



## 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: Issues in Organisational Communication

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
PRL	1004	78860	2, 2008	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	100700

#### STAFFING

Examiner: Chris Kossen  
Moderator: Aidan Burke

#### SYNOPSIS

This course provides students preparing to enter professional contexts with conceptual frameworks for understanding and analysing the practices that shape the structure of communication in organizations. Students will also develop a range of practical and conceptual skills for the strategic management of organisational communication including the areas of organisational culture and communicative climate. This course will also examine the ways in which communicative processes can be used to facilitate strategic planning and policy development for organisations.

#### OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. articulate an understanding of conceptual frameworks used to examine and analyse organisational culture and communication;
2. apply organisational communication structures and processes;
3. evaluate and justify a range of theoretical frameworks used to examine and analyse organisational culture and communication;
4. apply a range of practical and conceptual skills for the strategic management of organisational communication, culture and communicative climate;
5. demonstrate knowledge on a range of ways in which communicative processes can be used to facilitate strategic planning and policy development for organisations;
6. evaluate a range of organisational communication management approaches and strategies.

#### TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Conceptual frameworks and perspectives on organisational culture and communication.	15.00

2.	Organisational communication theory and the analysis of organisational communication structures and processes.	15.00
3.	Critical evaluation of organisational communication theories.	15.00
4.	Management approaches to organisational culture and communication structures.	20.00
5.	Communicative processes and strategy in strategic planning and policy development for organisations.	20.00
6.	Evaluating organisational communication management approaches and strategies.	15.00

### **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).

Daniels, T Spiker, B & Papa, M 1997, *Perspectives on organizational communication*, 4th edn, McGraw Hill Higher Education, Boston.  
(ISBN 0-697-28896X)

### **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.

Dwyer, J 2005, *Communication in business: strategies and skills*, 3rd edn, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest, NSW.

Harris, T 2002, *Applied organizational communication: principles and pragmatics for future practice*, 2nd edn, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Mahwah, NJ.

(( Also available online via library catalogue))

Nutting, H & Cielens, M & Strachan, J 1996, *The business of communicating*, 3rd edn, McGraw-Hill, Sydney.

Pace, R & Faules, D 1994, *Organizational communication*, 3rd edn, Prentice Hall Inc, Englewood Cliffs.

Rasberry, RW & Lemoine, LF 1994, *Effective managerial communication*, 2nd edn, Wadsworth, Belmont.

Spangle, M & Moorhead, J 1997, *Interpersonal communication in organizational settings: communication skills for business*, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, Iowa.

Starkey, K 2004, *How organizations learn: managing the search for knowledge*, 2nd edn, Routledge, London.

Waddell, D, Cummings, TG & Worley, CG 2000, *Organisation development and change*, 2nd edn, Nelson Thomson Learning, South Melbourne.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	76.00
Private Study	65.00
Tutorials	24.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
TUTE PRESENTATION	100.00	20.00	21 Jul 2008 (see note 1)
ASSIGNMENT JOURNAL	100.00	20.00	27 Oct 2008 (see note 2)
APPLIED THEORY PROJECT 3000 WD	100.00	60.00	03 Nov 2008 (see note 3)

### NOTES

1. TUTORIAL PRESENTATION DATE WILL BE ADVISED AT BEGINNING OF SEMESTER. This assessment item relates to Objectives 2, 3, and 5
2. This assessment item relates to Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.
3. This assessment item relates to Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
It is the student's responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and 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. For this course, normal class attendance consists of one 1 hour lecture and one 2 hour tutorial per week.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 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 (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

- 6 Examination information:  
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.
- 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**

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. (c) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (d) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (e) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). 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. (f) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the 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).

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this information.)
- 2 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.
- 3 Students will require access to email and have internet access to USQConnect for this course.