Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural and Cultural Resource Management)

By Admin
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The Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural and Cultural Resource Management: NCRM) program provides training to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to take a more active role in the management of natural and cultural resources and to encourage them to maintain and utilise Indigenous cultural and ecological knowledge in association with Western scientific skills and knowledge.

General Course Information

Course Code: BNCRM
Faculty: VET
Sector: Undergraduate Degree - HED
Award: Bachelor
Year Offered: 2011
Full Time Equivalent (FTE): 3
Units Required: Total 24 Core 18 Elective 6
Last update: Tuesday, 18 October 2011 09:52 am

Course Information Contact

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Course's Descriptors

Course Objectives
The Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural and Cultural Resource Management: NCRM) program provides training to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to take a more active role in the management of natural and cultural resources and to encourage them to maintain and utilise Indigenous cultural and ecological knowledge in association with Western scientific skills and knowledge. Graduates may find employment in Indigenous land agencies/councils or government conservation agencies as rangers, land managers, field officers and cultural resource managers or in other government agencies such as museums or planning authorities or with Indigenous community councils. The aim of the course is to prepare graduates for positions with Indigenous land management associations and community-based land-care groups, Parks and Wildlife Services of states and territories, Department of Environment and Heritage, Indigenous land councils, Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority, Museums and Art Galleries, Greening Australia NT and equivalent organisations or agencies in other states. Other areas of employment include the mining industry and tourism enterprises, and related research and educational agencies. Graduates will be able to operate in the area of NCRM in diverse natural resource and cultural contexts. Graduates will have a strong understanding of culture and will contribute to the cultural, social, environmental and economic development of self, family and community. The objectives of the course aim to produce graduates who are able to:

- demonstrate identification of major fauna and floral groups in field surveys
- discuss issues surrounding the management of wildlife, its sustainable utilisation and impacts on the land
- demonstrate communication and study skills to an advanced level, and research and computer skills to an operational level required in the work-place
- discuss the issues of land conservation, rehabilitation and environmental health
- interpret and apply the principles of legislation relating to management issues in their broadest context
- demonstrate a working familiarity with State, Territory and Federal legislation and policies
- demonstrate a knowledge of park management issues
- produce plans for interpretation and visitor management, including eco-tourism, consistent with conservation values
- integrate knowledge and skills gained from the course with real work situations.

Entry Requirements
Admission requirements to this course are:

- successful completion of Year 12 including a relevant TER (Tertiary Entrance Rank) score; or
- successful or partial completion of another higher education or VET award from a recognised institution where that award is assessed to be of at least the equivalent to a nominated admission award at Batchelor Institute; or
- successful completion of an approved enabling, foundation or bridging course; or
- mature age entry with recognition of life-skills and previous experience and learning that has not been formally recognised and which will support the applicant's studies; or
- special admission as determined by Batchelor Institute’s Accreditation, Admissions and Progressions Committee

In addition, applicants may need to demonstrate, through pre-assessment interview, their capacity to undertake degree level tertiary studies.

Those assessed as unable to meet admission requirements will be encouraged to undertake the necessary components of the Pre-Tertiary Studies (PTS) course offered by the Institute as a precursor to admission into the degree course.

Course Fees
A HECS fee is charged to the student for every Higher Education level unit attempted. The fee will be the current base level determined by the government.
For further information on the cost of individual units refer to the Batchelor Institute website: http://www.batchelor.edu.au.

Common units
There are three common units offered in the degree and are compulsory for all courses within the institute.

These are Public communications (rhetoric) (ICP 101) and Telling histories (ICP102), which are offered in the first year of the degree and Introduction to research (HSA301) which is offered in the third year of the degree.

Placement requirements
Students are required to undertake a field placement in the 2nd year of their program. Through agreement with appropriate agencies, staff and clients, students will be assigned to selected organisational placements and jointly supervised.

Placements will be used for developing students’ skills in coming to terms with real life situations within the NCRM field where they apply theoretical principles to situations encountered in practice. Students will be required to adhere to a code of conduct during field placements.

