



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: Professional Experience 2

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ECP	1002	91577	2, 2009	WEB	0.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE004
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070101

STAFFING

Examiner: Karen Noble
Moderator: Alice Brown

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

This course will enable students to explore play as a vehicle for learning in child care settings. This course enables students to investigate ways in which different types of play can be vehicles to support child development. Students will have opportunities to create motivating and challenging play environments as well as exploring the impact of the human, temporal and physical environment on a child's development.

SYNOPSIS

Play is considered one of the most important vehicles of learning for young children. Play is intrinsically motivating and in itself, it is through play that all areas of development are fostered. An increased awareness and understanding of contextual factors and child responsive practices will support children in this most critical time of learning. Students undertaking this course are required to complete 10 days of professional experience in an approved educational setting.

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. identify some of the social, economic, political, and educational trends that impact on an early childhood service (professional experience; and professional experience folder)

2. discuss regulations, accreditation and curriculum documents as they relate to the learning environment in early childhood settings (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
3. organise and modify responsive early childhood learning environments (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
4. observe and interpret experiences for young children based on play as a vehicle for learning (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
5. actively engage in a diverse range of topics and issues which require reflective practice (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
6. apply the tools of child study in an integrated way to facilitate understanding of the whole child and her/his particular needs for development (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
7. work on literacy practices within the early childhood context (professional experience; and professional experience folder)
8. Demonstrate competence in and appropriate use of language and literacy, including spelling, grammar, punctuation and bibliographic referencing. [professional experience; and professional experience folder]

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Professional experience	100.00

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).

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.

Arthur, L, et al 2005, *Programming and planning in early childhood settings*, 3rd edn, Thomson, South Melbourne.

Fleer, M, & Richardson, C 2004, *Observing and planning in early childhood settings: using a sociocultural approach*, Early Childhood Association, Watson, ACT.

Gordon, A & Browne, K 2004, *Beginnings and beyond*, 6th edn, Thomson/Delmar Learning, Clifton Park, NY.

Greenman, J & Stonehouse, A 2007, *Prime times: a handbook for excellence in infant and toddler care*, Addison Wesley Longman, South Melbourne, VIC.

National Childcare Accreditation Council (Australia) 2001, *Quality improvement and accreditation system source book*, National Childcare Accreditation Council Inc, Surry Hills, NSW.

Van Hoorn, J, Nourot, P, Scales, B & Alward, K 2003, *Play at the centre of the curriculum*, 3rd edn, Merrill, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	16.00
Professional Experience	80.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	1.00	1.00	20 Jul 2009 (see note 1)
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE FOLDER	1.00	100.00	20 Jul 2009 (see note 2)

NOTES

1. Professional Experience dates as per Professional Experience timetable. A value of one (1) indicates you have passed Professional Experience. A value of zero (0) indicates you have not passed Professional Experience. The weighting of 1% is used for administrative purposes only and is NOT included in the overall weighting for this course.
2. (a) Professional Experience folder is due immediately following Professional Experience completion date. A value of one (1) indicates you have passed the Professional Experience folder. A value of zero (0) indicates you have not passed the Professional Experience folder. (b) Assessment items due end of semester.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
Students must complete 10 days of Professional Experience to pass this course and as partial fulfilment of the Board of Teacher Registration/Department of Communities requirements for registration. Any day missed must be made up.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete Professional Experience satisfactorily, students must complete the required hours as organised by the Professional Experience Unit and obtain a satisfactory standard on the Professional Experience Summative Assessment Form thus gaining the 1 mark for Professional Experience. The Professional Experience Folder must receive a Pass (P) and must be presented in a professional manner with correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension of time, University penalties may be applied.
- 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 and must satisfactorily complete the sector-based professional experience.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:

As P is the only passing grade available for this course, all students who are qualified for a passing grade as in 4 above, will be given a grade of P. Other students will be given either a Failing grade or an Incomplete grade.

- 6 Examination information:
There is no examination for 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 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 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of request being made by the examiner. The student must retain this copy until the grade for this course has been finalised.
- 3 In accordance with the University's assignment extension policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 4 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media. The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile. 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.
- 5 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 working day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience.
- 6 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.
- 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 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.
- 9 Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.

10 As P is the only passing grade available for this course assessment items will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Results for this course will not be released until Professional Experience has been successfully completed, the Folder assessed and all documentation processed.
 - 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.
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