

# MITCH COWAN

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

### Senior School Subjects

- Year 11 – English, General Mathematics, Biology, Psychology, Religion, Outdoor and Environmental Studies Units 3 + 4 Early Advancement.
- Year 12 – English, Further Mathematics, Biology, Sociology, Physical Education

**Why did you choose these subjects?** I chose these subjects mostly because I enjoyed them and they interested me. I wasn't sure on which course I wanted to study so I picked classes that I wanted to learn, and would keep me interested. I always wanted to advance in a subject no matter what it was. At first I picked Sociology, however the Unit 3 + 4 class was too full so that is why I was forced to drop it in Year 11 and advance into Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies instead. This wasn't a problem because I loved Outdoor Education - probably the most out of all of my subjects.

**What resources did you use to choose subjects?** I mostly used the Senior School Subject Handbook to understand what each subject involved. As well as speaking to the teachers relevant to the subjects, and attending seminars and information sessions about what different classes involved. I found that approaching teachers 1 on 1 was very beneficial to me in learning about and making decisions on subjects.

**What is your course like?** My course so far has been very interesting, both introducing us to new ideas and concepts as well as teaching us skills needed for a career in the area. There are a lot of hands on activities and excursions to local (and international) places to learn about different aspects of the environment. As well as discovering the things that make up its physical self, and the things that contribute to making it how it is, including human interaction, location and weather. So far, there has also been a big emphasis on how to research and collect data for different environmental factors.

**What do you love about your course?** I love that the course has many excursions and activities outside of the classroom. This really suits me as I can struggle when sitting inside through long lectures on sunny days. The subjects too are not all the same, some are not even about the environment or management but more about humans and how they act, as well as ways to communicate data and collect data. There are a range of areas covered in the subject which keeps it interesting, as it would get pretty boring if the 4 year course was just on how the environment worked and had nothing about how to understand people and work successfully in life after university.

**How have the subjects at school prepared you for your course?** Very well. So far in my first semester we have covered topics from Further Mathematics, Biology, Outdoor and Environmental Studies, Physical Education, Sociology and English, which were all my Year 12 subjects.

- Some of the finer topics like the Franklin Dam in Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies, and indigenous culture in Sociology have been covered.
- Graphs, bars, tables and bell curves learnt in Further Mathematics have helped me greatly in the data aspects of the course.
- Referencing and report writing in English has prepared me for the many reports and references written in each subject.
- Next semester we are studying ecology, involving genes, habitats, evolving and many things learnt in Biology.

**Course information:** Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management, Charles Sturt University,  
<http://bit.ly/29DwaOO>