



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: Evaluating Innovative Educational Programs

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	8602	84084	3, 2008	WEB	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: Kaye Cleary  
Moderator: Patrick Danaher

### 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

Increasing demands for quality systems and accountability have made it essential that all persons involved in education be knowledgeable about and competent in the effective use of evaluation approaches, procedures and techniques as they might be applied to educational programs, particularly those adopting innovative approaches. This course serves this purpose.

### SYNOPSIS

This course introduces learners to the theory and practices of educational program evaluation. They will be required to understand the concept of education evaluation and related concepts such as assessment and research, understand about different approaches to and models of educational evaluation, be aware of ethical issues in the process of evaluation, understand the concepts of validity and reliability, select and justify appropriate data gathering devices and data analysis strategies for the conduct of evaluations, and understand the special case of evaluation of innovative educational programs. NOTES: 1. This course (FET8602) is available through INTERNET DELIVERY ONLY. There are NO print materials for this course. 2. For details of the technical requirements and accessing Internet study materials, please consult the following URL: <http://usqconnect.usq.edu.au> 3. Students enrolling in this course are required to have first-hand knowledge of and access to an actual instructional situation.

## 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 successful completion of this course students will be able to effectively evaluate educational innovations. To carry out such evaluations students will be able to:

1. define the concept of educational evaluation and distinguish it from related concepts (Assignment 2)
2. develop an appropriate approach and model for conducting educational evaluations and the special case of evaluations adopting innovative approaches (Assignments 1 and 3)
3. understand the concepts of validity, reliability and analogous qualitative criteria and how they apply to evaluation (Assignments 2 and 3)
4. understand the principles behind the construction of instruments appropriate for collecting data necessary for an evaluation (Assignment 2)
5. understand the principles behind data analysis in the context of both qualitative and quantitative evaluations (Assignment 2)
6. construct an educational evaluation proposal relating to the evaluation of an educational innovation. (Assignment 3)
7. Demonstrate competence in written language and scholarly writing including correct spelling, grammar, and bibliographic referencing. (Assignment 3)

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Defining education evaluation	10.00
2.	Construct an educational evaluation proposal relating to the evaluation of an educational innovation	30.00
3.	Ethics in evaluation	10.00
4.	Validity, reliability and analogous qualitative criteria	20.00
5.	Data collection and analysis	20.00
6.	Report writing	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).

Fitzpatrick, JL, Sanders, JR & Worthen, BR 2003, *Program evaluation: alternative approaches and practical guidelines*, 3rd edn, Allyn & Bacon,

## 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.

All recommended reference materials are referred to in the Online materials.

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 in here .  
<http://www.usq.edu.au/library/faculties/education/default.htm>

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	60.00
Directed Study	75.00
Private Study	30.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	20.00	20.00	20 Dec 2008 (see note 1)
ASSIGNMENT 2	30.00	30.00	17 Jan 2009 (see note 2)
ASSIGNMENT 3	50.00	50.00	07 Feb 2009 (see note 3)

### NOTES

1. Assignment 1 due end of week 5.
2. Assignment 2 due end of week9
3. Assignment 3 due end of week 12.

## 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 satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course.)
- 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> or in the current USQ Handbook.

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 1 NB: Successful completion of this course requires experience in educational setting/s.
- 2 Detailed criteria to be used in marking contributions in assessment item 2 will be provided in the course materials. These will be based on frequency of contribution, range of types of contribution, responses to contributions of others and linking of contributions to course content.

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students enrolling in WEB courses MUST have ongoing convenient and reliable access to the Internet in order to access course materials and participate in activities that will affect assessment. The levels of equipment required may change from time to time, with the most recent specification listed at <http://www.usq.edu.au/currentstudents/computingstandards/default.htm>. You can check whether your computer system meets these requirements from USQAssist (<http://usqassist.usq.edu.au/>).
- 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 practical experience outside the state of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.