



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: Services Marketing

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
MKT	2012	94023	6, 2009	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOBUS
Academic org:	FOB004
Student contribution band:	3A
ASCED code:	080599

STAFFING

Examiner: Anne-Marie Sassenberg
Moderator: Dawn Birch

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: MKT1001

OTHER REQUISITES

Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to UConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/ict/students/standards/default.htm>.

RATIONALE

Service industries are rapidly emerging as the most dominant force in most world economies, including Australia. Services now account for some 70%-80% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of industrialised countries, about half of the GDP of middle-income countries and close to one-third of the value-added generated in low-income countries. Understanding the distinctive characteristics of services is equally applicable to organisations whose core product is service (eg, banks, transportation companies, hotels, hospitals, professional services etc.) and to organisations that depend on service excellence for competitive advantage (eg, high technology, manufacturers and industrial products, etc.). This course aims to provide an understanding of the theory and practices in the development and execution of service marketing strategies (both consumer and business-to-business services).

SYNOPSIS

The theme of the course is that services (both commercial and not-for-profit) possess several unique characteristics that require a distinctive approach to marketing strategy - both in its development and execution. This is not to imply that the approach is unique, but rather distinctive. Therefore we build upon and expand the marketing concepts and models, and then adapt them to the services sector. We use marketing to examine how to improve service quality, increase and maintain customer satisfaction levels, generate customer loyalty, and create a healthy service

culture within the firm. In services we discuss the 7 Ps of the 'Services Marketing Mix' (the traditional 4 Ps plus people, processes, and physical evidence). Since many services have a strong people or employee component (the fifth "p" of the marketing mix), time is devoted to examining successful internal marketing and relationship management, in addition to the more traditional customer-focused external marketing.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students should be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of services marketing theories, concepts and practices and apply these to real-world services marketing organisations
2. perform a comprehensive analysis of any service marketing situation and justify recommendations for managerial action in the contemporary business environment
3. demonstrate effective written communication skills required of a marketing professional
4. demonstrate information literacy by accessing relevant information for completing assessment items and correctly reference sources of information using the Harvard referencing style (AGPS)
5. present material in correct written report format as outlined in the Communication skills handbook
6. demonstrate problem solving and decision making through the application of the case analysis process to solve a services marketing case
7. demonstrate an ability to work as part of a team.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Distinctive aspects of services marketing	8.00
2.	Customer involvement and customer behaviour in service settings	10.00
3.	Customer satisfaction and service quality	8.00
4.	Handling customer complaints and service recovery	8.00
5.	Managing customer relationships	8.00
6.	Target marketing and positioning	8.00
7.	Developing service product, service delivery and servicescape strategies	10.00
8.	Managing capacity and demand	8.00
9.	Managing people in the service setting	8.00
10.	Understanding costs and developing pricing strategies	8.00
11.	Communicating and promoting services	8.00
12.	Managing the customer service function	8.00

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).

Lovelock, C, Patterson, P & Walker, R 2007, *Services marketing, an Asia Pacific and Australian perspective*, 4th edn, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest, New South Wales.

Summers, J & Smith, B 2006, *Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication*, 2nd edn, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

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.

Bruhn, M & Georgi, D 2006, *Services marketing: managing the service value chain*, Prentice Hall Financial Times, Harlow, England.

Fisk, R, Gountas, S, Hume, M, Gountas, J, Grove, S & John, J 2007, *Services marketing: first Asia-Pacific edition*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

Hoffman, KD & Bateson, JEG 2006, *Services marketing: concepts, strategies, and cases*, 3rd edn, Thomson South Western, Mason, Ohio.

Lovelock, C & Wirtz, J 2007, *Services marketing: people, technology, strategy*, 6th edn, Pearson Education, Australia.

