

FRST90026 Bushfire & Biodiversity

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Creswick This subject commences in the following study period/s: September, Creswick - Taught on campus. Intensive teaching, Creswick
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 24 hours lectures and 36 hours practical work delivered in a two-week intensive teaching block Total Time Commitment: Not available
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Coordinator:	Assoc Prof Alan York, Dr Julian Di Stefano
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Subject Overview:	The course covers the basic effects of fire on aspects of biodiversity and nutrient cycling in ecosystems. Managers are committed to developing science-based ecological burning strategies which achieve both biodiversity and asset protection objectives. Increased knowledge of the ecological impacts of fire on plants, animals and micro-organisms facilitates a better understanding of how more effective management can be achieved.
Objectives:	By the end of the subject students should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Have an understanding of the nature of plant responses to fire; particularly with regard to seeders and resprouters, seed storage and dispersal and the consequences of repeated fire # Have an understanding of the response of animals to fire as individuals, populations and assemblages (communities) # have an appreciation that these impacts operate at the ecosystem level, depending on attributes of the species concerned and landscape factors such as connectivity and habitat condition # Have a knowledge of the interaction between fire, plants, organic matter inputs, animals and micro-organisms in the context of nutrient cycling # Have a better understanding of landscape-scale management, where current scientific knowledge is incorporated into planning, monitoring and legislation
Assessment:	Literature review assignment (2000 words) - 50%, Major assignment (3500 words) - 50%.
Prescribed Texts:	None
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

Links to further information:	http://www.forests.unimelb.edu.au/subjects.html
Related Course(s):	Master of Environment Master of Environment Master of Forest Ecosystem Science Master of Science (Environmental Science) Postgraduate Certificate in Environment Postgraduate Diploma in Environment
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Sustainable Forests