



## Fact Sheet for School Leavers



### Pathways to the Master of Forest Ecosystem Science

Direct entry to the MFES requires a 3-year undergraduate degree in science, environmental science or a related discipline; bridging courses are available for non-science graduates. Applicants with a 4 or 5-year Forest Science degree or a relevant 3-year degree plus Honours may be eligible for up to 100 points credit towards the MFES.

### The Master of Forest Ecosystem Science

The Master of Forest Ecosystem Science (MFES) is a new two-year coursework program with core fields of study in forest biology and ecology. The course builds a strong understanding of forests and the social aspects of their management. The MFES is for people who want to contribute to the “big picture” of sustaining forest landscapes and the services they provide including clean water, wildlife habitat, carbon storage and timber for high value products.

### Why choose the MFES at Melbourne?

- Course delivery draws on world class facilities in Creswick and Parkville (Melbourne) including field-based and practical courses taught by internationally-recognised academics and professionals
- Industry, government and NGO internships in Australian and overseas institutions
- Flexible delivery, block courses and live-in accommodation suitable for part-time study
- Links to Australian student network through the National Forestry Masters Program

### Careers in Forest Science

The MFES prepares you for a career within the forest and natural resource management sector. There is currently high demand for forest science graduates in areas including:

- Forest and environmental management
- Research and development, ecological consulting
- Fire management in parks and forests
- Water catchment management
- Timber management and processing
- Land-care and wildlife conservation
- Climate change science and policy
- Forest carbon investment and accounting
- Development-aid agencies in Australia or overseas

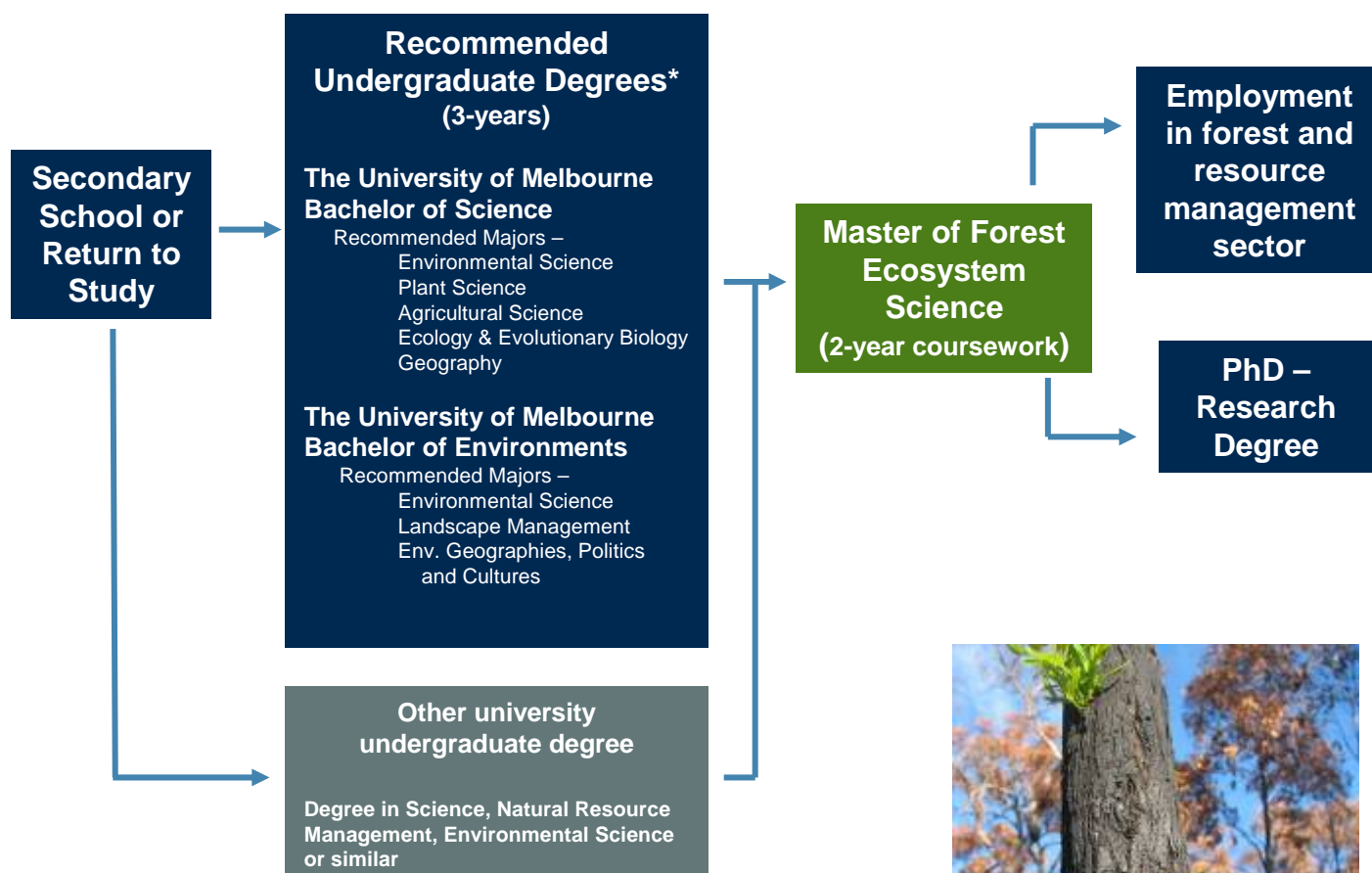
“The forest science degree at Melbourne Uni was ideal in providing a comprehensive grounding in the science of natural resources, awareness of the many benefits that forests can provide in both a natural and rural setting and a solid understanding of the principles of ecological and resource sustainability. The course has allowed me to experience some great working environments and opportunities, including the Top End, fire management throughout Victoria, delegation member to the United Nations Forum on Forests and industry representation in Canberra”

**Roger Cross – Forest Science Graduate. Now working as Private Forestry Industry Development Officer, Department of Primary Industries**





## Pathway to a career in Forest Ecosystem Science



\* Progression to the MFES is possible via the Bachelor of Biomedicine, Bachelor of Commerce or Bachelor of Arts. Graduates from these degrees may be required to undertake a bridging course depending on their undergraduate subject selection.

“My interest in forest science stemmed from a desire to work in natural resource management where the focus was broader than just ecological protection – I wanted a course that would expose me to the complexities of balancing protection with the sustainable utilisation of natural resources. After graduating in 2001, I took up a position with State Government in forest management, which led to various roles in fire management. I now oversee the strategic fire planning for public land in South West Victoria, which includes ecological fire regimes, prescribed burning and fire suppression. Personnel with forest science qualifications are highly valued due to their knowledge and technical skills relating to the intricacies of vegetation, soil chemistry, life cycles and active forest management. I can’t imagine a better foundation for my current role in fire management than forest science.”

**Rachaele May, Forest Science Graduate, now working for Department of Sustainability and Environment**

### For Further Information:

[www.forests.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.forests.unimelb.edu.au)

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