

GEOG472 Developments in Environmental Management



COURSE DELIVERY

Lectures

Two 2- hour classes per week

Do a research topic of your interest; mixture of student led seminars and in class debates on environmental issues

Advanced study of the interaction between socio-political and biophysical dimensions of contemporary environmental issues.

We have been "doing" formal environmental management for over 40 years. During that period, techniques and practices for environmental management have evolved to address the complex process of balancing human needs and ecosystem integrity at global and local scales. But given the worrying condition and trends of many global environmental systems, what have we accomplished?

Is our approach to environmental management part of the problem? How can it be more effective? Is it worth reforming or do we need a radical alternative? What might an alternative approach to environmental management look like? We will use questions such as these as starting points to explore environmental issues and solutions in a variety of contexts.

Course content modules:

1

Managing environment or people?
Sustainable community development

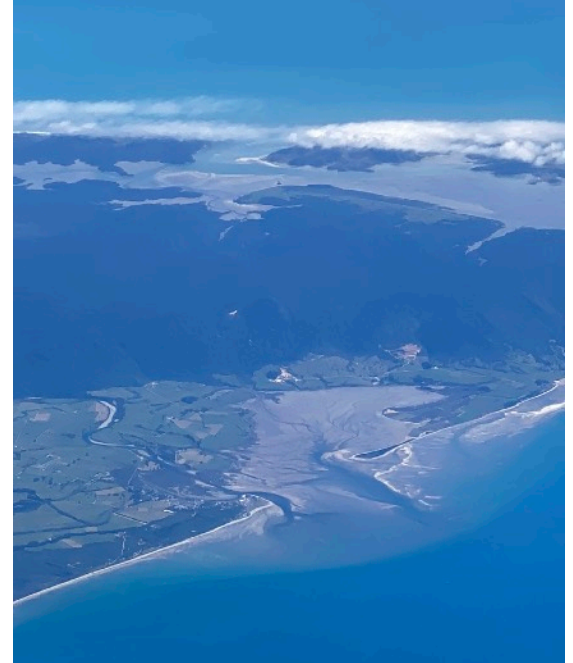
2

Managing Climate Change:
Perspectives from Political Ecology

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Paper Objectives

- To provide critical insight into the practices and processes of environmental management
- To encourage reflexivity in approaching and understanding environmental management practices and processes
- To identify and characterise contemporary issues of concern in environmental management in New Zealand and/or overseas in terms of their biophysical and socio-political aspects
- To examine commonalities and divergences in different approaches towards the way environmental management problems and solutions are identified and defined
- To develop the analytical, written and verbal skills of students.



Assessment

Assessment is 100% internal

Course Outcomes

Students should achieve the following outcomes by the end of the paper:

1. The ability to conduct socio-political analyses of environmental issues to understand more fully the nature of environmental concerns and debates
2. The ability to assess critically key trends in environmental management practices and processes
3. The ability to identify and evaluate practical strategies for handling environmental concerns in New Zealand and overseas
4. The ability to raise and advance innovative solutions to management problems
5. The development of enhanced skills in identifying information needs, locating appropriate information sources, and using them efficiently and effectively
6. The ability to work in a team, meeting personal and group responsibilities
7. The development of skills that enable critical engagement with contemporary environmental management issues.

