



## **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES: ETHICS, CULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY. THE SPIRIT OF THE LANDSCAPE**

### **Students arrive Auckland; depart Cairns/Sydney**

This daily outline is subject to minor changes due to unforeseen circumstances such as weather, flight delays etc. Lectures outlined in the **syllabus** are an integral part of this course and will be conducted at appropriate times and locations.

**Day 1** Students arrive in Auckland. Orientation. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 2** Breakfast. Lectures. City and harbor tour. Lecture. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 3** Coach to Rotorua. Drive to Blue/Green Lakes for hike. In the evening we visit Tamaki Maori Village where we will have a lecture on contemporary Maori life and experience many aspects of Maori culture, including music, dance, art, warrior training, belief systems and food. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 4** Depart hostel and drive to Wai-O Tapu Thermal reserve. Lecture: Geothermal Energy and tour of geothermal fields. Return to Rotorua in the afternoon. Hostel accommodation.

### **Day 5**

Depart hostel. Fly to Nelson (South Island): We will undertake a 3 day Hiking/Sea kayaking expedition on the Abel Tasman National Park coastal track/coast (one of New Zealand's Great Walks). This is a coastal park featuring seals, little penguins and indigenous birdlife. A focus here will be on conservation and protective measures taken to guard against non indigenous predators. The area allows us to study pristine inter-tidal zones and the unique flora/fauna of the region: Camping/Hut accommodation.

**Day 6** Expedition continues

**Day 7** Conclude hike/paddle in Abel Tasman National Park: Overnight in Nelson YHA.

**Day 8** Depart hostel. Fly to Christchurch. We will visit the Christchurch International Antarctic Centre. Lecture: The importance, significance and sustainability issues of the Antarctic region. We end today's journey at Lake Tekapo: We will conclude the day learning about the southern sky and the astronomical research program at the University of Canterbury Observatory at Lake Tekapo. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 9** Drive to Twizel: Lecture: Glaciation in New Zealand by a University of Canterbury glaciologist. We will also experience magnificent glacial lakes and discover their importance in the New Zealand hydro electricity industry. Drive to Mt. Cook National Park where we will hike to the Tasman Glacier and also see the southern hemisphere's highest mountain, Mt. Cook. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 10** Morning hike to the Hooker Glacier to observe and experience salient points of glaciology lecture. Depart Mt. Cook and drive to Queenstown and en-route experience the phenomenon of 'perceived risk activities' (bungy jumping): Lectures: Expedition preparation: Hostel accommodation.

**Day 11** The next two days will take the form of a hiking expedition along the lower regions of the world famous Routeburn Track in the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area (Mt. Aspiring National Park) This area is renowned as one of the great wilderness regions in the Southern Hemisphere, where some of the best examples of plants and animals once found on the ancient super continent Gondwana can be seen: Hut accommodation.

**Day 12** Hike out and return to Queenstown: Lectures : New Zealand review. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 13** FREE DAY in Queenstown

**Day 14** Fly to Sydney, Australia : Hotel accommodation.

**Day 15** Australian Orientation program begins: Lectures. Hotel accommodation.

**Day 16** Orientation continue : Lectures : Sydney harbor and city tour. Hotel accommodation.

**Day 17** Lectures. Fly to Cairns, Queensland: Hostel accommodation.

**Day 18** Lectures/Presentations : Visit to the Cairns Botanic Gardens with guided tour : Hostel accommodation.

**Day 19** Drive to the 'Outback' to Jowalbinna to view one of the top ten rock art sites in the world (UNESCO) and camp at the Rock Art Safari Camp. Bush camp. En route we will visit sustainable agricultural industries and a coffee plantation.

**Day 20** Hike and explore outback landscapes and Aboriginal art sites. Bush camp.

**Day 21** As above. Bush camping.

**Day 22** Drive to Helenvale to local Indigenous Leader's land and experience Indigenous culture, including language, dance, music, and hunting and gathering/cooking techniques. Bush camp.

**Day 23** Hike with Indigenous Leader to waterfalls and spiritual sites. Drive to Home Rule camp and prepare for expedition. Bush camp.

**Day 24** Today we learn about safety and navigation as we engage in a 3 day guided expedition, hiking up through the rainforest mountains to the coast at Cedar Bay/ alternative waterfalls hike : Bush camping in the rainforest overnight.

**Day 25** Explore remote Cedar Bay beaches/waterfall, creeks and hike back to rainforest. Bush camp.

**Day 26** Return to Home Rule then drive via coastal rainforest 4 wheel drive track to Cape Tribulation

**Day 27** Presentations : FREE TIME

**Day 28** Hike on beach and rainforest tracks

**Day 29** Drive back to Cairns and take a Daintree River cruise to learn about the complexity and importance of the flora/fauna of wet tropics estuarine rivers and hopefully spot an estuarine salt water crocodile! We see first hand the effects of tourism on small communities with competing priorities, and overburdened rural and suburban infrastructure resulting from increasing population : Drive to Port

Douglas Rainforest Habitat where we examine the ecosystems of the Australian Wet Tropics, and tropical rainforest flora/fauna.

**Day 30** Lectures: Presentations: Academic consultations. Hostel accommodation.

**Day 31** Presentations: Free

**Day 32** Cruise to Great Barrier Reef: We begin the day with a lecture on the marine biology of the Great Barrier Reef aboard a chartered ship bound for the outer Great Barrier Reef. Upon arrival we SCUBA and/or snorkel with a guided tour of the Reef ecosystem. We stay overnight on-board at the Reef and have the opportunity to night dive. All meals provided on board.

**Day 33** Return from Great Barrier Reef

**Day 34** FREE DAY: Farewell BBQ.

**Day 35** Depart Cairns: fly back to the US.

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