



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: Professional Experience 8

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ECP	4002	79007	2, 2008	EXT	0.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOEDU
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOE004
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	National Priority Teaching
<b>ASCED code:</b>	070103

### STAFFING

Moderator: Karen Noble

### REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: ECP3001 and ECP3002 and students must be enrolled in the program BEEC or BECH and have completed or currently enrolled in ECE3003 and ECE4010

### OTHER REQUISITES

State law in Queensland (Australia) requires that all adults working/undertaking professional experience/researching with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland are required to possess a current suitability card (Blue Card). (See "Other Requirements" for further information.) Also see: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html>.

### RATIONALE

Early childhood education draws on a range of educational and care services that work together to support the well-being of children and their families. It is important that students appreciate the network of services that are available in the community and to understand the ways in which these services can complement the work of early childhood educators. An understanding of the need for interagency co-operation in the educare of children is expected in these times when children and their families have high expectation of teachers and carers. Teachers must have the skills and knowledge to work with those outside the traditional education contexts and to appreciate the complexities and contributions of their work. Teachers must also be aware of the variety of education and care contexts from which children may come, into their classrooms.

### SYNOPSIS

In light of the diversity of early childhood settings, this non supervised experience will explore individual and group management in learning environments. Accessing appropriate resources (including human, material and web-based) and the development of community partnerships and the development of community partnerships will be highlighted. The ideals of early childhood philosophy and pedagogy will be practised in order to effectuate professional decision making in organising a creative learning environment, developing assessment tools and curriculum design.

Using knowledge related to policy change, legal and ethical requirements, leadership and management issues, students will further develop professional and organisation roles and responsibilities.

## OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item(s) that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective are shown in parenthesis. On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. examine the social and political contexts of education and related services (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
2. document interactions with education and related professionals in their workplaces (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
3. examine a variety of contexts of education, care and related professional activity not normally associated with formal classroom teaching (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
4. demonstrate independent interaction in a professional context (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
5. develop an emerging understanding of the complexity of educational/care sites and the holistic nature of the educative experience (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
6. Demonstrate competence in written language and scholarly writing including correct spelling, grammar and bibliographic referencing (professional experience; and professional experience folder)

## TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Professional experience	100.00

## 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).

2008, *Course Booklet Professional Context Experience ECP4002, 2008, USQ, Toowoomba, USQ, Toowoomba, Qld.*

Whether you are on, or off campus, the USQ Library is an excellent source of information <http://www.usq.edu.au/library/> . The gateway to education resources is here...  
<http://www.usq.edu.au/library/faculties/education/default.htm>

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## 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.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	16.00
Professional Experience	160.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	1.00	1.00	21 Jul 2008 (see note 1)
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE FOLDER	1.00	100.00	14 Nov 2008 (see note 2)

### NOTES

- (a) Professional Experience dates as per Professional Experience Timetable. A value of one (1) indicates students have passed the Professional Experience component. Zero (0) indicates they have not passed the Professional Experience component. The weighting of 1% is used for administrative purposes only and is NOT included in the overall weighting for this course. (b) The Course Examiner to advise the due dates for both assessment items.
- (a) Professional Experience Folder is due immediately following Professional Experience completion date. A value of one (1) indicates that students have passed the Professional Experience Folder. Zero (0) indicates they have not passed the Professional Experience Folder. (b) Results for this course will not be released until Professional Experience has been successfully completed, the Folder assessed and all documentation processed.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- Attendance requirements:  
Students must complete 20 days of Professional Experience to pass this course and as partial fulfilment of the Board of Teacher Registration and the Department of Communities' requirements for registration. Any day missed must be made up.
- Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks.
- Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit required assignments late without the approval of the Examiner, they can expect to be given a Fail grade for the course.
- 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 and must satisfactorily complete the sector-based professional experience.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
As P is the only passing grade available for this course, all students who are qualified for a passing grade will be given a grade of P. Other students will be given either a Failing grade or an Incomplete grade.
  - 6 Examination information:  
There is no examination for this course.
  - 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
As there are no examinations in this course, there will be no deferred or supplementary examinations.
  - 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 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area the due date for the assignment will be the next working day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience.
- 6 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.
- 7 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).

- 8 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.
- 9 Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.
- 10 As P is the only passing grade available for this course summative assessment items will receive a grade of P, F or IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up). Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.

## **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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