

600-616 Science in Context

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 36 hours comprising 3 hours of lectures and group discussion/seminars per week. Total Time Commitment: -
Prerequisites:	-
Corequisites:	-
Recommended Background Knowledge:	-
Non Allowed Subjects:	-
Core Participation Requirements:	-
Coordinator:	Dr Shanton Chang
Contact:	-
Subject Overview:	As a Scientist, one of the main challenges is to communicate scientific knowledge to the wider community. Whether the issues are big or small, communicating complex scientific knowledge needs to be 'context relevant'. Increasingly, scientific knowledge also has to be communicated in a global and cross-cultural environment. This subject aims to equip you with some of the skills that you will need to analyse cross cultural contexts and communicate scientific and technical knowledge effectively across a wide range of sectors and communities.
Objectives:	<p>This subject explores how scientific knowledge is perceived by a diverse audience, including the media, corporations, governments and across cultures. Topics include the place and perception of the sciences across cultures, communicating scientific knowledge successfully and intercultural communication. At the completion of the subject, students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # understand how different non-science sectors work and how they view scientific knowledge; # understand the relationship between science and cultures; # be familiar with some techniques of contextual analysis; # have explored the process of communicating with diverse audiences appropriately; # understand the range of actions that can be taken to facilitate successful scientific knowledge communication across different contexts.
Assessment:	Seminar discussion and participation (10%) Two individual reports (800 words each) (2 X 15%) One group report (maximum 2000 words) (30%), Case study report (1200 words) (30%), due in the examination period
Prescribed Texts:	Note that there are no textbooks in this subject. Required readings are in the Subject Reading Pack available from the Bookroom. Supplementary readings may be suggested in class.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees

Generic Skills:	<p>Students should acquire a range of generic skills. They should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance their ability to formulate and articulate rational argument through seminar and online discussions • develop further their abilities to engage critically with lecture material and the subject literature • improve their time management skills by planning and delivering assignments as required • learn to apply theory to practice in seminar discussions and assessable tasks • improve their cross-cultural analytical skills - specifically the adoption of appropriate frameworks for problem identification, information handling, communication and critical thinking through engagement with case studies
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	<p>R05 PB Master of Science (Biotechnology) R05 PE Master of Science (Environmental Science) R05 PM Master of Science (Management Science) R05 PN Master of Science (Nanotechnology) R05 RA Master of Science - Geography (not offered until 2010) R05 RB Master of Science - Botany R05 RC Master of Science - Chemistry R05 RH Master of Science - Biomedical and Health Sciences R05 RI Master of Science - Information Systems R05 RM Master of Science - Mathematics and Statistics R05 RP Master of Science - Physics R05 RZ Master of Science - Zoology</p>