

654-207 Australian Wildlife Biology

Credit Points:	12.500
Level:	Undergraduate
Dates & Locations:	2008, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 30 lectures (three per week initially, then two per week) and 26 hours of tutorials and practical classes Total Time Commitment: 120 hours
Prerequisites:	Biology 650-111 (or prior to 2004: 600-111) or approval of coordinator.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study and reasonable steps will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact upon their active and safe participation in a subject are encouraged to discuss this with the relevant subject coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Coordinator:	Dr K Handasyde
Subject Overview:	<p>This subject will introduce students to the biology of Australia's vertebrate fauna (including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) with an emphasis on frogs, reptiles, birds and eutherian mammals. There will be particular focus on the adaptations of the fauna to the unique and uncertain nature of the Australian environment. A variety of topics will be discussed including diversity of Australian vertebrate groups in comparison to other parts of the world; the impact of human activities and introduced animals on native fauna; wildlife diseases; venomous fauna; and the ethics associated with research and experimentation on animals.</p> <p>Upon completion of this subject students would have an appreciation of the natural history and uniqueness of a broad range of Australian wildlife; and a sound knowledge of the interactions between wildlife and natural and human-modified environments.</p> <p>This subject builds upon generic skills developed in first-year subjects, including an ability to approach and assimilate new knowledge and an ability to use that knowledge to evaluate and communicate the ideas. Students should learn how to observe critically and to use the results of those observations to pose and answer theoretical questions and to solve practical problems. They should gain experience in mastering the terminology of a scientific field and then in using that mastery to access an established body of scientific literature and material and to develop the ability to critically evaluate questions and issues in that scientific field. Students should also learn how to collect and interpret data in field situations and write this up as a scientific report.</p>
Assessment:	Written reports on practical work and excursions totalling up to 1200 words due during the semester (30%); a 30-minute written test held mid-semester (10%); a 2-hour written examination in the examination period (60%).
Prescribed Texts:	None
Breadth Options:	<p>This subject is a level 2 or level 3 subject and is not available to new generation degree students as a breadth option in 2008.</p> <p>This subject or an equivalent will be available as breadth in the future.</p> <p>Breadth subjects are currently being developed and these existing subject details can be used as guide to the type of options that might be available.</p> <p>2009 subjects to be offered as breadth will be finalised before re-enrolment for 2009 starts in early October.</p>
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees

Notes:	Students enrolled in the BSc (pre-2008 BSc), BAsC or a combined BSc course will receive science credit for the completion of this subject.
Related Course(s):	Bachelor of Forest Science Bachelor of Forest Science