

School of Earth and Environment

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN
AUSTRALIA

Faculty of Science



In the 2015 ERA rankings UWA received a **5 – ‘well above world standard’** for Environmental Science and a **‘4 – above world standard’** for Earth Sciences

The School of Earth and Environment is one of the largest Schools in UWA and focuses on providing an integrated understanding of the Earth and its environmental systems, including its geological structure, its physical and biological landscapes, and human settlement and development. We have exciting coursework and research opportunities spanning geosciences, geography and planning, soil science, environmental science and more.

The School hosts significant research centres including the **Centre for Exploration Targeting**, the **ARC Centre of Excellence in Coral Reef Studies**, the **Centre for Regional Development**, the **Planning and**

Transport Research Centre, and the **Centre for Energy Geoscience**. Additionally, the School has close links with the **Institute of Agriculture**, **Centre for Microscopy Characterisation and Analysis**, and the **Oceans Institute**.

We offer a number of undergraduate majors, such as Human Geography and Planning, Geology, Geography, and Environmental Science. We also offer a number of postgraduate coursework degrees, from Graduate Certificates and Diplomas to specialist Masters degrees in areas as diverse as environmental science, geoscience, geophysics, and urban and regional planning. Our diverse teaching portfolio incorporates traditional lectures, laboratories and extensive fieldwork programs.

PhD and Masters: Our research environment is reflected in the achievements of our approximately 120 PhD students and around 800 postgraduate and undergraduate coursework students.

The School has an excellent research profile, with its researchers publishing around 250 peer-reviewed journal articles annually, including papers in the premier journals *Nature* and *Science*. We currently conduct research in areas such as land and water management, ore deposits and mineral exploration, petroleum

and geothermal geoscience, and plant nutrition in natural and agricultural ecosystems, to name a few. It has an international profile for its work in soil science and land rehabilitation.

Academic staff in the School are highly successful in generating research income with \$12-14 million a year being generated through 2010-2014.

The School members have been recognised for excellence through membership of Australian Research Council panels, fellowships of international and national science academies, and winning prestigious awards and fellowships such as the Mawson Medal and the Dorothy Hill Award (Australian Academy of Science), an ARC Laureate Fellowship, two Western Australian Premier's Fellowships and a Premier's Science Award.

UWA is located in a unique geographical location for research in this field, being in close proximity to an international biodiversity hotspot – Australia's South West. This is an area of 300,000 square kilometres, with 13,500 kilometres of coastline, which is home to more than 1,500 plant species and myriad endemic mammals. The World Heritage-listed Shark Bay and Ningaloo Reef – one of the world's largest fringing reefs – are also on our doorstep, presenting unique marine and environmental research opportunities.

Faculty of Science

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