it is an essential part of the project. It is important to clarify up front with the partner organisation if fieldwork will be necessary. Fieldwork-based activities are undertaken in collaboration with a partner and are conducted on a site in the natural and/or built environment in order to collect data (e.g. soil samples, asking questions of humans, documenting information about animals, etc.) for the purposes of informing a study about that environment or site. If fieldwork involves any sample testing or analysis and there is a cost involved, you should confirm who will pay for any associated expenses beforehand, so that this is not expected of your group.

Fieldwork may be led by students as the discipline experts; however, it requires supervision by an appropriately qualified Macquarie University staff or external partner. If your activity will involve fieldwork, consult with ENVS3463 teaching staff regarding any additional WHS and risk procedures that might be necessary. All fieldwork must be officially approved by relevant staff before it commences.

## PACEWISE

Re-visit [PACEWISE](#) to find out more about:

- Great hints on how to present yourself professionally
- The Judyth Sachs Prize
- PACE Equity and Travel grants
- Your Roles and Responsibilities
- Your Work Health and Safety



## HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

For questions specific to the academic requirements of ENVS3463 contact the Unit Convenor.

For all other enquiries about ENVS3463, contact the Faculty of Science and Engineering PACE team:

T: +61 (2) 9850 6842

E: [pace.science@mq.edu.au](mailto:pace.science@mq.edu.au)



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