

HUMN 7018 ECOPSYCHOLOGY AND CULTURAL CHANGE

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 101652

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

Description From 2020 students should note that core subjects are now taught in semesters rather than half yearly sessions. Ecopsychology is concerned with the relationship between human consciousness, human actions and environmental issues. It seeks to understand the sources, both phenomenological and socio-cultural, of the disjuncture between nature and psyche and to develop possibilities for personal and cultural re-connection and healing. Through applying experiential methods, critical inquiry and engagement with ecopsychological writings, students develop their awareness of "self", "nature", "culture" and explore the dynamics between them. The subject incorporates perspectives on ecological identity, ecospirituality and sense of place as ways of re-imagining the human-nature relationship and effecting ecologically-oriented change.

School Education

Discipline Education Studies

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 1 10cp

Level Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Learning Outcomes

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

1. critically analyse and reflect upon the experiential and socio-cultural dimensions of their own personal relationships with nature;
2. employ a range of methods for developing a critical and reflexive ecological consciousness;
3. critically evaluate differing psychological, spiritual and ecological standpoints as they apply to the development of ecological identity;
4. critique the influence of personal, cultural and cosmological narratives in shaping human-nature relationships;
5. apply ecopsychological perspectives to inform processes of cultural transformation;
6. articulate potentials and challenges associated with the project of ecopsychology.

Subject Content

Nature and psyche - perceived oppositions and integrative possibilities
 Ecological consciousness and ecological identity
 Ecological perspectives on self and society
 Sense of place
 Somatic, archetypal and transpersonal approaches to ecopsychology
 Deep ecology & new cosmologies
 Place, story, relationships and reconciliation
 Ecopsychology and cultural change

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
Ecopsychology reflection and project plan	1,000 words	25	N	Individual
Project report	4,500 words	75	N	Individual

Teaching Periods