



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 Study

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	5660	84266	3, 2008	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOEDU
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOE003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	National Priority Teaching
<b>ASCED code:</b>	070303

### STAFFING

Examiner: Marian Lewis  
Moderator: Dorothy Andrews

### 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

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 as a supervised independent study. This means that students working with a member of the academic staff are able to negotiate a course of study appropriate to their particular learning needs and interests. This course will operate on the basis of frequent individual consultation and feedback between the student and the staff member nominated as the study supervisor. Before enrolling in the course, students are advised to discuss the nature, processes and anticipated outcomes of the proposed study topic or activity with a Faculty member, who might act as their study supervisor.

### 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. demonstrate the ability to locate, access, summarise and critically evaluate established theories and other credible information relevant to specialised topic, issue or workplace challenge. (Final Report)
2. demonstrate the ability to interpret and synthesise such theories and information and / or reflect on their application to professional practices. (Final Report)
3. demonstrate an ability to communicate their interpretation and reflection in a form suitable for dissemination to their professional peers. (Final Report)
4. demonstrate competence in written language and scholarly writing including correct spelling, grammar, and bibliographic referencing.

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Proposal	20.00
2.	Completed project	80.00

## 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.

Reference materials will vary depending on the nature of the project. Supervisors may provide students with a reference list and will assist them in developing their own lists.

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://use.edu.au/library/faculties/education/default.htm>

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	45.00
Private Study	120.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
A1.PROPOSAL	20.00	20.00	05 Dec 2008
A2.FINAL REPORT	80.00	80.00	30 Jan 2009

## 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:**  
If students submit assignments after the due date without (prior) approval of the examiner then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded. No assignments will be accepted after model answers have been posted.
- 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 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>.

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 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.**
- 2 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must dispatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the dispatch date, if requested by the Examiner.**
- 3 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the Examiner. The student must retain this copy until the grade for this course has been finalised.**

- 4 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 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, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. The following temporary grades may be awarded: IDM (Incomplete 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 All assessment items will receive a mark.

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course.
  - 2 **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
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