Description: Families, Children and Change

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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>2, 2002</td>
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Academic Group: FOEDU
Academic Org: FOE004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 070101

STAFFING
Examiner: Shirley O’Neill
Moderator: Heather Conroy

RATIONALE
Families are diverse in form and structure and are continuously changing in response to dynamic social, cultural, technological, and economic conditions. This presents a perennial challenge to early childhood practitioners who are cognisant of the crucial roles played by families and significant others in the lives of children and vice versa. It is imperative that those involved in the care and education of children and young people make use of current thinking and new knowledge relevant to family and child studies in order to create programs that are responsive to these ever-changing contexts.

SYNOPSIS
This course examines families and children from an historical, cross-cultural, attitudinal and contemporary perspective. It is grounded in the social construction of concepts such as childhoods, gender, ethnicity, parenting, families and institutions. It affirms a variety of family forms and households, emphasises the diversity of family life and questions the value placed on children, by engaging with current demographic and sociological literature related to family and child studies. Students will examine and critically analyse the changing roles of families, children and communities, reflecting on the implications of these changes on the education and care of young children, whilst drawing on cross-cultural comparisons.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- engage with social constructions of childhoods, parenting, families, gender, ethnicity, children and institutions in Australia and other cross-cultural contexts.
- analyse the role of families, children and communities in the care and education of young children in a range of contexts.
• understand the cultural, attitudinal and contemporary issues and influences facing families and young children.

TOPICS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Changing societal contexts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Changing families</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Changing image and attitudes relating to children and childhoods</td>
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<td>4. Implications for the future</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.


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.


Durrenberger, E.P 1996, *State Power and Culture in Thailand*, Yale University South East Asia Studies, New Have, CT.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>CRITICAL REFLECTION 1</td>
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<td>CRITICAL REFLECTION 2</td>
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OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. When there is more than one marker for a single item of assessment, the distribution patterns and means for the different markers will be compared and marks adjusted if necessary.
2. Marking criteria are provided in the course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.
3. Summative assessment items will be given a numerical score.
4. Course grades will be calculated by aggregating the weighted result or numerical score for each summative assessment item.
5. All assessment items must be submitted. All assessment items must be passed overall.
6. If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension of time, University penalties will apply. Assignment Extension Requests must be completed and submitted for approval.
Students will be directed to use the designated online discussion group for the course. Further details will be contained in study materials. Hence it is preferable for students to have access to USQConnect and other online facilities to undertake this course.