



Undergraduate and Postgraduate Science, Environmental Science and Management Course Guide



Fit learning around your lifestyle

Study your way with a leader in online learning

We've been delivering online higher education for decades, helping you access study opportunities wherever you are. Our flexible study options are designed to fit around your lifestyle, so you can learn in a way that works for you.

How online study works



Whether you study online or on campus, you will have access to our virtual learning platform, Learnline.



Join interactive lectures and group discussions live, or catch up anytime with downloadable recordings and resources.



You'll be able to connect 24/7 to your own study-specific tutoring service and round-the-clock technical support via email.



Use your desktop, laptop or mobile device to access learning materials and upload assignments from anywhere.



Meet other students and make lasting friendships.

Why choose CDU?

Join students from all across Australia who choose CDU to launch or advance their career.



The #1 dual sector university for employment outcomes¹

CDU is the highest-performing dual-sector university for graduate employment in Australia. CDU graduates have some of the strongest job prospects in the country, earning more (undergrad +3%, postgrad +6%), and enjoying a full-time employment rate 10.5% higher than the national average.¹



Australia's most equitable university²

We're leading the way towards a fairer society and supporting students who are the first in their immediate family to go to university.²



A global leader in sustainability impact

CDU ranks in the top 13% of universities worldwide for our contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).³ Our research, teaching and community impact are helping address real-world challenges, like health, education, equality and economic development.



Scholarships to help you through

We offer a diverse range of scholarships that recognise and reward hard work, support those in need and help ease the financial cost of study.

1. Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) Graduate Outcomes Survey 2024.
2. Australian Financial Review Best Universities Rankings 2025.
3. Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2025.





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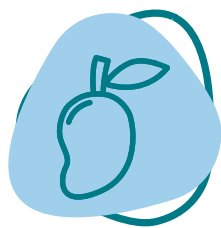
“I chose CDU because it has an excellent science course, with lots of opportunities for practical experience in the field. I love the small classes, community feel and the interaction with lecturers that you don’t get at larger universities.”

Brittany, Bachelor of Science

Study Science, Environmental Science and Management at CDU

Explore biology, environmental science, spatial science, chemistry or biochemistry with an environmental science or science degree from CDU and you could take part in exciting in-field intensives and get hands-on practical and laboratory experience.

Study with a university recognised across the globe for its environmental research and specialise in biodiversity and conservation, water and catchments, eco-cultural resource management, or landscape and spatial ecology with an undergraduate environmental science degree.



Join a #3 Australian university for environmental studies full-time employment outcomes.[^]



Choose to study online, on campus, part-time or full-time.



Study in state-of-the-art laboratories and access the Top End’s perfect outdoor classroom. We’re uniquely positioned to explore the impact Indigenous knowledge systems have on land and resource management.

Find your course online for the latest admission requirements and course details: [cdu.edu.au/study/science-environment](https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/science-environment)

[^]Good Universities Guide 2026

Undergraduate Certificate Introduction to Environmental Science

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 6 months full-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1

The Undergraduate Certificate Introduction to Environmental Science offers you the opportunity to reskill and retrain in the environment sector. This 6-month course will give you a direct pathway into higher education courses across the Environmental Science discipline.

During this course you will learn about the principles that underpin our understanding of the natural environment.

Completion of the Undergraduate Certificate Introduction to Environmental Science will provide you with a pathway to the Bachelor of Environmental Science. As this qualification has been designed to allow you to explore opportunities in disciplines, you may also use it as a pathway for entry into a variety of higher education courses.

Advanced standing will be granted in a relevant undergraduate degree for some or all of the subjects successfully completed. You should check the requirements of your preferred undergraduate degree to ensure your credit transfer is maximised.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The course will provide you with the opportunity to upskill, retrain and reskill in environmental science whilst providing pathways to pursue further study.

Diploma of Science

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2, Summer Semester

The Diploma of Science is ideal if you are curious about studying science and would like to learn more but are unsure about committing to a degree, or if you already have a career in the sciences and want to upskill with another qualification and skills in another discipline.

