

WATR7500* – Integrated water management project (8 units)

Final specialisation project

Course overview

In WATR7500*, students have the opportunity to design and undertake self-directed project work aimed at consolidating and applying concepts, principles and methodologies learned throughout the Master of Integrated Water Management program. Students are strongly encouraged to base their project on an area of specialisation that is of personal or professional development interest. The mode of project delivery is flexible, with previous student submissions including applied research, critical desktop review or work place experience reports.

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- effectively communicate the aims, objectives (or activities) and contextual 'need' for the project;
- rationalise project design and approaches used to achieve identified objectives (or activities);
- present the project outputs and critically evaluate overall findings in the broader context of the focal issue;
- reflect upon observed gaps between theory, practice, rhetoric and reality of IWM from their project experience.

Students will have two supervisors and may undertake their project in Australia or overseas. The primary supervisor must be affiliated with The University of Queensland. Where possible, students will be linked with IWC and its partner universities.

Course introduction

The Master of Integrated Water Management program has been designed to provide graduates with a strong theoretical foundation in IWM best practice, strengthened by a practical skill set developed through the WATR7500* project experience.

WATR7500* is a compulsory unit, undertaken during the final semester of the MIWM program. The project submission must represent academic effort attributable to one semester of full-time time work (8 units). Students must negotiate the scope and outcomes of the project with the staff of the International WaterCentre and its partner universities prior to commencing work.

Work and internship placements with NGOs, water industry, or natural resources management organisations are strongly encouraged. However, project delivery is flexible so that students can tailor a project to their demonstrated strengths, personal and professional development aspirations, or other extenuating circumstances. Supervision and guidance will be provided by International WaterCentre staff throughout the first two semesters of the program to help students decide which option is best for them.

* Course code for part-time students is WATR7501, WATR7502, WATR7503 or WATR7504, depending on academic calendar and expected semester of graduation.

Course delivery

- **Full-time** (on-campus) students: the project will run over one final semester (Semester 3)
- **Part-time** (external) students: the project will run over two final semesters (Semester 5 and Semester 6)

Pre-requisites

- permission of Head of Chemical Engineering School; and
- successful completion of the compulsory Foundation (WATR7000, WATR7001, WATR7002 and WATR7003) and Integration modules (WATR7100 and WATR7300).

Teaching staff

Course Coordinator: [Dr Steven Pratt](#) (The University of Queensland)

Project Coordinator: [Dr Sarah Goater](#) (International WaterCentre/ The University of Queensland)

Visit IWC website for [examples of featured students projects](#).

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

Hong Hanh Nguyen (Vietnam)

Integrating sanitation marketing into a national program: A case study in Vietnam

Despite the high annual rate of economic growth in Vietnam, poor sanitation has caused a loss of approximately 1.3% of the country's annual GDP. Since 2003, International Development Enterprises (IDE), a non-profit development organisation, has implemented several rural sanitation marketing pilot projects in various parts of Vietnam, achieving promising results.

As a result, Hong Hanh, who was undertaking an internship with IDE Vietnam, conducted a pilot project to integrate a sanitation marketing model into the National Target Program for rural water supply and sanitation. The field research analysed the potential as well as the constraints for scaling up this innovative model into a national governmental program.





IWC Graduates receive a co-badged degree from four leading Australian universities, ranked amongst the top 1% of the best universities in the world for teaching and research. (QS Global Ranking)

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

Maria Belén Andrade (Ecuador)

Engaged or Disengaged? Bringing motivations and emotions into the study of multi-stakeholder platforms for Integrated Catchment Management – A case study of multi-stakeholder platforms in the Pumicestone Region Catchment, Queensland, Australia

Multi-stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) are widely promoted to attain a new water governance system known as Integrated Catchment Management (ICM). MSPs are often considered to be conflict-free and rational spaces for participation, leaving aside the fact that they are composed of human beings, who are far more complex than this. MSPs are usually initiated by the government or an NGO (due to the skills required to facilitate a positive environment for dialogue).

However, one must ask: what motivates people to join,

remain active in and leave MSPs, and what experiences and emotions make some individuals who have left cynical about joining other participatory initiatives?

Belen undertook a six-month research project to answer this question through the examination of three government-invited MSPs from the Pumicestone Catchment Region in Queensland, Australia. She approached the study of engagement and disengagement of participants in MSPs through the socio-psychological lens of motivations and emotions, and how they influence behaviour in order to attain ICM goals.



2011 student cohort on North Stradbroke Island