Institute staff will maintain close liaison with any other supervisory staff and are responsible for ensuring students have a joint debriefing session. Field staff are required to assist students to achieve and maintain a cumulative, up-to-date log of skills achieved. Students will be required to maintain a reflective journal during placement and write a formal report upon completion of the placement.

Other course requirements
Computer literacy is required including word processing and e-mail.

Residential schools/Workshops
Workshops will be run for first, second and selected third year units usually at the Batchelor Campus. For each unit the workshops are typically two week blocks with one being run at the start of the semester and another in the middle. Within the workshops, theory and field/laboratory practice will be undertaken.

There may also be a requirement for students to attend a one week residential session at the end of semester to sit exams or
present seminars. In some units there may be a charge to students, for example, entrance fees to certain places or courses which may be taken as electives.

Although attendance at all workshops is not compulsory, it is highly recommended. Students unable to attend workshops will need to negotiate alternative study arrangements with their lecturers. This is particularly the case for some units where there is a compulsory field trip which is an integral part of the unit.

While at a residential workshop there will be a requirement of 95% attendance.

Unit Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 1 - Semester 1 Unit Count - 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ICP101</td>
<td>Public communications</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC105</td>
<td>Cultural site management</td>
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<td>Core</td>
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<td>BNC116</td>
<td>Visitor management and interpretation</td>
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<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC120</td>
<td>Introduction to environmental data analysis</td>
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<td>EDP101</td>
<td>Development through the Lifespan</td>
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<td><strong>Year 1 - Semester 2 Unit Count - 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC108</td>
<td>Soil conservation and land rehabilitation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC104</td>
<td>Wildlife management 1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC102</td>
<td>Plant ecology</td>
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<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICP102</td>
<td>Telling histories</td>
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<td><strong>Year 2 - Semester 1 Unit Count - 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC201</td>
<td>Communications 2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC202</td>
<td>Survey techniques</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<td>BNC208</td>
<td>Management practicum</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC220</td>
<td>Ecological concepts and management</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC206</td>
<td>Issues in Indigenous land management</td>
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<td>BNC205</td>
<td>Archaeology and cultural resource management</td>
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<td>BNC204</td>
<td>Wildlife management 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC203</td>
<td>Vegetation management</td>
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<td><strong>Year 3 - Semester 1 Unit Count - 7</strong></td>
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<td>HSA301</td>
<td>Introduction to research</td>
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<td>Fire and the biota</td>
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<td>Impact assessment and management of cultural sites</td>
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Published on Course Handbook (http://courses.batchelor.edu.au/ofcourse)

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<td>Elective 2</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC311</td>
<td>Indigenous environmental management in tropical Australia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNC315</td>
<td>Indigenous environmental management in arid Australia</td>
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**Individual Unit's Descriptors**

**Year: 1 - Semester: 1**

**Public communications**
Unit Code - ICP101 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
This unit introduces students to the values, genres and skills of public speech and action through a study of rhetoric. The unit exposes students to the long and powerful history of public speech and public action by Indigenous peoples in their struggle for human and Indigenous rights. Students learn the textual patterns and strategies used in public speaking to create speech that is powerful and persuasive. This unit will also introduce students to the conventions and structures of academic discourse. Students are required to explore and research a core public value both individually and collectively and present this in the public domain. The power of public speaking, the affirmation of Indigenous identity and an analysis of current political discourses are all implicit within the collective celebration of Indigenous voices. Students will also gain confidence by speaking in front of a public audience. This unit is based on a group work approach. Students are required to negotiate, participate, consult and support each other. The unit is designed to invite students to become strong Indigenous citizens, students and public leaders in ways that complement, extend and enrich their specific vocational/professional studies. The unit focuses on a collective celebration and each student will be assessed against their input as an individual to the collective whole.

**Cultural site management**
Unit Code - BNC105 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will consider the concept of cultural sites, and the management of sites including; the legislation and roles of agencies, and their impact on, and protection of these sites. Students will also undertake a field trip to sites of cultural significance.