You will explore a variety of science concepts, theories and principles in different fields, such as general science, biology, chemistry, environmental science, geographic information science, physics and mathematics until you find the one that resonates with you.

As you progress through your Diploma of Science, you will develop your knowledge of logical and critical thinking and problem-solving from a scientific and technological perspective.

After completing your diploma, you have the option to move into our Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Environmental Science courses.

Whether you are in the science field, looking to move into science, or perhaps you are a teacher or engineer wanting to learn about a specific science discipline, this flexible diploma will help you find what you are looking for.

Bachelor of Environmental Science

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 3 years full-time, 6 years part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2, Summer Semester

With the Bachelor of Environmental Science, your academic studies will combine with practical experience, allowing you to play an active role in environmental protection and conservation.

Foundation knowledge, including biology, ecology and spatial analysis, will be the base from which you learn to solve complex environmental problems.

You will explore human impacts, social and cultural perspectives, identify solutions to environmental challenges and learn how to effectively communicate information for positive environmental outcomes. Training in critical and systems thinking will empower you to tackle the environmental challenges of our time.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduating from this course prepares you with the skills and knowledge to work within the government sector, private companies or community organisations in areas including environment and heritage, biodiversity conservation, land and water resource management, mine site rehabilitation, nature-based tourism, First Nations land management, wildlife and reserve management, landcare, teaching, consultancy or environmental research.



Bachelor of Science

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 3 years full-time, 6 years part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2, Summer Semester

The Bachelor of Science will allow you to explore your curiosity and passion for knowledge within your chosen scientific field.

Your study options are flexible and diverse with a focus on professional experience in various sciences including biology, ecology, spatial science, chemistry, or in other science fields.

You will combine academic studies with practical learning in distinctive environments and communities of northern Australia, and their associated challenges in environmental management. You will strengthen your problem-solving, logical and critical thinking skills, apply an understanding of scientific and technological factors, and consider issues from various cultural, economic and other societal perspectives throughout your studies helping you to approach tasks informed and confident.

You will be able to demonstrate and apply an understanding of your chosen areas of science, including concepts, theories and principles to practise in real situations.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduating from this course can lead you to career opportunities in the industry, government, private companies, non-government organisations (NGO) and the community sector as a biologist, ecologist, spatial scientist, chemist, consultant, laboratory assistant, project manager or advisor.



Bachelor of Science Honours

LOCATION – Casuarina, Alice Springs, Online

DURATION – 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2

This one-year honours course includes a major research project, advanced-level coursework and research skills training in a number of science disciplines, including;

- > Environmental science
- > Health and clinical science
- > Information technology.

Key areas you could base your research on include;

- > Biology
- > Ecology
- > Hydrological science
- > Spatial science
- > Analytical chemistry and molecular modelling
- > Exercise and sports science
- > Medical laboratory science
- > Pharmacy
- > Information systems
- > Mobile networking and software development.

Honours qualifications prepare you for professional positions requiring higher-level project management and effective written and oral communication, analysis, problem-solving and research skills.

You are encouraged to pursue in-depth research under the guidance of experienced researchers and through targeted coursework and generic research skills training.

Honours qualifications are also a pathway to further study in Master's or PhD programs.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduating from this course can lead to career opportunities in the industry, government, private or community sector as a biologist, ecologist, spatial scientist, biomedical scientist, chemist, consultant, laboratory assistant, academic, project manager or advisor.

Graduate Certificate of Environmental Management

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 6 months full-time, 1 year part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2

Environmental science and environmental management at Charles Darwin University are research-intensive, dynamic disciplines within some of Australia's most spectacular and fascinating natural and cultural environments.

The Graduate Certificate of Environmental Management provides postgraduate education for existing and future professionals on environmental management's background, principles and practices, particularly in the context of wet-dry and semi-arid tropical ecosystems and arid landscapes.

The generic skills, concepts and applications covered in this course are also highly relevant to those working in other ecosystems. The course also focuses on the social context within which environmental management takes place. Unit selection allows you to focus on ecology, policy, livelihoods and spacial science and their application.

