



## The University of Southern Queensland

### Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.  
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

#### Description: Ethical Issues and Human Rights

| Subject | Cat-nbr | Class | Term    | Mode | Units | Campus    |
|---------|---------|-------|---------|------|-------|-----------|
| CDS     | 2000    | 75283 | 1, 2008 | EXT  | 1.00  | Toowoomba |

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| <b>Academic group:</b>            | FOART  |
| <b>Academic org:</b>              | FOA003 |
| <b>Student contribution band:</b> | 1      |
| <b>ASCED code:</b>                | 090515 |

#### STAFFING

Examiner: Ian Richards

#### SYNOPSIS

This course is designed to introduce students to the main ethical, human rights, social justice and professional issues and responsibilities that are integral to work in human services.

#### OBJECTIVES

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

1. Define the major philosophical approaches to ethics;
2. Reflect on the ethical basis for their own and society's values and attitudes to a variety of contemporary ethical issues;
3. Defend a rights-based approach in human services;
4. Give examples of human rights issues in contemporary Australia;
5. Describe the efficacy and limitations of various legislative provisions for rights;
6. Define social justice;
7. Identify the key factors that shape contemporary understanding of social justice in Australia;
8. Critically analyse instances of inequality and marginalisation in Australian society;
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the application of professional ethics in human services;
10. Demonstrate oral and written skills in the analysis and discussion of ethical issues and human rights.

#### TOPICS

|    | Description                           | Weighting (%) |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Ethical frameworks and issues         | 25.00         |
| 2. | Human rights                          | 25.00         |
| 3. | Social Justice                        | 25.00         |
| 4. | Professional ethics in human services | 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).

Charlesworth, R 2002, *Writing in rights*, UNSW Press, Sydney.

## **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.

Attwood, B 2003, *Rights for aborigines*, Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, NSW.

Bailey, P 1993, *Bringing human rights to life*, The Federation Press, Sydney.

Bailey, P H 1990, *Human Rights: Australia in an international context*, Butterworths, Sydney, NSW.

Billington, R 2003, *Living Philosophy: an introduction to moral thought*, 3rd edn, Routledge, London.

Corey, G & Corey, M & Callanan, P 2007, *Issues and ethics in the helping profession*, 7th edn, Brooke/Cole, Pacific Grove.

Flynn, M 2003, *Human rights in Australia: treaties, statutes and cases*, LexisNexis Butterworths, Chatswood, NSW.

Galtung, Johan 1994, *Human Rights in another key*, Polity Press, Cambridge, MA.

Hayter, T 2000, *Open borders: the case against immigration controls*, 2nd edn, Pluto Press, London.

Jacobsen, M & Bruun, O (eds.) 2000, *Human rights and Asian values*, Curzon, Richmond, NSW.

Kymlicka, W (ed.) 1995, *The rights of minority cultures*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

O'Neill, N & Handley, R 2004, *Retreat from injustice: human rights in Australian law*, 2nd edn, The Federation Press, Sydney.

Reichert, E 2006, *Understanding human rights*, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Singer, P 1999, *Practical ethics*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

## **STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

| ACTIVITY       | HOURS  |
|----------------|--------|
| Directed Study | 39.00  |
| Private Study  | 126.00 |

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

| Description             | Marks out of | Wtg (%) | Due date                    |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| ESSAY                   | 100.00       | 30.00   | 28 Apr 2008<br>(see note 1) |
| MEDIA JOURNAL           | 100.00       | 20.00   | 19 May 2008<br>(see note 2) |
| DISCUSSION CONTRIBUTION | 100.00       | 20.00   | 13 Jun 2008<br>(see note 3) |
| CASE STUDY              | 100.00       | 30.00   | 16 Jun 2008<br>(see note 4) |

### NOTES

1. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10.
2. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 6, 7, 8 and 10.
3. Discussion contribution is assessed on participation in Study Desk discussions. This assessment is aligned with all Objectives.
4. This assessment item is aligned with Objectives 2, 3, 9 and 10.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's 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 successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, a student must 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 aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by 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>

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must either submit online or despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. Online submission must be no later than 5.00 pm on the due date. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with 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 such as documented ill-health. (d) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (e) 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. (f) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). 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. (g) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the 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).