



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: Virtual Conference - Contemporary Education Issues

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
FET	8662	84202	3, 2008	WEB	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE003
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070303

STAFFING

Examiner: Kathryn Young
Moderator: Agli Zavros

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

Graduates from a masters program should possess advanced knowledge and skills in an area of specialisation, be able to apply those capabilities independently to solve significant professional problems and be able to engage effectively in related professional discourse. Conferences are a common means by which professionals engage in discourse through which knowledge is shared and extended. Opportunities to learn and practise the skills and conventions associated with professional conferences can contribute to the capabilities of graduates.

SYNOPSIS

Students will prepare a proposal for a paper to be delivered in an online conference and participate in anonymous peer review of submitted proposals. Using reviews for guidance, students will complete their papers, present them online and engage in discussion of their own and other papers before preparing a final version of their paper for inclusion in the proceedings of the conference. Notes: 1. This course (FET8662) 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>.

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. articulate a question or an issue appropriate for investigation through a review of published material in their area of specialization; (Proposal, Paper)
2. locate and identify published material relevant to the area of specialization; (Proposal, Paper)
3. prepare a paper, reviewing published material, which addresses a question or issue in a manner suitable for submission to a professional conference; (Paper)
4. comment constructively on the academic work of peers; (Peer Review, Conference Contribution)
5. present and moderate discussion of their paper in an online conference; (Final Paper, Conference Contribution)
6. contribute appropriately to academic discussion in the context of an online conference; (Peer Review, Conference Contribution)
7. participate in a professional conference with appropriate observance of relevant conventions.
8. Demonstrate competence in and appropriate use of language and literacy, including spelling, grammar, punctuation and bibliographic referencing.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Identifying and selecting issues for conference presentations.	10.00
2. Practices and conventions appropriate to professional conferences.	15.00
3. Responding to the work of peers.	25.00
4. Preparing for and participating in a professional conference.	50.00

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 texts for 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.

All recommended reference materials are referred to in the WEB 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	40.00
Directed Study	20.00
Online Discussion Groups	40.00
Report Writing	10.00
Research and Preparation	50.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ABSTRACT (600-800 WORDS)	20.00	20.00	10 Dec 2008
PEER REVIEWS (500 WORDS)	20.00	20.00	31 Dec 2008 (see note 1)
FINAL PAPER (3000 WORDS)	60.00	60.00	30 Jan 2009

NOTES

1. PEER REVIEWS: two (2) reports each approximately 250 words

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 available.
- 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 aggregate of the weighted 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 is no examination 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 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 In accordance with University Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 3 The Faculty will accept assessments that have been word processed and posted onto course assessment link.
- 4 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 5 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.
- 6 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 day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 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 Students may be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes. Such copies should be dispatched to the USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request to do so.
- 9 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.
- 10 Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.
- 11 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.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.

- 2 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/>).
 - 3 Students are to use a recognised referencing system as specified by the Course Examiner.
 - 4 Working with Children: If you are undertaking practical experience outside the state of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements pertaining to working with children. If you are working in Queensland, 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. If working in Queensland, 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>.
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