

## WATR7900 - Collaborative planning (2 units)

Integration module (Specialisation stream #3: Water, land and people)

### Module description

This specialist module introduces participants to participatory methods and evaluation frameworks and extends their knowledge of social science concepts and the application of social theories to real life scenarios, especially at a regional scale. Planners agree that community input should be included in the development of water resource plans or strategies and find that they need principles, methods and skills about collaboration with local communities as well as between organisations.

To foster a greater understanding of collaboration, participants explore how and when collaboration is useful; gain an understanding of the various terminology used (such as participation, engagement and consultation); and explore different approaches that can be used to engage with communities and organisations, including action research and social learning.

The module focuses on how to integrate different stakeholder perspectives and knowledge systems, including Indigenous and cross-cultural; conflict management and negotiation; as well as evaluation methodologies, especially for social and process evaluation.

Lessons from real-life case-studies in water planning are shared by a range of experts in the field, with time for in-depth workshops.

### Module delivery

- **Full-time** (on-campus) students, including international students, are required to enrol in the internal offering in Semester 2.
- **Part-time** (external) students are required to enrol in this module in Semester 4. The Semester 4 intensive six-day workshop is held at the beginning of the semester. The remainder of the module is taught externally on-line.



## Assumed background

The following modules are prerequisites for this module: 'New perspectives on project management', 'Science of water', 'Water, sustainability and development', 'Water governance and policy'.

## Learning objectives

After successfully completing this module participants are able to:

- Explain the theoretical underpinnings of community based participatory engagement, community participation and organisational collaboration, and its applicability to water resources;
- Critique different participatory frameworks and assess when and why these need to be used in water and catchment management planning;
- Demonstrate understanding of cross-cultural and specifically Australian Indigenous engagement issues as related to water planning and management;
- Employ a range of analytical frameworks for understanding the links between water and local community values and ideas;
- Explain and have a critical appreciation of knowledge systems, conflict resolution, negotiation and power relations and their links to water and catchment planning;
- Demonstrate an understanding of their own ability to implement participatory processes;
- Participate successfully in an individual project designing participatory approaches for integrated water planning;
- Undertake an individual project evaluating participatory approaches in a water planning case study.

## Teaching staff

**Lead Lecturer:** [Mr Andrew Davidson](#), Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

The International WaterCentre also invites a range of guest lecturers from different fields to teach in this module:

**Guest Lecturers:** Christine Rinehart, Rinehart Consulting Pty Ltd, Jason Lange, Townsville City Council and Grant Sarra.

## Problem-Based Learning (PBL) projects

Parallel PBL projects and field trips run through the semester, comprising roughly 50% of the assessment weight. Full-time students complete two PBL projects per semester, while part-time students complete one PBL per semester.

PBL projects for the Integration semester comprise:

- **PBL3:** Integrated catchment management – developing strategies for change (*Individual project*)
- **PBL4:** Learning lessons from integrated water management in practice (*Individual project*)

## Field trips

Participants begin the Integration semester with a [10-day field trip to Gladstone](#), Queensland. The cost of the trip is covered in module fees.

They also participate in a one-day field trip around [Warrill Creek and Aratula](#), in South East Queensland, exploring issues around community engagement and environmental rehabilitation.

For a complete list of field trips that participants undertake during the Integration semester, please refer back to "Field trips" on page 7 of this syllabus or visit the [IWC website](#).

