



CLIMATE CHANGE - A WICKED PROBLEM

Course Overview



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How do we solve a problem like Climate Change? Climate Change is arguably the most important Wicked Problem that we face in the 21st Century, and effects virtually every aspect of the Earth's physical, chemical and biological systems.

Wicked problems are complex cultural or social issues that are very difficult for us to solve for reasons such as incomplete or contradictory scientific data, the number of people and opinions involved (including Fake News!), economic factors, and the interconnected nature of these issues with other problems. Come join us to expand your scientific knowledge and to sharpen your critical thinking skills!



Learning Outcomes

The course is structured around 5 core competencies:

- Understand the science of Climate Change and evaluate the interconnectedness between Earth's spheres (Lithosphere, Biosphere, Cryosphere, Hydrosphere, Atmosphere & Magnetosphere)
- Appraise the Climate Change Wicked Problem in terms of its Human impacts, including ethical, economic, societal and cultural considerations
- Utilise real-world scientific datasets to offer mitigation and adaptation strategies to combat Climate Change
- Critically evaluate social media and other information outlets for their content in terms of 'Fake News' and misleading content
- Give students the scientific knowledge and tools to successfully debate and counter misinformation about the Climate Change Wicked Problem



Homework

Students will be required to complete on average 1 hour of homework per week.



Assessment

For successful completion of this unit students will be required to submit the following tasks:

- Research-based assignment using scientific datasets and online resources to offer mitigation and adaptation strategies to combat Climate Change
- Social-media focused assignment utilising role-playing to 'myth-bust' Climate Change misinformation