



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: Solid and Liquid Waste Treatment

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ENV	5205	86368	1, 2009	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOENS
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOES03
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	2
<b>ASCED code:</b>	039901

## STAFFING

Examiner: Vasanthadevi Aravinthan  
Moderator: Mark Porter

## RATIONALE

The effective treatment and disposal of solid and liquid wastes is the responsibility of the local authority engineer in many communities. The primary responsibility in any waste treatment system is to ensure that community health is not endangered, but increasing concern is also being shown that the environment should not be unnecessarily harmed, and that the systems employed are cost effective.

## SYNOPSIS

This course revises and builds upon basic principles of solid and liquid waste treatment introduced in undergraduate civil engineering studies. The course aims to develop a reasonable postgraduate level of expertise, principally in the areas of solid waste treatment methodology, and the design of wastewater treatment facilities.

## 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 should be able to:

1. demonstrate the processes involved in the collection, storage, management and disposal of solid wastes (Exam);
2. describe wastewater characterisation (Exam);
3. discuss the principles and sanitary processes involved in wastewater treatment (Exam);
4. analyse problems in wastewater treatment and design the components of wastewater treatment systems (Assignment 1, Assignment 2, Exam).

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Wastewater Characterisation	10.00
	1.1. Sources of wastewater.	
	1.2. Physical.	
	1.3. Chemical and biological characteristics.	
2.	Wastewater Treatment	30.00
	2.1. Conventional processes.	
	2.2. Theory of sedimentation.	
	2.3. Kinetics of activated sludge.	
	2.4. Biological nutrient removal.	
	2.5. Disinfection processes.	
3.	Sludge Treatment and Disposal	10.00
	3.1. Anaerobic and aerobic digestion.	
	3.2. Disposal.	
4.	Characteristics of Solid Wastes	10.00
	4.1. Development of solid waste management.	
	4.2. Nature and composition.	
	4.3. Waste generation.	
5.	Recycling, Reuse and Waste Minimisation	10.00
	5.1. Waste management hierarchy.	
	5.2. Separation and storage at source.	
6.	Collection Techniques	15.00
	6.1. Transfer stations.	
	6.2. Handling and collection systems and operations.	
7.	Solid Waste Disposal Techniques	15.00
	7.1. Waste transformation through composting.	
	7.2. Combustion.	
	7.3. Controlled landfill and processes within landfill.	

## 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).

A hand-held battery-operated calculator.

## 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.

Hartley, KJ 1985, *Operating the activated sludge process*, Gutteridge Haskins & Davey Pty Ltd, McDougall, FR 2001, *Integrated solid waste management: a life cycle inventory*, 2nd edn, Blackwell Science, Malden, MA.

Metcalf & Eddy, Inc 2003, *Wastewater engineering: treatment, disposal and reuse*, 4th edn, McGraw Hill, Boston.

Qasim, SR 1999, *Wastewater treatment plants planning, design and operation*, 2nd edn, Technomic Publishing Company, Lancaster, PA.

Tchobanoqlous, G, Theisen, H & Vigil, S 1993, *Integrated solid waste management*, McGraw Hill, New York.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	20.00
Directed Study	133.00
Examinations	2.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1	100.00	10.00	20 Apr 2009
ASSIGNMENT 2	100.00	10.00	18 May 2009
2 HOUR OPEN EXAMINATION	800.00	80.00	END S1 (see note 1)

### NOTES

1. Student Administration will advise students of the dates of their examinations during the semester.

## 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 assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. Students do not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to be awarded a passing grade in this course. Refer to Statement 4 below for the requirements 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 extenuating circumstances then a penalty of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late up to a maximum of ten 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 in a course a student must obtain at least 50% of the total weighted marks 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:  
In an Open Examination, candidates may have access to any material during the examination except the following: electronic communication devices, bulky materials, devices requiring mains power and material likely to disturb other students.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the examination period at the end of the semester of the next offering of 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 five days if required by the Examiner.
- 3 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.
- 4 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 5 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.

- 6 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.
- 7 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.
- 8 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 one of the temporary grades: IM (Incomplete - Make up), IS (Incomplete - Supplementary Examination) or ISM (Incomplete -Supplementary Examination and Make up). A temporary 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.
- 9 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).

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students will require access to e-mail and internet access to USQConnect for this course.
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