This single-semester course enables you to select specific units that address your interests and career directions while also giving you the option to smoothly articulate, with full credit, into the Graduate Diploma or Master of Environmental Management. There are opportunities for intensive units with remote field locations, and sometimes international study opportunities are available.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this program are equipped to work within the diverse range of disciplines and sectors involved in effective and sustainable ecosystem management and are eligible to apply for membership in associations such as the Ecological Society of Australia (ESA) and the Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).

Graduate Certificate of Spatial Science

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 6 months full-time, 1 year part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1

The Graduate Certificate of Spatial Science complements current science qualifications and will further develop your professional skill set. This course is designed for professionals across a wide range of vocations seeking to gain expertise in spatial science at a postgraduate level.

This standalone course belongs to a pathway between Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Master of Environmental Management.

You are not expected to have previous experience in the spatial science field. However, if you do have some background, the placement unit allows the inclusion of project work in the unit selection.


CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduating from this course may lead to career opportunities in government, private companies and non-government organisations (NGO) as geospatial information scientist technicians, remote sensing analysts, spatial ecologists, project managers and geospatial modellers.



Graduate Diploma of Environmental Management

 **LOCATION** – Casuarina, Online

 **DURATION** – 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

 **DOMESTIC INTAKE** – Semester 1, Semester 2

Environmental science and environmental management at Charles Darwin University are research-intensive, dynamic disciplines situated within some of the most spectacular and fascinating natural and cultural environments in Australia.

The Graduate Diploma of Environmental Management provides postgraduate education for existing and future professionals on environmental management's background, principles and practices, particularly in the context of wet-dry and semi-arid tropical ecosystems and arid landscapes. The generic skills concepts and applications this course covers are also highly relevant to those working in other ecosystems.

The course also focuses on the social context within which environmental management occurs. This two-semester course enables you to select specific units that address your interests and career directions, while also giving you the option to smoothly articulate, with full credit, into the Master of Environmental Management.

Unit selection allows you to focus on ecology, policy, livelihoods and spatial science and their application.


There are opportunities for intensive units with remote field locations, and there are sometimes international study opportunities available. Graduates of this program are equipped to work within the diverse range of disciplines and sectors involved in effective and sustainable ecosystem management and are eligible to apply for membership with associations such as the Ecological Society of Australia (ESA) and the Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).


CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Depending on unit choices, this course can either provide a skills update and refresh for established environmental professionals, or the opportunity for new graduates to fill identified skills gaps on the path to becoming ready for employment.

Master of Applied Spatial Science

 **LOCATION** – Casuarina, Online

 **DURATION** – 2 years full-time, 4 years part-time

 **DOMESTIC INTAKE** – Semester 1, Semester 2

The Master of Applied Spatial Science has been designed to provide upskilling in geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing skills to a diverse array of vocations. The course is aimed at those with little or no previous spatial science experience and can be undertaken by students with a bachelor's degree in any field. The course will guide you through the fundamentals and develop more advanced geospatial skills. The outcome will be that you will be able to solve real-world problems across a diverse range of fields and vocations, such as environmental science, health, agriculture, mining, disaster and emergency management, and even tourism and business.

Spatial Science skills are in high demand in Australia and overseas, and spatial science graduates can work across a broad range of roles, including Spatial Analysts, Spatial Ecologists, GIS Analysts, Remote Sensing Specialists, Geospatial Intelligence Analysts, Geospatial Data Analysts, Geomarketing Officers, Cartographers, Surveyor assistants, Surveyor Technicians, or Drone Pilots/Photogrammetrists. Students in this course actively participate in professional work placements and field work.

Through this course, you will gain important transferable employability skills, including collaboration, preparing a resume and addressing selection criteria, clear scientific writing, report writing, and preparing and delivering oral presentations.

