



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Curriculum Implementation in the Middle Years						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
SEC	2505	50565	1, 2006	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE003
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070105

STAFFING

Examiner: Stephen Smith
Moderator: Alison Mander

RATIONALE

Currently there is a range of responses by educational communities to deal with issues identified for students in the pre-teen and adolescent years. Many of these students feel alienated and have become disengaged from formal education. Often students moving from primary to secondary or secondary to further education have a far from seamless transition. Exploration of curriculum frameworks and the design and delivery of curriculum for the middle years is essential to ensure these students are given opportunities to gain the attributes of lifelong learning.

SYNOPSIS

This course will explore a range of issues for students in the middle years of schooling. Emerging professionals should have increased awareness of the different responses educational facilities have made to these issues. In particular, this course will focus on the curriculum design and delivery under an outcomes-based education framework and its application to the middle schooling cohort of students. This course aims to give primary and secondary educators increased understanding and confidence to deal with issues for middle schooling, strategies for teaching in this area, a broadened perspective of education and to improve cross-sectoral communication. Emerging professionals will develop and design authentic learning experiences for students in the middle years. **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 significance of a syllabus document in terms of the role it plays in the development of school work programs and medium and short term planning
2. analyse curriculum documents
3. develop learning experiences in line with syllabus recommendations
4. demonstrate an understanding of the importance of using a variety of student-centred strategies and plan lessons which incorporate a variety of student-centred strategies
5. demonstrate an understanding of contemporary issues in middle schooling and the implications for teaching and learning in the middle years of schooling
6. demonstrate an understanding of the role of productive pedagogies
7. demonstrate the attributes of lifelong learning and promote lifelong learning to middle years students
8. demonstrate knowledge, understanding and application of correct communication skills including literacy, presentation and accurate referencing protocols.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	What is curriculum?	10.00
2.	Students in the middle years	10.00
3.	Outcomes-based education and syllabus familiarity	20.00
4.	Planning and assessment	20.00
5.	Teaching and learning strategies	30.00
6.	Factors impacting on middle years curriculum	10.00

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).

STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ACCESS RELEVANT QSA SYLLABUS DOCUMENTS AND THE PRODUCTIVE PEDAGOGIES MANUAL. Syllabus documents can be downloaded from: <http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/yrs1to10/index.html> or purchased for between \$10-\$15 from the Queensland Studies Authority. Order forms are available from: <http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/publications/frms/pubs-order.pdf> The Productive Pedagogies Classroom Reflection Manual can be downloaded from: http://education.qld.gov.au/public_media/reports/curriculum-framework/productive-pedagogies/pdfs/prodped.pdf

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.

Australian Curriculum Studies Association and National Schools Network (Australia) 1998, *Integrated curriculum classroom materials for the middle years*, Australian Curriculum Studies Association, Canberra.

(in association with the National Schools Network)

Beamon, GW 2001, *Teaching with adolescent learning in mind*, Skylight Professional Development, Illinois.

Cormack, PJ, Cumming, J et al 1996, *From alienation to engagement: opportunities for reform in the middle years of schooling*, Australian Curriculum Studies Association, Belconnen, ACT.

Cumming, J & Australian Curriculum Studies Association 1998, *Extending reform in the middle years of schooling: challenges and responses*, Australian Curriculum Studies Association, Canberra.

Eggen, PD & Kauchak, DP 2006, *Strategies for teachers: teaching content and thinking skills*, 5th edn, Allyn & Bacon, Boston.

Lifter, M & Adams, M 1997, *Integrating technology into the curriculum: secondary*, Hawker Brownlow Education, Australia.

Pendegast, D & Bahr, N (eds) 2005, *Teaching middle years*, Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, NSW.

Smith, DL & Lovat, TJ 2003, *Curriculum: action on reflection*, 4th edn, Social Science Press, Tuggerah, NSW.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	50.00
Directed Study	12.00
Lectures	16.00
Private Study	65.00
Tutorials or Workshops	22.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	40.00	40.00	10 Apr 2006 (see note 1)
ASSIGNMENT 2	60.00	60.00	29 May 2006

NOTES

1. Assessment for Assignment 1 is ongoing. The examiner will advise the due dates for this assessment.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and 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:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 20% of the total marks available for the assignment may apply for each week late.
- 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 summative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 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:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period. There will be no assignment resubmissions offered 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 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.
- 2 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of request being made by the examiner. The student must retain this copy until the grade for this course has been finalised.
- 3 In accordance with the University's assignment extension policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 4 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media. The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile. Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are

otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.

- 5 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study.
- 6 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete - Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 7 When there is more than one marker for a single item of assessment, the distributed patterns and means for the different markers will be compared and marks adjusted if necessary.
- 8 Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.
- 9 All assessment items must be submitted with a pass overall gained.
- 10 Summative assessment items will receive a numerical score. Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course.
 - 2 Students are to use a recognised referencing system as specified by the examiner.
 - 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:
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