

654-309 Field Biology of Australian Wildlife

Credit Points:	12.500
Level:	Undergraduate
Dates & Locations:	2008, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Four lectures, one tutorial and 60 hours practical work including a week-long field trip during the mid-semester break Total Time Commitment: 120 hours
Prerequisites:	654-202 and 654-204.
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; Dr G Coulson
Subject Overview:	<p>This subject provides a field course on the ecology of Australian vertebrates: marsupials, monotremes, eutherians, birds, reptiles and amphibians. Students will develop skills in detection and survey of wildlife populations, as well as techniques for monitoring (such as radio telemetry). Students will also be given hands-on training in the capture, handling and identification of wildlife, together with collection of standard morphometric data, assessment of reproductive status, and analysis of behaviour, habitat and diet. A major emphasis will be the application of these methods to research into the ecology and management of wildlife populations.</p> <p>This subject builds upon existing generic skills, including an ability to approach and assimilate new knowledge from observation and the literature, and an ability to use that knowledge to evaluate and communicate results. Students should gain practical experience in conducting research on wild animal populations, and an ability to integrate their findings with existing literature and knowledge. The practical and ethical constraints of working on wild animals under field conditions will be emphasised. Students will also develop skills in analysing, interpreting and evaluating data, and gain experience in writing scientific reports.</p>
Assessment:	Field reports totalling up to 3000 words due during the semester (60%); a 1-hour written examination on practical knowledge in the examination period (40%).
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:	<p>Students enrolled in the BSc (pre-2008 BSc), BASc or a combined BSc course will receive science credit for the completion of this subject.</p> <p>This subject is likely to be quota-restricted this year.</p>

	Formerly 654-309 Field Biology of Australian Marsupials and Monotremes . Experiments involving the use of animals are an essential part of this subject; exemption is not possible.
Related Course(s):	Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Bachelor of Science