**Visitor management and interpretation**
Unit Code - BNC116 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will consider the interplay between conservation and tourism, the management of tourists on land and the determinants of zoning status allocated to areas in parks and reserves. Students will also analyse the structure and content of interpretive materials and strategies for dissemination of information, including the role of the media. They will discuss the ethics of ownership, storage and use of information. Students will carry out a visitor survey and analyse the results as well as prepare and deliver an interpretive program.

**Introduction to environmental data analysis**
Unit Code - BNC120 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit students will study fundamental data collection and analysis techniques including sampling, data preparation, mean, standard deviation, distributions and tests of significance. The methods of presenting and describing data, including tables and graphs, will also be covered.

**Development through the Lifespan**
Unit Code - EDP101 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
The purpose of this unit is to provide students with an understanding of human development for the purposes of teaching children in a variety of settings. It will introduce them to developmental issues, theories and principles that underpin learning and development throughout the lifespan with a particular emphasis on children from birth to age 15.

**Year: 1 - Semester: 2**

**Soil conservation and land rehabilitation**
Unit Code - BNC108 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will study landscape formation, soil and rock types, and the hydrological cycle, as well as the relationships between soils and ecosystems. They will consider the legislation relevant to the management of soils and landscapes as well as community involvement in land conservation and rehabilitation issues and practices.

**Wildlife management 1**
Unit Code - BNC104 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will study Indigenous and western classification systems; the life cycles and ecology of fish, reptiles and amphibians; survey and identify fish, reptiles and amphibians; and consider the role of museum collections and management strategies for fish, reptiles and amphibians.

Plant ecology
Unit Code - BNC102 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will study both western and Indigenous knowledge and perspectives as they relate to plant families and communities. They will also examine plant adaptations to the environment and carry out a vegetation survey.

Telling histories
Unit Code - ICP102 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
This unit introduces students to the ways in which Indigenous Australian histories are constructed and shape the lives of individuals and communities. The different ways that history may be told and used will be examined and discussed. Primary and secondary sources will be used to identify, compare and contrast the different perspectives that may be presented in various ways of telling and representing histories. The impact of histories on Indigenous communities and cultures will be explored. The unit is workshop-based

Year: 2 - Semester: 1

Communications 2
Unit Code - BNC201 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will learn the skills to prepare job applications and engage in a job interview. They will study the legislation pertaining to parks and reserves as well as anti-discrimination, native title and land rights; and the role of management plans and financial planning. They will also study the role of facilitation and participatory planning in NCRM.

Survey techniques
Unit Code - BNC202 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will try out different survey methods, plan the methods of analysis and then carry out the analyses applying parametric and non-parametric statistics as appropriate—using the statistics package Statistica version 6 or other statistical software.

Management practicum
Unit Code - BNC208 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will consider various duty statements and determine how they may carry out those duties, report to supervisors and learn how to receive and give feedback. They will also gain certification in Level 1 Bushfire Operations, Senior First Aid, 4WD Vehicle Operation and VET units equivalent to ChemCert. Students will then put this into practice in a negotiated two or three week work placement.

Ecological concepts and management
Unit Code - BNC220 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit students will study both western and Indigenous knowledge and perspectives as they relate to ecology and ecosystem management.

Year: 2 - Semester: 2

Issues in Indigenous land management
Unit Code - BNC206 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will study historical and contemporary issues in land management, the roles of government and non-government agencies dealing with land management, the issues of development vs. management and visit an area under Indigenous control to determine the management strategies in place.

Archaeology and cultural resource management
Unit Code - BNC205 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Students will be introduced to the disciplines of prehistory, archaeology and anthropology. They will also interpret Indigenous traces on the landscape and consider research protocols and ethics in relation to ownership, dissemination and maintenance of knowledge. They will study the legislation pertaining to cultural sites, look globally at the management of cultural sites and
undertake a field trip to sites of rich archaeological significance.

**Wildlife management 2**
Unit Code - BNC204 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will study the biodiversity and sustainable utilisation of fauna, the classification and structure of birds and mammals and the relationships between birds and mammals and their environment. Students will also consider Indigenous and non-Indigenous wildlife management techniques.

