

Graduate Diploma in

Environmental Studies 2027

Information for international applicants



Turn your passion for the environment into a meaningful career.

The Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies is designed for ākonga who already hold a degree in another discipline and wish to transition into the environmental field or upskill with applied environmental knowledge. This one-year, full-time (or part-time equivalent) programme provides a focused suite of courses that combine academic knowledge, practical skills, and real-world application.

Campus	Napier, Hawke's Bay
Start	February and July 2027
Length	One year full-time
Contact	international@eit.ac.nz

Environmental management for a sustainable future

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies

The Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies is a 120-credit, Level 7 programme designed to support flexible, individualised learning pathways. Each learner's programme of study is developed in collaboration with the programme team and tailored to their academic background, interests, and career goals. While a minimum of 75 credits must be at Level 7 (and include the scientific research course), the remaining credits may be selected from relevant courses at Level 5 and Level 6.

Subject Areas

- Biosecurity
- Ecological Restoration
- Applied Field Surveying
- Flora and Fauna of Aotearoa
- Environmental Sampling and Monitoring
- Soil Science
- Sustainability 101
- Introduction to Biology
- Scientific Research Project
- Freshwater Ecology and Monitoring

Career and Study Opportunities

Possible job and career opportunities can include:

- Conservation Officer/Ranger
- Sustainability Advisor
- Biosecurity Advisor
- Biodiversity Consultant
- GIS Analyst
- Catchment of Community Engagement Facilitator
- Environmental Monitoring Officer

On completion of the Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies you may wish to further your knowledge with a relevant postgraduate qualification.

Career Outlook

Visit the following websites for the latest information about job opportunities in New Zealand for your chosen career path.

tahatu.govt.nz

mbie.govt.nz

immigration.govt.nz

Timetable

Your study time will be made up of contact time (e.g. class times, tutorials, field trips, online sessions) and non-contact time (your own self-directed study time).

Contact Time

On-campus classes are usually scheduled between 8.00am-4.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Non-contact Time

You should plan to spend 6 hours per week, per course on individual study.

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies Level 7 | 120 credits

Campus	Napier
Start	15 February , 19 July 2027 (on-campus)
Credits	120 credits
Length	1 year full-time
Fees¹	NZ\$26,000 per year
IELTS	6.0 (academic) with no band lower than 5.5 OR accepted international equivalent qualification

Scholarship¹

There is a scholarship available for this programme. This scholarship provides a small contribution to assist students realise their goal of studying in New Zealand. All international students who accept an offer of place to study this programme on-campus in New Zealand will receive the scholarship. Please contact us for more information: international@eit.ac.nz

Entry Criteria²

Academic Entry Requirements

A personal interview is available as part of the application process.

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- Successful completion of a three-year degree of equivalent qualification; or
- Applicants from industry who can demonstrate evidence of significant work and professional experience at degree level or above. These applicants will be required to participate in an interview prior to acceptance into the programme.

English Language Entry Requirements

PTE (Academic) score of 50 with no band score lower than 42 or IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 with no band score lower than 5.5 (or equivalent) achieved within the last two years.

Assessments

Assessments include evidence portfolios, projects, reports, presentations, case studies, laboratory workbooks, tests and exams.

The experience you need & the support to succeed

When you study at EIT you'll get the kind of experiences that will help you gain the knowledge and skills to get ahead.

You'll also be supported by Lecturers, Learning Support Services and your International Student Support Officer who are here for you, within a learning environment where you are treated as an individual. They'll know your name and you'll receive one-on-one attention to make sure you get the support to succeed.

1. All fees shown in this information are in New Zealand dollars and include Goods and Services Tax (GST) at current rates. If you need to study for more than one year to complete your qualification, your fees in the second year, and subsequent years, will not be known when you first enrol.

2. To study onshore in New Zealand, students must meet current Immigration New Zealand requirements for a student visa. For more information please see the [Immigration New Zealand website](https://www.immigration.govt.nz/).

Course Descriptions

NB: These courses are subject to change. EIT reserves the right to change timetables. Courses may be offered in different timeslots or cancelled if there is insufficient enrolment received.

