



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Teaching and Learning in a Flexible Environment						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	4640	40970	1, 2005	WEB	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE003
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070109

STAFFING

OTHER-REQUISITES

Students cannot gain credit for the same program for FET3210 and FET4640

RATIONALE

This course is intended to introduce participants to the concepts and practices of flexible and distributive learning. Engagement with the course is intended to be of both theoretical and practical use to those involved in the post-compulsory education and training environment, as well as industry-based training personnel. The course may also have some application for those who work in areas such as 'VET' in schools. The course would be deemed most valuable for those involved in existing flexible delivery programs, or people working in contexts who are looking to implement flexible and distributive learning initiatives.

SYNOPSIS

Flexible and distributive learning is fast becoming a key agenda of those involved in education and training contexts. Initially this course introduces the notion of flexible and distributive learning through a pathway of historical investigation. This investigation surveys the emergence of the flexible and distributive trend and attempts to understand the rationale and reasons for pursuit of the emerging agenda. Participants will identify the key elements, which underpin a successful flexible and distributive delivery agenda, and analyse potential barriers and opportunities within their workplace. Identifying and integrating appropriate media are important principles in flexible and distributive environments. This course investigates key considerations involved in determining the merit of various media and follows on to explore and investigate issues of planning and implementing a flexible and distributive learning initiative. NOTES: 1. This course (FET4640) is available through INTERNET DELIVERY ONLY. There are NO print materials for this course. 2. For details of the technical requirements and accessing Internet study materials, please consult the following URL: <http://usqconnect.usq.edu.au> . Students cannot gain credit for the same program for FET3210 (USQ81221) and FET4640 (USQ81222). IMPORTANT NOTE: Working with Children: State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the State of Queensland*, obtain

approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc.) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card) before commencing any practical components of this course. **DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 UNLESS YOU POSSESS A CURRENT 'BLUE CARD'**. For further information: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html> *If you are undertaking practical experience outside the State of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.

OBJECTIVES

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

1. demonstrate an understanding of the historical emergence of flexible and distributive learning
2. construct a definition of flexible and distributive learning as it applies to a given context
3. identify and analyse the key elements which apply to implementing flexible and distributive learning in a given context
4. within a specific educational context, identify and analyse the potential barriers to implementing and sustaining flexible and distributive learning
5. with consideration of contextual circumstance, evaluate appropriateness and utility of various communication media
6. plan a flexible and distributive initiative for implementation.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Historical and emerging perspectives	10.00
2.	Key elements and implementation barriers	30.00
3.	Media and communication technologies	30.00
4.	Planning and implementing flexible and distributive learning	30.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

There is are no prescribed texts in this course.

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.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	60.00
Directed Study	105.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
FLEX DEL DEFINITION & O'VIEW	40.00	40.00	22 Apr 2005
FLEX DEL INITIATIVE	60.00	60.00	17 Jun 2005

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available or at least a grade of C- for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
In this course, if students are more than two weeks late with the submission of any assessment task, they are required to contact the course examiner, who may, at his/her discretion, grant a further extension.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by satisfactorily completing all summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks or grades obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no examination in this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might

contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 As the assessments in this course are context-based, it is necessary that participants have a sound appreciation of or access to an actual instructional situation in a formal education, community or industry setting.
- 2 All assessment items must be submitted using the official course online drop box facility.
- 3 It is recommended that assignment submissions be constructed in a .doc (MS Word) format. The online drop box facility can manoeuvre .doc files easily, and your course leader or examiner is better able to provide precise and constructive feedback through .doc files.
- 6 All pieces of graded summative assessment in this course will be graded using one of the following letter grades: HD, A, B, C, F or Incomplete. Plus and minus may be used with each of these letter grades.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students enrolling in WEB courses **MUST** have ongoing convenient and reliable access to the Internet in order to access course materials and participate in activities that will affect assessment. The levels of equipment required may change from time to time, with the most recent specification listed at <http://www.usq.edu.au/currentstudents/computingstandards/default.htm>. You can check whether your computer system meets these requirements from USQAssist (<http://usqassist.usq.edu.au/>).
 - 2 **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Working with Children: State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the State of Queensland*, obtain approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc.) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card) before commencing any practical components of this course. **DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 UNLESS YOU POSSESS A CURRENT 'BLUE CARD'**. For further information: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html> *If you are undertaking practical experience outside the State of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.
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