

# Tutorial Letter 101/3/2019

## Environmental Awareness and Responsibility

### GGH3708

Semesters 1 and 2

Department of Geography

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please register on myUnisa, activate your myLife email address and make sure that you have regular access to the myUnisa module website, GGH3708-2019-S1/S2, as well as your group website.

Note: This is a fully online module and therefore it is only available on myUnisa.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

Dear Student

Welcome to the module *Environmental Awareness and Responsibility*. This module will bring together a number of disciplines and concepts to address a number of environmental problems. The module will engage science, social practices, values and beliefs in such a way that you can critically reflect on your own environmental practices and values, and enable you to develop a conviction and plan of action as your contribution to using our habitat as ethical beings. I trust that you will find this module both stimulating and personally enriching.

For this module you will only receive this tutorial letter. Study material for this module will only be available on myUnisa. It is thus very important that you register on myUnisa and access the module site on a regular basis. You must be registered on myUnisa to be able to submit your assignments, gain access to the library functions and various learning resources, to “chat” to your lecturer or Teaching Assistant (TA) and fellow students about your studies and the challenges that you might encounter, and to participate in online discussion forums, blogs or self-assessments. Importantly, myUnisa contains the **Learning Units** tool from which you will be able to access the study material for this module if you have registered and have access to myUnisa.

In addition to registering on myUnisa, it is crucial that you activate your myLife e-mail address, as all your official correspondence regarding this module will be sent to your myLife address and not your private e-mail address. Please consult with the *Study @ Unisa* publication for more information on the activation of your myLife e-mail address, as well as obtaining access to the myUnisa module site.

Because this is a fully online module, you will need to use myUnisa to study and complete the learning activities for this module. Visit the website for GGH3708 on myUnisa frequently. The website for your module is GGH3708-19-S1 (First semester) or GGH3708-19-S2 (Second semester).

## 1.1 Getting started ...

Owing to the nature of this module, you can read about the module and find your study material online. Go to the website at <https://my.unisa.ac.za> and log in using your student number and password. You will see GGH3708-19-S1 ((First semester) or GGH3708-19-S2 (Second semester) in the row of modules displayed in the orange blocks at the top of the webpage. Select the **More** tab if you cannot find the module you require in the blocks displayed. Then click on the module you want to open.

Don't know where to start? Then follow these instructions:

1. Start by going to **Learning Units** by clicking on the name in the left-hand panel. Start at the beginning and complete the activities in the *Getting Started* section.
2. This includes some activities to give you practise using myUnisa and practise studying online. I call these *icebreaker* activities.
3. The icebreaker activities will help you to get to know the other students in your group, as well as your lecturer or Teaching Assistant (TA).

As students register for the module, you will be put into small groups of approximately 50 students with a lecturer or teaching assistant dedicated to each group. These group sites will contain all your assignment information and the study materials. This is also where you will do your work.

We wish you much success in your studies!

## 2 OVERVIEW OF GGH3708

### 2.1 Purpose

In this module, environmental principles are presented in a generic fashion to encourage the students to develop a value system in terms of their environmental awareness and responsibility. The module uses a strong interdisciplinary focus and will make use of a variety of global case studies to enable students to understand how human activities impact the environment. The student will then be in a position to reflect constructively on these impacts, and develop a value system and a sense of responsibility in this regard.

### 2.2 Outcomes

For this module, you will have to master several outcomes:

- **Specific outcome 1:** Describe and explain the complex interrelationships between humans and the environment from a multidisciplinary perspective.
- **Specific outcome 2:** Develop a value system in terms of human–environment interactions, and be in a position to assess the probable impacts and consequences of human activities on the natural environment from an environmentally responsible perspective.
- **Specific outcome 3:** Develop a sense of responsibility, a value system and an attitude that will enable you to formulate actions to reduce the occurrence and impacts of environmental degradation in your personal life and varied vocational directions.
- **Specific outcome 4:** Apply your environmental awareness and sense of values in a responsible fashion to ensure that a transformation to sustainable living is achieved in your personal life and varied vocational directions.

## 3 LECTURER(S) AND CONTACT DETAILS

### 3.1 Lecturer(s)

The primary lecturers for this module are Mr Ryan Anderson (First Semester) and Prof. David William Hedding (Second Semester):

**Department:** Geography

**Telephone:** (011) 471 3541 (Mr R.L. Anderson) / (011) 471 2120 (Prof. D.W. Hedding)

**Email:** [anderrl@unisa.ac.za](mailto:anderrl@unisa.ac.za) (Mr R.L. Anderson) / [heddidw@unisa.ac.za](mailto:heddidw@unisa.ac.za) (Prof. D.W. Hedding)

Should a teaching assistant (TA) be appointed for this module, an announcement will be posted on the myUnisa module site within one week of the commencement of the tuition of the module. Please contact the lecturer(s) or teaching assistant(s) through the **Questions and Answers** tool on myUnisa.

### 3.2 Department

You can contact the Department of Geography as follows:

Telephone number: (011) 471 3689

### 3.3 University

To contact the University, follow the instructions in the brochure **Study @ Unisa**. Remember to have your student number available whenever you contact the University. Whenever you contact a lecturer, please include your student number to enable the lecturer to help you more effectively.

## 4 RESOURCES

### 4.1 Joining myUnisa

The myUnisa learning management system is the University's online campus which will help you to communicate with your lecturers, with other students and with the administrative departments at Unisa.

To go to the myUnisa website directly, go to <https://my.unisa.ac.za>. Click on the **Claim UNISA Login** on the top of the screen on the myUnisa website. You will then be prompted to give your student number in order to claim your initial myUnisa details, as well as your myLife email login details.