In the following descriptions:

P= Pre-requisite – courses which must be studied before C= Co-requisite – courses which can be studied before or at the same time

Level 5 Courses

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
ENV5.100	Sustainability 101 Introduces the principles and models of sustainability, including historic and contemporary Māori sustainability perspectives and practices, and examines contemporary environmental issues.	5	15
ENV5.200	Environmental Conservation in Aotearoa This course explores environmental conservation in Aotearoa New Zealand, including relevant legislation, environmental contexts, and community involvement in conservation initiatives.	5	15
ENV5.400	Environmental Sampling Develops the knowledge and practical skills required to undertake environmental sampling for monitoring and assessing ecosystems.	5	15
ENV5.700	Environmental Science This course examines the interactions between humans and the environment and explores the environmental impacts of human activities.	5	15
ENV5.310	Introduction to Biology Provides foundational knowledge of plant and animal biology, including key biological concepts and processes.	5	15
ENV5.500	Flora and Fauna of Aotearoa Focusing on Aotearoa New Zealand's native species, this course explores their biological, ecological, and cultural significance.	5	15
ENV5.800	Introduction to Earth System Sciences Explores the natural processes that shape Earth's systems, including landform development, natural hazards, and natural resources.	5	15
ENV5.900	Introduction to Ecology and Biodiversity This course builds understanding of ecological principles and biodiversity concepts, including plant and animal responses to environmental conditions, community and ecosystem ecology, and conservation biology.	5	15

Level 6 courses

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
ENV6.100	Freshwater Ecology And Monitoring This course develops knowledge of freshwater ecosystems and the skills required to undertake freshwater sampling, monitoring, and analysis.	6	15
ENV6.200	Biosecurity This course aims to develop students' knowledge of global biosecurity risks, threats to the Aotearoa environment and management methods for invasive species.	6	15
ENV6.800	Soil Science Introduces the nature, formation, and classification of soils, including their physical, chemical, mineralogical, and biological properties, and the principles of sustainable soil management.	6	15
ENV6.020	Environmental Monitoring and Management Develops applied knowledge and skills in environmental monitoring, data collection, analysis, reporting, and environmental management practices.	6	15
ENV6.500	Sustainable Futures This course examines current sustainability trends and contemporary issues in environmental management.	6	15
ENV6.700	Principles of Ecology Provides an introduction to ecological principles, including adaptation, species interactions, community and ecosystem dynamics, and biogeography.	6	15
ENV6.900	Geographic Information Systems This course develops understanding of the use and application of GIS, GPS (Global Positioning System), and remote sensing technologies for analysing and presenting spatial data.	6	15
ENV6.030	Environmental Statistics and Research Builds students' ability to design scientific research projects and analyse environmental data using standard statistical techniques.	6	15

Level 7 courses

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
LM6.08	Towards Sustainable Business The aim of this course is to develop the knowledge, skills, and competencies to evaluate and propose sustainable business practices.	6	15
ENV7.100	Ecological Restoration This course develops knowledge and skills in ecological restoration and applies the principles and standards established by the Society for Ecological Restoration.	7	15
ENV7.200	Environmental Conservation Science Prepares ākonga for professional roles in conservation, equipping them with the skills to design and implement effective conservation strategies in diverse environmental contexts.	7	15
ENV7.300	GIS Analytics This course builds advanced knowledge and skills in the application of GIS technologies for environmental management and decision-making. <i>ENV6.900 Geographic Information Systems</i>	7	15
ENV7.400	Scientific Research Project Provides ākonga with the knowledge and skills to carry out an applied research project and effectively communicate their findings to stakeholders using a range of media.	7	30
ENV7.500	Applied Field Surveying Develops knowledge and skills related to the application of taxonomy, field sampling methods and collection techniques for a range of plants, animals, and fungi. <i>ENV6.020 Environmental Monitoring and Management</i>	7	15
ENV7.700	Environmental Modelling Introduces ākonga to the principles and applications of environmental modelling focusing on the development, implementation, and evaluation of models used to simulate environmental systems and processes.	7	15



Disclaimer: All information in this document pertains to international students, and is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice. The programme fees, other costs, entry requirements, duration and programme start dates are for 2027 and are listed as a guide only. Conditions apply. Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) reserves the right to cancel or postpone any programme or course for any reason and shall not be liable for any claim other than that proportion of the programme fee which the cancelled or postponed portion bears. Programmes are dependent upon Tertiary Education Commission funding allocation.