



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: Government, Business and Society

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
POL	1000	74138	1, 2008	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOBUS
Academic org:	FOB008
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	090101

STAFFING

Moderator: Geoff Cockfield

OTHER REQUISITES

Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to USQConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>

SYNOPSIS

This course examines the dynamic and changing nature of business-government relations within society in Australia, Asia and other countries and is of direct relevance to students in business, commerce and management. Key issues and trends covered include privatisation, deregulation, globalisation, government business enterprises, government assistance and regulation, corporate lobbying, corruption, ethical considerations, business's social responsibilities, industry policy and economic performance.

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 is/are shown in parentheses after each objective. On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. understand what politics is, and the importance of politics to business (Assignment 1, Examination)
2. describe and understand the different ways government and business interact in Australia and comparatively (Assignment 1, Examination)
3. understand the nature of the relationship between business, government and society (Assignment 1, Examination)
4. identify the major mechanisms and institutions involved in government business relations and explain their role and impact (Assignment 2, Examination)
5. analyse government-business relations in terms of existing theoretical concepts about the role of the state (Assignment 2, Examination)

6. evaluate the contemporary challenges in relation to government, business and society (Assignment 2, Examination)
7. the development of academic research and critical thinking skills (Assignment 2)
8. the identification and development of good academic writing skills (Assignment 2).

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. What is politics and why is it important for business?	15.00
2. The role of society in government business relations	17.50
3. The role of business in government business relations	22.50
4. The role of government in government business relations	22.50
5. Key challenges for government business relations	22.50

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).

Ryan, N, Parker, R & Brown, K 2003, *Government, business and society*, 2nd edn, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest, New South Wales.

(Students MUST purchase the 2003 edition)

Summers, J & Smith, B 2006, *Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication*, 2nd edn, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

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.

See sources referred to within the Study Book for this course.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	50.00
Directed Study	80.00
Private Study	30.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	100.00	20.00	28 Mar 2008
ASSIGNMENT 2	100.00	40.00	21 May 2008
2 HOUR EXAMINATION	100.00	40.00	END S1 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
If you are an international student in Australia, you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. For all other students, 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.
- 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:
This is a closed examination. Candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination room.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Student Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene university regulations. These regulations can be found at

<http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Policies and Procedures which can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) 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. (ii) Students **MUST** retain a copy of each assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) The examiner may request an electronic copy of an assignment. If required, this **MUST** be produced within 24 hours. (iv) The examiner **MAY** grant an extension of the due date of an assignment. Such applications should be in writing and include supporting documentary evidence. The authority for granting extensions rests with the relevant examiner. (v) The examiner will normally only accept assessments that have been typed or printed on paper-based media. (vi) The examiner will not accept submission of assignments by facsimile. (vii) 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 to negotiate such special arrangements. (viii) 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.
- 2 Course weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks to questions testing those topics in an examination paper.
- 3 Assignments: Students must demonstrate effective essay writing techniques, including correct in-text referencing and bibliographical details, using the Harvard system. Assignments **MUST COMPLY** with the guidelines set out in the 'Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication'.
- 4 Deferred work: 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).