**Vegetation management**
Unit Code - BNC203 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will examine the maintenance of biodiversity by sustainable utilisation in relation to vegetation. They will also consider the impacts of fire on vegetation and fire management, the legislation relating to the use of timber case studies of successful vegetation management.

**Year: 3 - Semester: 1**

**Introduction to research**
Unit Code - HSA301 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
Provides introductory studies in research frameworks, methods and issues. One of the unit's aims is to demystify the concept of research. The unit studies quantitative and qualitative research. It examines the role of researchers, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, and the nature of and the relationship between researcher, participant and community. Students will have the opportunity to develop skills in critical analysis and to study and evaluate a number of research projects and reports. Students will be required to write a research proposal.

**Fire and the biota**
Unit Code - BNC303 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will cover the issues of the impacts of fire on the biota, including humans, in a holistic way, both nationally and internationally.

**Behavioural ecology and land/sea management**
Unit Code - BNC301 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
Students will cover the behavioural ecologies of a variety of living things from non-vascular plants to vascular plants, single-celled organisms and invertebrates through to vertebrates. They will also select and consider a cross-section of organisms that are clearly affected by land management practices with a view to describing ‘best practice’ management. (For ‘land management’, can be read ‘sea management’ or ‘fresh-water management’).

**Ethnoecology and land/sea management practices**
Unit Code - BNC306 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In this unit, students will cover the ethnoecologies of a variety of Indigenous peoples and how these knowledge systems influence land management practices.

**Elective 1**
Unit Code - BNC309 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In these units, students will be able to pursue a direction of particular interest to the student after negotiation with the lecturer.

**Flora and fauna survey techniques**
Unit Code - BNC312 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
Students will be introduced to the principal methods for sampling, recording, interpreting and presenting flora and fauna survey data. The focus will be on designing planning and executing surveys, and will include a substantial amount of practical, field-based work.

**Remote sensing for resource management**
Unit Code - BNC317 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In this unit, students will study a range of remote sensing options including aerial photography (vertical, oblique), satellite imagery (Landsat TM, SPOT, MODIS, ASTER and QuickBird), and radar imagery. Remote sensing techniques and applications (including enhancement, analysis and classification) suitable for resource management will also be covered.
Year: 3 - Semester: 2

Impact assessment and management of cultural sites
Unit Code - BNC305 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will discuss different kinds of cultural sites, i.e. European, Macassan, dreaming, burial, art, stone arrangement and archaeological as well as the legislation organisations and groups who are responsible for preserving and protecting them.

Geographical information systems for resource management
Unit Code - BNC327 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Core
In this unit, students will study a range of geographical information applications related to resource management. Students will then apply the knowledge and skills developed to work on a resource management issue.

Tourism, conservation, and economics
Unit Code - BNC302 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In this unit, students will study a range of geographical information applications related to resource management. Students will then apply the knowledge and skills developed to work on a resource management issue.

Wildlife monitoring for management
Unit Code - BNC304 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
Students will cover wildlife management practices and how the effectiveness of these practices is monitored and revised. The emphasis will be on monitoring techniques and how the information from monitoring exercises is used to modify wildlife management practices, as well as a critical analysis of these techniques in relation to wildlife management.

Elective 2
Unit Code - BNC310 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In these units, students will be able to pursue a direction of particular interest to the student after negotiation with the lecturer.

Indigenous environmental management in tropical Australia
Unit Code - BNC311 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
In this unit, students will: be introduced to the field of Indigenous environmental management; develop the intellectual structure to build the knowledge needed later; and engage in an electronically-moderated learning environment.

Indigenous environmental management in arid Australia
Unit Code - BNC315 Credit Points - 10 Unit Type - Elective
(not offered in 2010) Students will: be introduced to the field of Indigenous environmental management in arid Australia; develop the intellectual structure to build the knowledge needed later; and engage in an electronically-moderated learning environment.

Course Authorisation
Last update Tuesday, 18 October 2011 09:52 am
Approved by Review Date Sunday, 30 October 2011 09:19 pm

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