

# 2022 Environmental Legacy Foundation Sustainability Honours Bursary

This bursary is offered to USC students enrolled in an Honours program with a focus on environmental sustainability.

We are pleased to introduce you to the 2022 recipient of the bursary and thank you for your support and partnership in creating opportunity through education.



RUBIE ORMAN-DITCHFIELD  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours)

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*It is with great pleasure that I accept the Environmental Legacy Foundation Bursary. I have just begun my honours in 2022 after completing a Bachelor of Science and Master of Teaching (Secondary) at USC. I am in my second year as a high school science teacher on the Sunshine Coast, however I greatly missed studying and contributing to the academic world and hence, my interested in continuing my studies. However, as a young mother of one, with another on the way, going back to study was a big leap that was quite daunting. This leap has been made far easier with the assistance of this bursary.*

*I am very excited to continue with my honours which looks at how climate change is causing anxiety (also known as ecoanxiety) in adolescents. As a high school teacher with a keen interest in both climate change and how we can minimise this impact, I find this topic so important. I believe that, unfortunately, even though the science surrounding climate change is sound, many people will not act on this unless it is obviously impacting on people and our youth are especially hard hit. Hence, I hope my research can lead to climate action both locally and nationally. I would also like to look into what we should be teaching students about climate change in the Australian Curriculum and ensure they can manage this ecoanxiety and create change.*

*I would like to take this moment to thank you again for your assistance in supporting me to continue with my studies and continue working on my academic dreams.*

*Rubie Orman-Ditchfield*

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