The Graduate Certificate of Spatial Science is nested within the Master's degree course as an entry and exit pathway.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Master of Applied Spatial Science graduates are in high demand in Australia and internationally to work in governments, industry, and research, taking on a wide range of roles, including:

- > Remote Sensing Specialist
- > GIS Analyst/Technician
- > Earth Observation Analyst/Scientist
- > Geospatial Intelligence Analyst
- > GIS Manager
- > Geospatial Data Scientist
- > Environmental Consultant

"Australia is grappling with a significant shortage of geospatial professionals" (Geospatial Council of Australia, 2025) as the demand for geospatial experts across Australian states and territories is growing exponentially. The average salary for a graduate geospatial analyst in Australia is \$86,500 per annum (Glassdoor Australia, 2025). Graduates do not require certification from a professional body to practice their profession.

This course offers a pathway for professionals from any background to upskill or reskill for career opportunities in geospatial science and remote sensing, including roles with industry, government research institutes, or private consultancies. There are opportunities for graduates to apply for and enter the NTG Graduate Development Program upon completing the course.

Master of Environmental Management

LOCATION – Casuarina, Online

DURATION – 2 years full-time, 4 years part-time

DOMESTIC INTAKE – Semester 1, Semester 2

Environmental science and environmental management at Charles Darwin University are research-intensive, dynamic disciplines situated within some of the most spectacular and fascinating natural and cultural environments in Australia.

The Master of Environmental Management provides postgraduate education for existing and future professionals on the context, principles and practices for environmental management, particularly in the wet-dry and semi-arid tropical ecosystems and arid landscapes. The skills, concepts and applications covered in this course are also highly transferable to other ecosystems.

Core units focus on the social context within which environmental management takes place. The flexibility of specialist electives means you can undertake the course fully online or on campus, or a combination of both, depending on unit selection. Small class sizes give all students ready access to staff via collegial online or face-to-face interactions.

The course covers the knowledge and technical skills for natural resource management within its social context and is responsive to the changing needs of employers and other stakeholders, incorporating the latest outcomes of regional research.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduating from this course may lead to a career in areas of research or environmental and natural resources management within regional agencies and departments, environmental non-government organisations (NGO), Indigenous natural resources management organisations, consultancy firms and the resources sector. Some graduates continue into a PhD program.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Graduates may seek professional membership with associations such as the Australian Rangeland Society, the Ecological Society of Australia and the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand.





A place for you at CDU

Undergraduate

Entry requirements that recognise your achievements

Each university course has its own entry requirements - if you've achieved the required ATAR and meet the criteria you can apply directly into the course of your choice.

But perhaps you didn't ace Year 12, decided to start your career with a trade, parked your first degree to go travelling, or already have great professional experience in your industry. We welcome and celebrate unique paths like these, which is why we offer a range of non-traditional, flexible entry requirements. Find out more about our study pathways and enabling programs at cdu.edu.au/study/pathway-courses

Postgraduate

Ready for the next step in your studies?

Postgraduate courses range from graduate certificates through to doctorates and can help you take the next step in your career. In most cases, you will need to have completed an undergraduate degree to apply for a postgraduate course. In some cases, consideration can be given to non-graduates who have relevant professional experience. For some courses, other criteria such as an interview, curriculum vitae (CV), audition or portfolio submission apply. Check the admissions requirements for your chosen course at cdu.edu.au/study

Inherent requirements

Many professions require practical, physical, cognitive, literacy, numeracy skills and certain personal capabilities, such as ethical behaviour, communication skills and legal reporting compliance.

Find out more at: cdu.edu.au/inherent-requirements



Be supported

You'll be supported every step of the way. Whether you study online or on campus, you'll have access to a network of support services to help you stay focused, motivated and on track with your studies.

Free academic skills programs

Language and learning support is free and confidential, assisting you with skills development tailored to your specific unit. Language and learning advisors work with you to help you understand assignment requirements and improve communication and study skills for your discipline.

You will be paired with a dedicated peer advisor to help you navigate your studies. They will check in with you every other week. This ongoing support ensures that you're progressing well in your studies and academic life. Peer advisors also run collaborative sessions focussing on preparing you for assignments and exams.

Online study buddies

Enjoy seamless, interactive collaboration with your peers, tutors and lecturers on Learnline. Jump into forums, join discussion boards and chat online with your fellow students – any time of the day or night, across Australia and beyond.