For more information on myUnisa, consult the brochure **Study @ Unisa**, which you received with your study material: [www.unisa.ac.za/brochures/studies](http://www.unisa.ac.za/brochures/studies)

### 4.2 Recommended books

The only prescribed book for this module is the following:

Adelson, G., Engell, J., Ranalli, B. & Van Anglen, K.P. 2008. *Environment: an interdisciplinary anthology*. Yale University Press, London. ISBN: 9780300110777.

The prescribed book can be obtained from the University's official booksellers. Please refer to the list of official booksellers and their addresses in the *Study @ Unisa* brochure. If you have difficulty in locating your book at these booksellers, please contact the Prescribed Book Section at 012 429 4152 or send an email to [vospresc@unisa.ac.za](mailto:vospresc@unisa.ac.za)

No recommended books have been suggested for this module.

### 4.3 Electronic reserves (e-reserves)

No electronic reserves have been suggested for this module.

### 4.4 Library services and resources

The Unisa Library offers a range of information services and resources:

- for detailed Library information go to <http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Library>
- for research support and services (e.g. personal librarians and literature search services) go to <http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Library/Library-services/Research-support>

The Library has created numerous Library guides: <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za>

Recommended guides:

- Request and download recommended material: <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/request/request>
- Postgraduate information services: <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/request/postgrad>
- Finding and using library resources and tools:

[http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/Research\\_skills](http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/Research_skills)

- Frequently asked questions about the Library:  
<http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/ask>
- Services to students living with disabilities:  
<http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/disability>

## 5 STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The *Study @ Unisa* brochure is available on myUnisa: [www.unisa.ac.za/brochures/studies](http://www.unisa.ac.za/brochures/studies)

This brochure has all the tips and information you need to succeed at distance learning and, specifically, at Unisa.

## 6 HOW TO STUDY ONLINE

### 6.1 What does it mean to study fully online?

Studying fully online modules differs completely from studying some of your other modules at Unisa.

- **All your study material and learning activities for online modules are designed to be delivered online on myUnisa.**
- **All your assignments must be submitted online.** This means that you do all your activities and submit all your assignments on myUnisa. In other words, you may **NOT** post your assignments to Unisa using the South African Post Office.
- **All communication between you and the University happens online.** Lecturers will communicate to you by email and sms, as well as using the **Announcements**, the **Discussion Forums** and the **Questions and Answers** tools. You can also use all of these ways to ask questions and contact your lecturers.

### 6.2 myUnisa tools

The main tool that we will use is the **Lessons tool**. This tool will provide the content of and the assessments for your module. At times you will be directed to join discussions with fellow students and complete activities and assessments before you can continue with the module.

It is very important that you log in to myUnisa regularly. We recommend that you log in at least once a week to do the following:

- **Check for new announcements.** You can also set your myLife email account so that you receive the announcement emails on your cell phone.
- **Do the Discussion Forum activities.** When you do the activities for each learning unit, we want you to share your answers with the other students in your group. You can read the instructions and even prepare your answers offline, but you will need to go online to post your messages.
- **Do other online activities.** For some of the learning unit activities you might need to post something on the **Blog tool**, take a quiz or complete a survey under the **Self-Assessment tool**. Do not skip these activities because they will help you complete the assignments and the activities for the module.

We hope that by giving you extra ways to study the material and practise all of the activities, you will succeed in the online module. To get the most out of the online module you **MUST** go online regularly to complete the activities and assignments on time.

## 7 ASSESSMENT

### 7.1 Assessment plan

The following is a breakdown of the formal assessment activities as they become due during the semester:

Assignment number	Due date: First semester (unique number)	Due date: Second semester (unique number)
01	11 February 2019	02 August 2019
02	15 February 2019	08 August 2019
03	22 February 2019	16 August 2019
04	01 March 2019	23 August 2019
05	08 March 2019 (853584)	30 August 2019 (887687)
06	15 March 2019	06 September 2019
07	22 March 2019	13 September 2019
08	29 March 2019	20 September 2019
09	05 April 2019	27 September 2019
10	12 April 2019	04 October 2019
11	18 April 2019	11 October 2019
12 (Portfolio/non-venue-based examination)	03 May 2019 (886539)	18 October 2019 (837151)

Because this is an online module, the assignments are not provided in this tutorial letter. Instead, the assignments are provided online as they become due. You will see them when you go online.

### 7.2 Year mark and final examination/other options

Your year mark for this module is calculated as follows:

Assignment type	Percentage contribution to your YEAR MARK	Percentage contribution to your FINAL MARK
01 – Discussion forum	1	80
02 – Discussion forum	5	
03 – Discussion forum	5	
04 – Discussion forum	20	
05 – myUnisa file submission (written assignment)	15	
06 – Blog (comment)	5	
07 – Discussion forum	6	
08 – Discussion forum	15	
09 – Discussion forum	6	
10 – Blog (own)	20	
11 – Discussion forum	2	
12 – Portfolio/non-venue-based examination (myUnisa file submission – written)	0	20

The **year mark** for your module will be calculated, using your marks for all online assignments and will constitute 80% of your final mark. Your **examination mark** (the final result for assignment 12 – the portfolio) will constitute 20% of your **final mark**.

Please note that the **sub-minimum** for your year mark and portfolio are both 40%. Therefore, you need to obtain at least **50%** for the final mark, **as well as** a mark of 40% or more for your year mark (based on your assignments) and 40% or more for the portfolio to pass the module.

## **8 CONCLUSION**

Do not hesitate to contact us by email if you are experiencing problems with the content of this tutorial letter or with any academic aspect of the module.

We wish you an interesting, challenging and rewarding study period, and trust that you will complete the module successfully.

Enjoy the studies!

Mr R.L. Anderson and Prof. D.W. Hedding – lecturers for GGH3708

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**