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## Sustainability and the Environment

 **Duration** As desired, but usually between 2 and 4 weeks

 **Locations** New Zealand, Australia and Fiji

Our flagship programs on sustainability and the environment of the South Pacific are AUIP's in-house speciality. Proven experiential learning programs challenge students to explore the complex relationship between humans and the environment. Rather than limiting the definition of "sustainability" and "the environment" to matters concerning the natural world, the courses embrace the Brundtland Report's definition of sustainability as being comprised of the interaction of the Three Es: (1) ecology/environment, (2) economy/employment, and (3) equity/equality. Through field activities, site visits, lectures and service learning, the programs address issues of ecology and environmentalism, as well as more social aspects of sustainability, such as green business and indigenous politics. Partner university faculty benefit from our existing itineraries and curricula, community partnerships and local experts, as well as course reading packs, or you can work with us to tailor programs as needed.

 **Antarctica**  **Australia**  **Fiji**  **New Zealand**

## New Zealand

### Hooker Valley guided hike, Mt Cook

A 3-hour guided hike through the alpine vegetation and glacial landforms of Aoraki Mount Cook National Park.

### Service Learning Project with the Department of Conservation (DOC)

DOC is a government department responsible for the conservation of New Zealand's natural and historical heritage. Service learning projects involve planting natives or clearing invasive species in iconic New Zealand settings.

### Full day kayak and walking tour, Abel Tasman National Park

This full-day trip into Abel Tasman National Park includes an easy walk along the coastal track through native bush and a guided kayak trip back along the coast. The session is guided by a tourism operator who teaches students about operating a tourism business within a national park.

## Australia

### Snorkelling day trip to the Great Barrier Reef, Port Douglas

We work with a leading advocate and educational body focused on conservation of the Great Barrier Reef; the business is run by a family that has spent 30 years working on the Reef. Students benefit from the proprietors' extensive knowledge during hands-on experiential learning at the Reef.

### Wildlife Rescue and Research

Activities can include a macropod rescue workshop at Mt Molloy and a koala research population survey project on Magnetic Island.

### Visit an Aboriginal arts community, Alice Springs

Students visit a remote Australian indigenous community that sustains itself through the production of art, one of many such communities in the Australian outback. This site visit is concerned both with social sustainability within the contemporary Australian context, and with the relationship between humans and the desert environment.

## Fiji

### Ecotourism on the Navua River and Nadi town

Students learn about ecotourism in Fiji, and take part in a scenic rafting and kayaking tour on the Navua River. They also have the opportunity to learn from an ecotourism operator about the challenges and difficulties of setting up a tourism operation in Fiji.

### Overnight stay in traditional Fijian village

Students participate in a lovo and kava ceremony and spend a night with a Fijian family in their village home. They conduct an ethnographic study in which they consider their hosts' lives in an environment very different than that of 21st-century America.

### Reef ecology, Manta Island

The leader of Fiji's leading marine biology consultancy teaches the students about reef health and conservation. Students gather and analyze data in a hands-on project on the reef.