Free career advice

The Careers and Employment team offers expert advice and online tools to help you find a job, understand your work style, build your CV, practice job interviews and more.

Log on to the library

Online and on-campus students have 24/7 access to library resources. Knowledgeable and friendly library staff are ready to help over the phone, via email or face-to-face on most campuses.

Staying well

CDU offers a range of resources to help improve your wellbeing including confidential counselling and wellbeing services.

Equal access

The Access and Inclusion team is on hand to provide free and confidential services and support for students with a disability and/or health conditions. This may include providing adjustments to your study conditions, course materials or assessments or the provision of supportive resources like assistive technology.

Scholarships and financial help

CDU offers scholarships to help you complete your studies. Scholarships are available across a range of categories – not just for high achievers. Get assistance with fees, budgeting and grants to help with your financial health and wellbeing.

Student Central

Student Central is your one-stop spot for support and guidance. You can phone, email or visit them on campus for advice on admissions, timetabling, enrolling, exams, course fees and payments, study plans, scholarships and more.

Respect. Now. Always.

At CDU we believe in diversity as a strength and welcome differences in culture, race, religion, gender identity, ability, and sexuality. We are proud of the diversity of the CDU community, and we are working together to create a fair, safe, and inclusive university where everyone can thrive.

CDU is a part of the Universities Australia, Respect. Now. Always. initiative. We are committed to ensuring our students and staff are safe from gender-based violence, sexual assault or harassment.

How to apply

1. Visit cdu.edu.au

Explore course information, entry requirements and selection processes for your preferred courses.

2. Select your preferences

Register with [SATAC](https://www.satac.edu.au) and select up to six preferences. Make sure you select your dream degree as your first preference and check the key dates for applications. Late applications may still go through but the application fee may be higher.

3. Apply

Follow instructions from SATAC to complete and submit your application. SATAC may contact you for further information.

4. Accept your offer and enrol

If you are successful you will receive an offer to study at CDU. This will arrive by email from SATAC. Offer rounds will be made from December, with the majority of offers being sent in January for Semester 1 intake. CDU will then email you information on how to accept and enrol.



