



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: Special Study in History

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
HIS	3000	90501	2, 2009	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	090305

## STAFFING

Examiner: Robert Mason  
Moderator: Libby Connors

## REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: 4 units of History

## SYNOPSIS

This course will enable students to enhance and diversify their historical studies by undertaking a specialised study in an area of interest to the student, subject to the agreement of an appropriate supervisor. Students will be required to submit a research essay of 6000-7000 words which demonstrates advanced skills in research, analysis, synthesis, writing, bibliography and documentation using both primary and secondary sources. Students taking this course in external mode should contact a history staff member, before the start of the semester.

## OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate:

1. a knowledge of the major events, themes, and historiography of their chosen area of study;
2. an ability to comprehend specialist literature, analyse problems, and present rational arguments in written forms;
3. an awareness of historical research methodology;
4. advanced level academic and professional literacy skills through a mastery of bibliographic and documentation techniques in the History discipline.
5. advanced level written communication skills appropriate to the discipline by preparing and submitting a history essay.
6. advanced level management, planning and organisation skills by scoping, planning and using feedback at different stages of a research project.
7. intermediate level ethical research and enquiry skills by scoping a research project, finding appropriate sources and adhering to academic norms of integrity.
8. intermediate level creativity, initiative and enterprise skills by scoping their own research topic and framing their own hypothesis for research.

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Identifying a Research Topic	20.00
2.	Framing a Hypothesis	20.00
3.	Bibliographic Research	20.00
4.	Documentation	20.00
5.	Writing Papers	20.00

## 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.

Australian Government Publishing Service 2002, *Style manual for authors, editors and printers*, 6th edn, Wiley, Australia.

Barzun, J & Graff, HF 2004, *The modern researcher*, 6th edn, Wadsworth/Thomson, Belmont, CA.

Shafer, RJ 1980, *A guide to historical method*, 3rd edn, Wadsworth, Belmont.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Lectures	4.00
Private Study	161.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
RESEARCH PROPOSAL	100.00	5.00	07 Aug 2009 (see note 1)
ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHIC FILE	100.00	5.00	21 Aug 2009 (see note 2)
BIBLIOGRAPHIC ESSAY	100.00	15.00	04 Sep 2009 (see note 3)
ESSAY PLAN (ONE PAGE)	0.00	0.00	04 Sep 2009 (see note 4)
FIRST DRAFT (6-7000 WORDS)	100.00	35.00	09 Oct 2009 (see note 5)
FINAL DRAFT (6-7000 WORDS)	100.00	35.00	06 Nov 2009 (see note 6)
ABSTRACT (150-200 WORDS)	100.00	5.00	06 Nov 2009 (see note 7)

### NOTES

1. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.
2. This assessment is aligned with Objective 5.
3. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.
4. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.
5. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.
6. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.
7. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2 and 3.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's 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 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 aggregate of the weighted marks / 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>

## **ASSESSMENT NOTES**

- 9 (a) 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. (b) 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. (c) 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. (d) 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. (e) 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. (f) 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. (g) 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).
- 10 Students are strongly advised to maintain regular contact with their supervisor.
- 11 Students will require access to email and have internet access to UConnect for this course.

## **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Students are strongly advised to maintain regular contact with their supervisor.
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