



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Supervised Independent Study

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	5660	50589	1, 2006	WEB	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE003
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070303

STAFFING

Examiner: Shirley Reushle

Moderator: Joan Conway

RATIONALE

There are many potential areas of study and workplace professional activity which offer significant opportunities for learning appropriate to postgraduate education studies, but are not currently available in prepared formal courses. In recognition of this situation, this course is intended to enable students to undertake guided individual study of such an area or to gain credit recognition in their formal program of study, for appropriate demonstrated professional activity learning.

SYNOPSIS

This course is designed to allow individual learners to investigate a topic of interest related to their workplace professional activity. Within the learning process defined in the course study material, learners will engage in individual and collaborative activity to (a) identify a study topic; (b) define the scope of the proposed study; (c) source, assess, summarise and critically evaluate information in order to form a response to the study topic and (d) report the results in a form suitable for dissemination to their professional peers. In this course, students may undertake one of the following activities: (1) extensions of previous coursework to develop individual expertise in particular sub-domains; (2) workplace related projects for academic credit; or (3) independent study in domain areas not addressed in USQ course offerings. NOTE: 1. NOTES: 1. This course (FET5660) 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>. 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 the ability to locate, access, summarise and critically evaluate established theories and other creditable information relevant to a specialised topic, issue or workplace challenge in an education or training environment
2. demonstrate the ability to interpret and synthesise such theories and information and/or reflect on their application to professional practices
3. demonstrate an ability to communicate their interpretation and reflection in a form suitable for dissemination to their professional peers.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Project developmental work	40.00
2. Completed project	60.00

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.

In most studies supervisors provide students with a reference list and assist them in developing their own lists.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	50.00
Private Study	110.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
COLLAB. REFINEMENT	30.00	30.00	06 Mar 2006 (see note 1)
PROGRESS REPORT	1.00	1.00	06 Mar 2006
FINAL PROJECT	60.00	60.00	06 Mar 2006
PROPOSAL	9.00	9.00	06 Mar 2006 (see note 2)

NOTES

1. The Examiner will advise the due date for all assessment items.
2. The proposal is designed to provide early feedback to ensure students have an appropriate project for this course.

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 for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
In this course, if students are 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 receiving a passing grade a student must submit all of the assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the available weighted marks for those 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 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 This course has been developed to support independent study through the creation of a community of learners which interacts online. The design includes elements of both independent study and peer collaboration. While much of your individual project will be developed independently, at various times during the term (particularly at the outset and again towards the end) you will be required to interact with a small group of peers. This peer collaboration will provide opportunities for the articulation, testing, explanation and clarification of ideas which provides you with critical feedback in the development of your independent project and the expertise which underpins it. Collaborative work is an ASSESSABLE component of this course.
- 2 Student workload requirements are as required for the completion of the study and as negotiated between student and supervisor in the early weeks of the course.
- 3 Letter grades will be used for assessments in this course and will be displayed in the Online gradebook.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course, and must be prepared to engage in online peer collaboration.
 - 2 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/>).
 - 3 **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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