



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Current Issues in Post-Compulsory Education and Training						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	5201	48135	3, 2005	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

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

STAFFING

Examiner: Bill Bittel

RATIONALE

This course provides an opportunity for students to study in some depth some of the key issues currently influencing post-compulsory education in Australia. Students choose from a number of options to ensure that the issues studied are relevant to their own work situations and interests, and an emphasis is given where possible to studying the issue in the context of the student's own work environment. In this way, students develop a deep understanding of how the issue relates to and affects them. Students also have the opportunity to develop a better understanding of the issues affecting educational sectors other than that in which they currently work. Students will leave the course better prepared to operate effectively as a professional in the developing education system.

SYNOPSIS

In this course students will be encouraged to gain a sound understanding of the broad range of issues influencing the operating environment of post-compulsory education and training in Australia. The course involves the study of a number of specific key issues currently influencing the senior school, VET and higher education sectors and the study of the future prospects for these sectors. Students choose the issues they will study from a number of options. This enables students to concentrate on areas most relevant to their own personal and professional interests. **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 awareness of and critique a range of issues currently influencing post-compulsory education;
2. understand how these issues interact and contribute to the overall operating environment of post-compulsory education in Australia; and
3. demonstrate the attainment of skills involved in objectively analysing the impact on Australian post-compulsory education of specific key issues influencing the operating environment.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Overview of Tertiary Education (Compulsory)	12.00
2.	The Changing Educational Paradigm (Compulsory): - Lifelong Education, Open Learning, Adult Education	22.00
3.	The Challenges (Compulsory - one of): The Quality Movement in Tertiary Education, Access and Educational Equity, The Impact of New Information and Communication Technologies	30.00
4.	The Changing Operational Environment (Compulsory - one of): Internationalisation, Private Providers in Education, Cross-Sectoral Linkages	12.00
5.	Trends in Senior Secondary Schooling (Compulsory)	12.00
6.	The Emerging Future (Compulsory)	12.00

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 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.

No additional references are required.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	112.00
Project Work	48.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE	10.00	10.00	16 Dec 2005
REPORT	30.00	30.00	20 Jan 2006
ASSIGNMENT	60.00	60.00	03 Feb 2006

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. This course contains a discussion forum where students and lecturers can interact. Where students have access to the forum, they are advised to participate.
- 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. * As stated in Assessment 2.
- 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, although the final assessment item (the take-home examination) is an examination that students are allowed to do at home with access to all study material.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
There are no formal 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 Marking criteria for the first two assignments is provided in the course materials. The 'take-home examination' is treated like an examination.
- 2 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced if required by the examiner.
- 3 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the examiner.
- 4 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 **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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