TIP

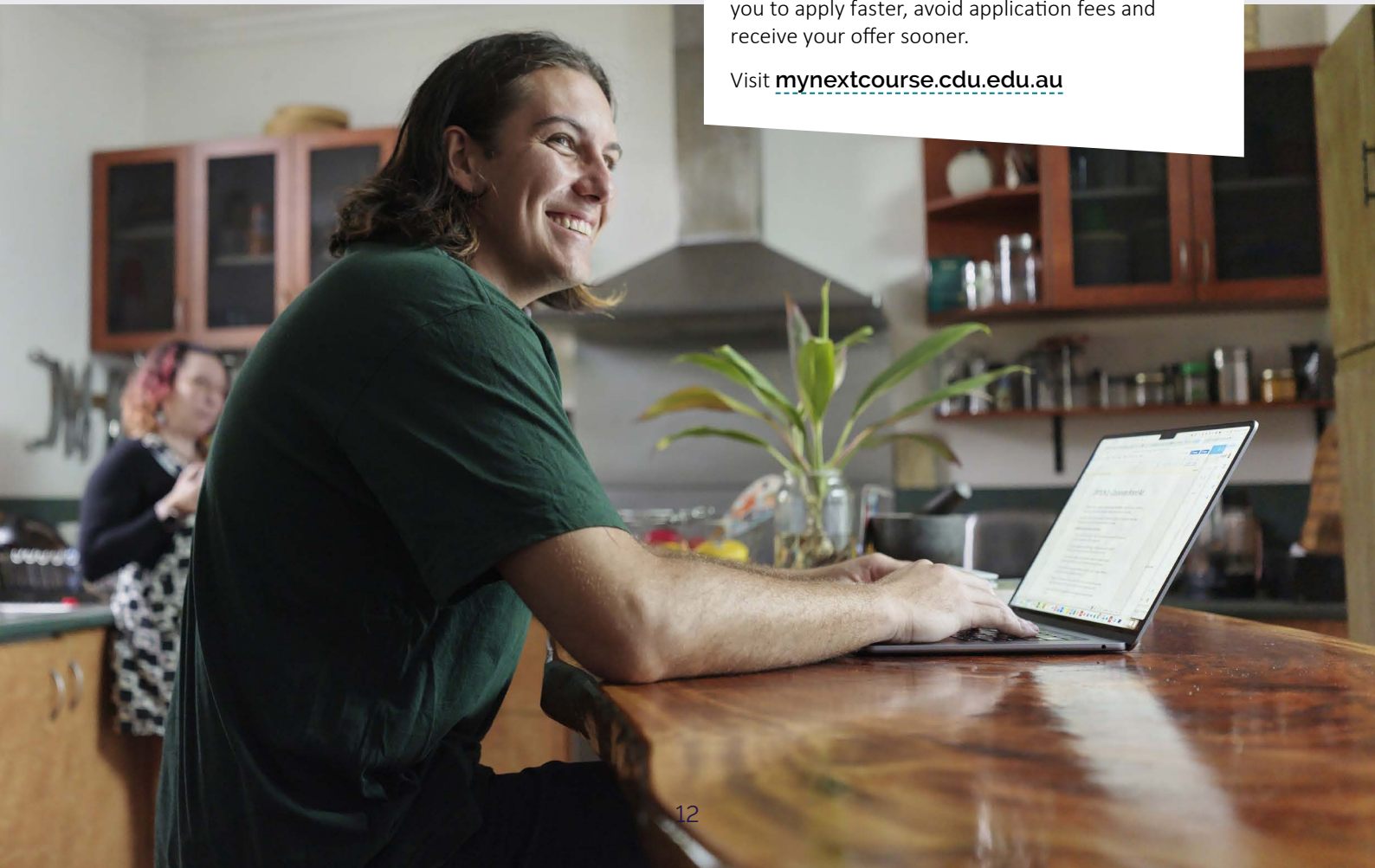
After you've enrolled with CDU take the time to apply for available scholarships: cdu.edu.au/scholarships

Returning to study with us?

If you've previously completed a TAFE Certificate III or higher, the Tertiary Enabling Program or an undergraduate degree at CDU, you may be able to apply for your next course directly through CDU rather than via SATAC.

MyNextCourse is an easy, online portal that allows you to apply faster, avoid application fees and receive your offer sooner.

Visit mynextcourse.cdu.edu.au



Contact us

E: study@cdu.edu.au

Freecall: 1800 061 963

Mon – Thursday 8.00am - 4.00pm

Friday 8.00am – 3.00pm (ACST)

cdu.edu.au

Casuarina

Larrakia Country

Orange 1.1

Ellengowan Drive, NT

Danala | Education and Community Precinct

Larrakia Country

54 Cavenagh Street, Darwin NT

Darwin Waterfront

Larrakia Country

21 Kitchener Drive, Darwin NT

Palmerston

Larrakia Country

University Avenue, Palmerston NT

Alice Springs

Arrernte Country

Grevillea Drive, Alice Springs NT

Katherine Town Centre

Jawoyn, Wardaman and Dagoman Country

19 Second Street, Katherine NT

Katherine Rural

Jawoyn, Wardaman and Dagoman Country

Lot 5626 (16km North of Katherine)

Stuart Highway, Katherine NT

Nhulunbuy

Yorlu Country

Lot 1468 Dartnall Close, Nhulunbuy NT

Sydney

Gadigal Country

Level 10, 815 George Street,

Haymarket, Sydney, NSW

Acknowledgement of Country

Charles Darwin University acknowledges and pays respect to the Elders both past and present of all First Nations people upon whose lands CDU campuses and centres are located.

While all reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the information in this publication is correct, matters covered by this publication are subject to change. Charles Darwin University does not assume and hereby disclaims any express or implied liability whatsoever to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions, whether these errors or omissions result from negligence, accident or any other cause.

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Student Central

Freecall: 1800 061 963

E: study@cdu.edu.au

You make CDU



cdu.edu.au