



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 1

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
GPE	1001	87512	1, 2009	EXT	0.00	Toowoomba

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

STAFFING

Examiner: Karen Noble
Moderator: David Cleaver

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in the following Program: GDEC

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

In creating, implementing and maintaining appropriate programs for young children, professionals require a thorough understanding of the complexity of early childhood issues as well as an excellent understanding of a range of teaching strategies and resources. Early childhood educators must be well informed in order to offer quality programs for young children that enhance their learning and well-being. Educators and parents play an important part as role models by supporting and guiding the development of positive attitudes in the early years and creating imaginative and challenging environments for learning. With increasing technology and availability of information it is also essential for early childhood educators to have the necessary skills to make appropriate choices and informed decisions to develop children's thinking skills and abilities.

SYNOPSIS

This professional experience challenges students to explore a range of physical activities as a basis for enhancing children's development. Students will also examine the importance of developing children's, curiosity, problem solving skills and sense of wonder, emerging literacy and numeracy and physical skills. Students undertaking this course are required to complete 30 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 successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. identify and create a range of safe physical environments for young children (Professional folder)
2. collate examples of the centres operations (Professional folder)
3. demonstrate an ability to select experiences and activities suited to children's development (Professional folder)
4. demonstrate how to listen effectively and respond to children's questions (Professional folder)
5. select, organise and present suitable materials for young children (Professional folder)
6. reflect on the value of hands-on experiences for children (Professional folder)
7. write clearly, grammatically correctly and with accurate spelling and punctuation. (Professional 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).

2008, GPE1001 Professional experience 1 booklet, USQ, Toowoomba

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.

Whether you are on, or off campus, the USQ Library is an excellent source of information

<http://www.usq.edu.au/library/> . The gateway to education resources is here...

<http://www.usq.edu.au/library/faculties/education/default.htm>

Arthur, L, Beecher, B, Death, E, Dockett, S & Farmer, S 2005, *Programming and planning in early childhood setting*, 3rd edn, Nelson, Australia.

Trawick-Smtih, J 2006, *Early childhood development: a multicultural perspective*, 4th edn, Pearson Education, New Jersey.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	20.00
Professional Experience	80.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE FOLDER	1.00	100.00	02 Mar 2009 (see note 1)
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	1.00	1.00	02 Mar 2009 (see note 2)

NOTES

1. APA style is the referencing system required in this course. Students should use APA style in their assignments to format details of the information sources they have cited in their work. The USQ library provides advice on how to format information sources using this system. http://www.usq.edu.au/library/help/ehelp/ref_guides/apastyle/default.htm
The examiner to advise the due dates for all assessment items. Professional Experience folder is due immediately following Professional Experience completion date. Students, 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.
2. Professional Experience dates as per Professional Experience timetable. Students, a value of one (1) indicates you have passed the Professional Experience component. A value of zero (0) indicates you have not passed the Professional Experience component. The weighting of 1% is used for administrative purposes only and is NOT included in the overall weighting for this course.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
Students must complete 30 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 Pass (1) and must be presented in a professional manner with correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar. To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit required assignments late without the approval of the Examiner, they can expect to be given a Fail grade for the course.
- 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 summative assessment items will receive a grade of P, F or IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up). Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Professional Experience folder is due immediately following Professional Experience completion date. Students, 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.
 - 2 Professional Experience dates as per Professional Experience timetable. Students, a value of one (1) indicates you have passed the Professional Experience component. A value of zero (0) indicates you have not passed the Professional Experience component.
 - 3 Results for this course will not be released until Professional Experience has been successfully completed, the Folder assessed and all documentation processed.
 - 4 **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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