



The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Science Honours Project A

Subject	Cat-Nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
SCI	4401	10353	1, 2002	ONC	2.50	TWMBBA

Academic Group:	FOSCI
Academic Org:	FOS002
HECS Band:	2
ASCED Code:	019999

STAFFING

Examiner: Michael Kotiw

Moderator: Grant Daggard

RATIONALE

A substantial programme of research will be performed by the student, the prime purpose being to give the student experience in carrying out scientific research.

SYNOPSIS

This course involves students in a research project which will be supervised by a member of staff with appropriate expertise. It may consist of pure or developmental research in an important area of sciences and be based on experimental work conducted either within the University or elsewhere in conjunction with a government or private organisation. This course will require the student to undertake an extensive literature review and deliver several seminars on their research topic, in addition to conducting their research program. Science Honours Project A and B need to be undertaken in consecutive semesters, overall Honours grades being determined in accordance with Department of Biological and Physical Sciences Honours program guidelines.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- demonstrate practical experience in the performance of original research in science.
- demonstrate real-world practical problems and the limitations these place on scientific advances.
- demonstrate work in a research environment
- demonstrate expertise in critically reviewing scientific literature and in the delivery of research seminars.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Project Design and Approval The details of the experimental work to be performed will obviously vary with each individual project. Projects will require approval of the Department of Biological and Physical Science Research and Higher Degrees Committee (DR&HDC). The student will be expected to perform original research under the supervision of a research scientist from the place at which the research is being carried out. If this is not the USQ, regular progress reports must be submitted to a second supervisor who will be a USQ staff member.	0.00
2. Seminars Students will be required to deliver two seminars to the Department during the course of their project. Details of the content of each seminar are available from the Honours Co-ordinator.	0.00
3. Literature Review Students must undertake a comprehensive literature survey in their area of research and submit two copies of a written literature review (4000-5000 words, excluding references). Details of assessment criteria of the literature review and submission date will be provided by the Department of Biological & Physical Sciences Honours Co-ordinator.	0.00

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Such journals, monographs and other printed materials appropriate for the research topic chosen.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	400

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks Out of	Wtg(%)	Required	Due Date
LITERATURE REVIEW	999.00	25.00	Y	04 Mar 2002 (see note 1)
INTRO. HONOURS SEMINAR	999.00	25.00	Y	04 Mar 2002 (see note 2)
FINAL HONOURS SEMINAR	999.00	50.00	Y	04 Mar 2002 (see note 3)

NOTES:

1. Examiner to advise due date for Literature Review

2. Examiner to advise the date of the Introductory Honours Seminar
3. Examiner to advise the date for the Final Honours Seminar

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 In accordance with the University's Policy on Assignments (Regulation 5.6.1), the Examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. This policy may be found in the USQ Handbook, the Distance Education Study Guide and the Faculty of Sciences' Orientation Handbook for new on-campus students. All students are advised to study and follow the guidelines associated with this policy.
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