

2019 MAJOR – Palaeobiology

(Qualifying Major for Bachelor of Science with the degree of Bachelor of Laws)

The main aim of the Palaeobiology major is to provide students with a "deep time" perspective to the evolution and history of life on Earth. By studying the fossil record, students will learn more about the evolutionary relationships of animals and plants, the timing and correlation of important events in deep time, and explore fundamental questions related to fluctuating ecological and environmental parameters through time. Coverage includes a broad survey of important invertebrate and vertebrate fossil groups, study of evolutionary processes as revealed by the fossil record, investigation of reef evolution through time (includes a field excursion to the GBR), application of fossils to reconstruct past environments, climates and behaviours, and the various ways that fossils can be used as tools to solve geological and biological problems. The melding of palaeobiology with evolutionary biology, genetics and developmental biology allows students to explore the new discipline of 'evo-devo' which seeks to determine the ancestral relationship between organisms and understand how developmental processes evolved.



The table below is a suggested first session for students beginning in Session 2, 2019. Please make your selection of units after reviewing the requirements of your award in the 2019 Handbook:

www.handbook.mq.edu.au/2019/DegreesDiplomas/Degree/Bachelor+of+Science+with+the+degree+of+Bachelor+of+Laws

Suggested First Session

Session 2, 2019

Unit Code	Unit Name
BIOL115	Genes to Organisms
GEOS126	Introduction to Oceanography
LAW115	Foundations of Law
STAT170 or ACSC100	Introductory Statistics Academic Communication in Science

- You must also meet the general requirements for the degree for which you will qualify.
- It may be possible to satisfy the requirements of your degree by taking a different selection of units in your first session from those suggested above.
- Please note that you should enrol in LAW109, LAWS104 and LAWS108 in 2020.
- Consider what units you will want to study in second and third year. Prerequisite requirements for those units must be completed prior to enrolment in the higher-level unit. Statistics [STAT170 or STAT171] is a prerequisite for some second year Biology units.
- In the Session 3 of Year 1, students interested in pursuing the Palaeobiology major are encouraged to enrol in GEOS226 Introduction to Field Geology to gain experience in field mapping skills. Entry into this unit requires completion of relevant 100 level GEOS units.

FIND OUT MORE
CONTACT: STUDENT CONNECT
LEVEL 2, MUSE C7A PHONE: 9850 6410
Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia
Handbook.mq.edu.au

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- Although mathematics and chemistry are not required in the Palaeobiology major, some background knowledge is helpful. Bridging courses in mathematics are available and recommended for those without recent HSC study: www.tinyurl.com/bridgingmq.
- You can receive specific program advice from the faculty at any stage in your degree by lodging a “Program Advice” enquiry via <http://ask.mq.edu.au>.



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