(Pearson international edn)

McColl-Kennedy, JR (ed) 2003, *Services marketing: a managerial approach*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessments	50.00
Directed Study	70.00
Private Study	40.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date	Objectives assessed	Graduate skill	Level assessed
WRITTEN REPORT	100.00	20.00	21 Oct 2009	1, 2, 3, 4, 5		
CASE ANALYSIS TEMPLATES	100.00	30.00	18 Nov 2009	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
2-HOUR EXAMINATION	100.00	50.00	END S6 (see note 1)	1, 2, 3		

NOTES

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
If you are an international student in Australia, you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. For all other students, 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 individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item 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 prior approval of the examiner, then a penalty of 5% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment may apply for each working day late up to ten working days at which time a mark of zero may be recorded.
- 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 obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
This is a closed examination. Candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing 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 during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Student Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene

university regulations. These regulations can be found at <<http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Procedures which can be found at <<http://www.usq.edu.au/business/aboutfob.htm>>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. Students must provide proof of postage on the due date with their assignment. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the examiner. (iii) The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. Applications for extensions should be in writing and must include supporting documentary evidence. Extensions are only granted in unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances. The examiner shall consider all documentary evidence (including statement from a doctor, employer, counsellor or independent member of the community as appropriate) accompanying an application for extension and decide on the outcome. Length of extensions: Up to one week's extension (five working days) may be granted if a signed statement with supporting documentation is sent with the assignment, proving that an unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstance caused the delay, for example unusual and unpredictable work or family commitments. If the signed statement and supporting documentation does not show that unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances were present for the days claimed, then the normal reduction in marks for a late assignment of 5% per working day will apply. (iv) Extensions beyond one week are not allowed unless express permission is obtained from the examiner. Extensions beyond one week are only granted in extreme circumstance because model answers may be distributed after this time. If you are likely to require an extension for a longer period than one week, you must contact the examiner for advice. In most cases, you will be required to complete an alternative make-up assignment. However, make-up assignments are only granted if you have passed all other pieces of assessment for the course. Medical extensions: In the case of an application for extension for medical reasons, the documentation should include a statement from a doctor stating: the date the medical condition began or changed; how the condition affected the student's ability to study; when it became apparent that the student could not submit the assignment. As a rule, you will be granted an extension for the number of working days covered on a medical certificate. In the case of a medical extension, you do not need to contact the examiner unless you require an extension of longer than one week. Extensions for family/personal reasons: In the case of an application for extension for family/personal reasons, the documentation should include a statement from a doctor, counsellor or independent member of the community stating: the date the student's personal circumstances began or changed; how the circumstances affected the student's ability to complete the assignment; when it became apparent that the student could not complete the assignment. In the case of an extension for family/personal reasons you must contact the examiner before the due date to discuss the reason for the extension and to negotiate the length of an extension if granted. Extensions for employment-related reasons: In the case of an application for extension for employment-related reasons, the documentation should include a statement from the student's employer stating: the date the student's employment began or the conditions of employment changed; how this prevents the student from completing the assignment. In the case of an extension for employment-related reasons you must contact the examiner before the due date to discuss the reason for the extension and to negotiate the length of an extension if granted.
- 2 Text books: Please note that it is the responsibility of the student to acquire a copy of the text book as soon as their enrolment in the course has been confirmed. Extensions will

not be granted on the basis of the student not having a copy of the text, if the text is available from the USQ Bookshop.

- 3 Course weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper.
- 4 Word count in assignments: Students must put the 'word count' for their assignment on the front page of the assignment. The word count is the number of words in the body of the assignment report and does not include the title, executive summary, list of references or appendices. To grade an assignment a marker does not need to read more words than the word limit of the assignment.
- 5 Referencing in assignments: Harvard (AGPS) is the referencing system required in this course. Students should use Harvard (AGPS) style in their assignments to format details of the information sources they have cited in their work. The Harvard (AGPS) style to be used is defined by the USQ Library's referencing guide at <http://www.usq.edu.au/library/help/referencing/default.htm>.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Computer, e-mail and Internet access: Students are required to have access to a personal computer, e-mail capabilities and Internet access to UConnect. Current details of computer requirements can be found at <http://www.usq.edu.au/ict/students/standards/default.htm>.
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