



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: Communication Processes

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
UNP	7320	84006	3, 2008	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	ELEPC
Academic org:	ELEPC
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100705

STAFFING

Examiner: Barbara Harmes

OTHER REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Completion of Senior High School or Post Secondary Diploma or degree or equivalent or work experience in the country of origin. English language proficiency equivalent to IELTS Band 5.5.

RATIONALE

Since 1988 a need has been recognised nationally and within this University for communication skills prior to degree entry. The Preparatory Studies program of CLLT focuses on strategies basic to independent assignment writing habits. International students, whose learning strategies have previously been acquired in languages other than English, need to adapt their previous knowledge to the range of performance strategies in communication skills expected by higher education institutions in Australia.

SYNOPSIS

In the course students analyse an assignment question and follow a series of steps towards completing a report and an essay. Note making from texts, scripts and video develop reading and listening skills. Comprehensible communication of a theme in academic english is required by the course.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate technical skills associated with written communication for academic purposes (Assignment 2, Test);
2. develop and organise ideas and write an essay using an expository style (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Assignment 3, Assignment 5, Assignment 6, Test);
3. prepare a stylistically appropriate report (Assignment 4, Test);

4. employ styles of communication as appropriate for the demands of the audience and purpose of the writing (Assignment 5, Test).

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Essay structure	5.00
2.	Understanding assignment topic	5.00
3.	Developing research methods, reading strategies and listening skills	25.00
4.	Main points and sequencing ideas	15.00
5.	Paragraph structure	20.00
6.	Writing in style: essay and report	30.00

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).

Communication Processes Study Book, Introductory Book and Selected Readings
UNP7320 study package available from USQ bookshop.

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.

The Study Book contains a list of recommended reference materials.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	65.00
Private Study	70.00
Test	2.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGN 1 QUESTION ANALYSIS	20.00	5.00	21 Nov 2008
ASSIGN 2 RESEARCH	30.00	10.00	12 Dec 2008
ASSIGN 3 ESSAY PLAN	20.00	5.00	02 Jan 2009
ASSIGN 4 PARAGRAPHS	20.00	5.00	16 Jan 2009
ASSIGN 5 REPORT	50.00	5.00	23 Jan 2009
ASSIGN 6 ESSAY	100.00	10.00	06 Feb 2009
TEST 2 HRS	100.00	60.00	13 Feb 2009

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:**

Students are required to attend at least 80% of the scheduled class sessions and ensure their attendance is registered with the staff member in charge of the activity. An exception to this attendance level may be made by the university where the student can produce documentary evidence that clearly demonstrates compassionate and compelling circumstances. In this case attendance of at least 70% of the scheduled class sessions will be acceptable. It is the students' responsibility to access information regarding 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. All assignment items must be received prior to the start of the examination period for the semester in which the course is offered. Students may be required to resubmit an assignment that is unsatisfactory.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:**

If students submit assignments after the due date without an approved extension of time then a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for the assignments will apply for each day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:**

To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must attempt all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% on the examination and at least 50 % of the total weighted marks for the summative assessment items. Students who do not qualify for a Passing grade may, at the discretion of the Examiner, be assigned additional work to demonstrate to the Examiner that they have achieved the required standard. It is expected that such students have gained at least 40% of the total 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:**

The examination in this course is a Closed Examination. Candidates are allowed to bring only writing instruments into the examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:**

Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held within four weeks following the examination period by arrangement with 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

- 1 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the Examiner. In accordance with the 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.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students must score a B grade to be eligible for a recommendation of direct entry to an undergraduate degree.
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