



## Desert Field Ecology

### UNIT CODES

**ENV315** (undergraduate)

**ENV515** (postgraduate)

### UNIT TITLE

Desert Field Ecology

### UNIT COORDINATOR

Christine Schlesinger

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### TIMING

SEM-1

7-13 April 2024

7 day intensive, plus on-line study before and after field intensive

### LOCATION

Starts and ends at the CDU Alice Springs campus. Field sites accessed as day trips from Alice Springs and Yulara

### NUMBERS

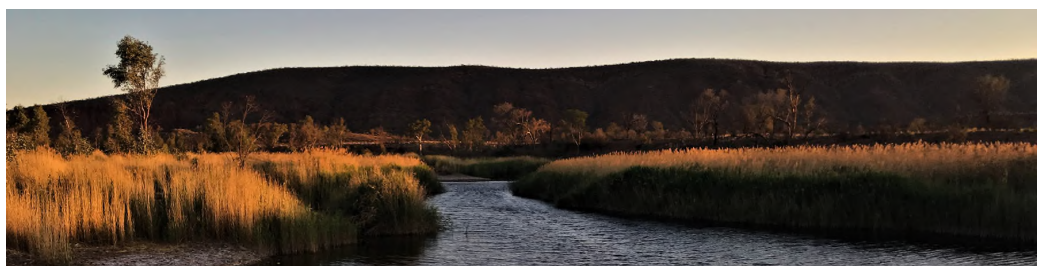
12 places available

**7-13 April 2024**

This advanced ecology unit introduces the fundamentals of desert ecology with a focus on the ecology and conservation of birds and mammals. You will learn about the key principles driving arid ecosystems and the most pressing conservation issues faced within the region. Field-based research during the 7-day intensive will involve surveying birds in four key desert habitats across two regions, in the spectacular World Heritage listed Tjoritja / West MacDonnell and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks.

Investigate the dynamic ways arid-zone fauna respond to spatial and temporal patterning of resources through collecting, analysing, and interpreting survey data. Learn to identify arid-zone birds, consider experimental design and methods, and use novel techniques to collect and compile data. Explore a range of topics including the management and conservation of endangered mammals and joint management of protected areas.

This subject is available to students studying at undergraduate and Masters level. Students from other universities are welcome to apply through cross-institutional arrangements.



Contact us

Unit Coordinator: Christine Schlesinger

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E: christine.schlesinger@cdu.edu.au

W: [www.cdu.edu.au/science-technology/environment](http://www.cdu.edu.au/science-technology/environment)

## HOW TO ENROL

1. Ensure any prerequisite or assumed knowledge requirements are met: See CDU Unit Catalogue on [cdu.edu.au](http://cdu.edu.au)
2. Submit Change of Enrolment form (CDU students) or Cross Institutional Enrolment form for HE Semester 1 to Student Central.  
Change of Enrolment forms will be approved by the Unit Coordinator based on meeting entry requirements and date of form submission. Other factors such as academic merit and course progress may be considered if there are large numbers of applicants.
3. If places are full, students may choose to go on a waitlist in case places become available.

## COST

The unit costs are HECS plus an additional \$450 which covers 8 nights pre-arranged accommodation from Saturday 6 April with a check out Sunday 14 April. Accommodation is at the CDU Alice Springs campus (twin share rooms with share kitchen and laundry facilities), except for two nights at Yulara (swags and safari tents).

The fee also covers entry fees to Alice Springs Desert Park and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks and limited meals. Students are responsible for costs of travel to and from Alice Springs and most meals during the intensive.

## GETTING THERE

Students are required to make their own way to Alice Springs before the intensive and home after. The program begins early on Sunday 7 April and ends in the late afternoon of Saturday 13 April with an (optional) farewell dinner to follow.

*Please do not arrange travel on the start and end dates of the teaching program.*



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CRICOS Provider No. 00300K (NT/VIC) | 03286A (NSW) | RTO Provider No. 0373 | TEQSA Provider ID PRV12069  
Produced May 2022 | UniPrint 72094

## IMPORTANT DATES

4 March 2024	Teaching commences (online) Students will have access to the unit Learnline site with full details of the course and preliminary learning activities to be completed prior to the field intensive.
15 March 2024	Final date to enrol (Note places are limited and enrolment forms should be submitted as early as possible to allow for approval before this date).
7 April 2024	Field intensive commences

