

## 650-111 Biology of Australian Flora & Fauna

<b>Credit Points:</b>	12.50
<b>Level:</b>	1 (Undergraduate)
<b>Dates &amp; Locations:</b>	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, - Taught on campus.
<b>Time Commitment:</b>	Contact Hours: 36 lectures (three per week), 10 self-study activities and 6 one-hour tutorials. Total Time Commitment: 120 hours total time commitment.
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None.
<b>Corequisites:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Background Knowledge:</b>	None
<b>Non Allowed Subjects:</b>	Credit cannot be gained for this subject and 600-111 (before 2004).
<b>Core Participation Requirements:</b>	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 participation are encouraged to discuss this with the subject coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Dr Kath Handasyde
<b>Subject Overview:</b>	This subject will include the natural history of Australia from the Cretaceous to the present, and the influence of Australian Aborigines and Europeans; Australian environments, climatic zones, major biomes; terrestrial biota: diversity, endemism and biology of Australian plants, relictual rainforests, sclerophylly, adaptation to fire, diversity, endemism and biology of unique habitats, low nutrients and aridity; diversity, endemism and biology of vertebrate fauna including amphibians and marsupials; marine environments, algae, invertebrates, reefs, mangrove communities, inland waterbodies; and ecology, conservation, and management of Australian ecosystems.
<b>Objectives:</b>	By the end of this subject students should have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># knowledge of the evolutionary history of the Australian biota, and the influence of past changes in geology, climate and soil;</li> <li># an appreciation of the great diversity and genetic resources of the Australian biota;</li> <li># knowledge of the structure and physiology of native plants and animals in relation to surviving in Australian environments;</li> <li># an understanding of the impact of humans on Australian ecosystems and issues of conservation biology; and</li> <li># skills to improve their self-study, analysis and evaluation of biological information.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment:</b>	Submission of two activities from the self-study program, each having a maximum of 1000 words due during the semester (25%); a 50-minute online multiple choice test held mid semester (15%); a 3-hour written examination in the examination period (60%).
<b>Prescribed Texts:</b>	R B Knox, P Y Ladiges, B K Evans and R Saint, Biology, An Australian Focus. 3rd edn, McGraw-Hill, 2004.
<b>Breadth Options:</b>	This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># <b>Bachelor of Arts</b> (<a href="https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/D09">https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/D09</a>)</li> <li># <b>Bachelor of Commerce</b> (<a href="https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/F04">https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/F04</a>)</li> <li># <b>Bachelor of Environments</b> (<a href="https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/A04">https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/A04</a>)</li> <li># <b>Bachelor of Music</b> (<a href="https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/M05">https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/M05</a>)</li> </ul>

	You should visit <b>learn more about breadth subjects</b> ( <a href="http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html">http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html</a> ) and read the breadth requirements for your degree, and should discuss your choice with your student adviser, before deciding on your subjects.
<b>Fees Information:</b>	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, <a href="http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees">http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees</a>
<b>Generic Skills:</b>	This subject encompasses particular generic skills so that on completion of this subject students should have developed skills relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># the organization of work schedules which permit appropriate preparation time for tutorials, practical classes and examinations;</li> <li># the use of electronic forms of communication and the discerning use of the web for seeking information;</li> <li># accessing information from the library employing both electronic and traditional means;</li> <li># working collaboratively with other students in tutorials and workshops;</li> <li># self-study and analysis and evaluation of biological information; and</li> <li># written communication.</li> </ul>
<b>Notes:</b>	Students enrolled in the BSc (both pre-2008 and new degrees), BASc or a combined BSc course will receive science credit for the completion of this subject. This subject is a joint botany and zoology subject.
<b>Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:</b>	Biology and Botany First year biology