



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

<b>Description: UNIPREP Applied Communication - Level A</b>						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
UNP	7381	54892	2, 2006	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	INTOF
<b>Academic org:</b>	INT002
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	2
<b>ASCED code:</b>	010199

### STAFFING

Examiner: Robyn Pigozzo

Moderator: Lyndal Wood

### RATIONALE

Students entering into Psychology, Education, Nursing and Arts need to apply their communication skills and to think critically in order to participate in lectures and tutorials and to successfully complete assessment tasks. Students also need to be numerate and have a basic understanding of functional relationships and classification of data if they are to operate successfully at the tertiary level. This course is designed to allow students to: practice using both academic English and academic numeracy in the macro skills of reading, writing listening and speaking; develop confidence and reduce anxiety in both academic English and numeracy; develop critical thinking through in a variety of problem solving sessions.

### SYNOPSIS

The course consists of a series of group oriented problem solving sessions where students practice reading, writing, listening, speaking and academic numeracy skills. Students will submit reports, worksheets and learning logs designed around the degree students wish to enter.

### OBJECTIVES

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

1. organise and present information in a variety of forms (such as oral, written, symbolic, pictorial and graphical);
2. select and use appropriate problem solving or mathematical procedures in a range of situations;
3. demonstrate an understanding of selected academic numeracy topics essential for tertiary study;
4. demonstrate an ability to select and use appropriate technology such as calculators and computers with selected software;
5. communicate quantitative terms and symbols accurately and appropriately.

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Interpreting and writing about charts, tables and graphs (Weeks 2, 10)	17.00
2.	Introduction to report writing in practice (Week 3)	8.00
3.	Reading and writing about quantitative information (Weeks 4,5,6,9)	33.00
4.	Critical thinking (interpreting and solving logic problems - Weeks 1, 8)	17.00
5.	Everyday statistics and probability (language of probability and statistics, data collection, classification, interpretation and display - Weeks 7,11,12)	25.00

## 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 are expected to have a scientific calculator.

Galligan, L et al 2005, *Applied Communication: problem solving and critical thinking*, USQ, Toowoomba.

## 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.

USQ 2001, *Mathematics Communication Level A Book 1*,

USQ 2001, *Mathematics Communication Level A/B Book 2*,

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	39.00
Directed Study	52.00
Private Study	80.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
TEST	40.00	20.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 1)
LOGS (7)	12.00	10.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 2)
WORKSHEETS (9)	100.00	40.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 3)
ASSIGN 1 ST. PROBLEM	20.00	6.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 4)
ASSIGN 2 - REPORT	24.00	12.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 5)
ASSIGN 3 - STOCKMARKET	30.00	12.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 6)

### NOTES

1. Due end of term.
2. Due during the term as required by the teacher.
3. Due during the term as required by the teacher.
4. Due according to individual schedule.
5. Due by week 9.
6. Due by week 11.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
Students are required to attend at least 80% of the mathematics communication group work sessions and ensure their attendance is registered with the staff member in charge of the activity. It is the students' responsibility to study all course material to pass the mathematics competency tests. Students need to attend module sessions to complete competency tests and seek support as necessary.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To satisfactorily complete an assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. Students do not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to be awarded a passing grade in this course. Refer to statement 4 below for the requirements to receive a passing grade in this course. All assignment items must be received prior to the start of the examination period for the semester in which the course is offered. Students may be required to re-submit an assessment piece that is unsatisfactory.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without an approved extension of time then a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for the assignments may apply for each day 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 attempt all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% in the final test, logs and worksheets, 50% in the weighted marks in Group A and at least 50% of the of the total weighted marks available for the course. Students who do not qualify for a Passing grade may, at the discretion of the Examiner, be assigned additional work to demonstrate to the Examiner

that they have achieved the required standard. It is expected that such students have gained at least 40% 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:  
Examinations in this course are restricted examinations. In a Restricted Examination, candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials the candidates can use in the Restricted Examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); calculators which cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the make and model of any calculator (s) they use during the examination); 1 A4 page of hand written or typed notes (written on both sides).
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any Deferred or Supplementary examination will be held within four weeks following the examinaion period by arrangement with the examiner
- 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 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the Examiner. In accordance with the University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Part A is predominantly a self-paced course. Students work sequentially through the modules they are required to master at their own pace, completing this part of the work by the end of the term. Mastery of a module is demonstrated by the student taking appropriate tests before proceeding with study of another module. Mastery of Modules 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B can be shown by listening to a tape based on these modules and completing a revision test. Students not completing this test satisfactorily will be required to complete the appropriate module tests.
  - 2 Part B consists of different activities each week. Students must participate actively in the group work of the problem solving sessions. Students also must submit written work as required.
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