The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Land Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENV</td>
<td>2201</td>
<td>11119</td>
<td>1, 2002</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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Academic Group: FOENS
Academic Org: FOES03
HECS Band: 2
ASCED Code: 050999

STAFFING
Examiner: Xiandeng Hu
Moderator: Ernest Yoong

SYNOPSIS
Professionals in arts, science, engineering and surveying are increasing required to have a knowledge of physical land resources and natural resources management. This course provides an introduction to the physical land resources of geology, soils, landform, climate, vegetation and fauna, the principles of resource management and ecosystem operation and the major causes of land degradation. It also includes an introduction to the methods involved in undertaking a land resource surveys and land evaluations, and includes the processes and legislative requirements associated with environmental impact assessments.

OBJECTIVES
After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of:

- the principles of resource management.
- the inter-relationships between geology, geomorphology, water, soils, vegetation and fauna resources.
- the techniques commonly used to describe and assess the physical land resources.
- land degradation issues and conservation practices.
- the processes involved in undertaking land resource surveys and land evaluation practices.
- the requirements for environmental impact statements and the techniques involved in environmental impact assessment.
TOPICS

Description Weighting (%)
1. INTRODUCTION TO RESOURCE MANAGEMENT Introduction to the types of natural resources, goals for resource management, problems of resource degradation and criteria for resource use. 5.00
2. INTRODUCTORY ECOLOGY & ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT Introduction to ecological principles and systems. 10.00
3. INTRODUCTION TO THE PHYSICAL LAND RESOURCES Introduction to the processes and description of meteorology, climate, geology, geomorphology, landforms, soils, vegetation, water and fauna resources. 45.00
4. LAND DEGRADATION Overview of common land degradation issues and conservation practices. Erosion, salinity, sodicity, acidity. 10.00
5. LAND RESOURCE SURVEY AND EVALUATION Principles and methods of land resource survey. Land systems and land capability assessment. 10.00
6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT Introduction to environmental impact statements and processes of impact assessment. 20.00

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.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY HOURS
Assessment 54
Directed Study 98
Examinations 3
**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 1</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2002 (see note 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 2</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2002 (see note 2)</td>
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<td>3 HOUR CLOSED EXAMINATION</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>END S1 (see note 3)</td>
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**NOTES:**

1. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
2. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
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**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. In order to successfully complete the course, students must normally obtain, at least 45% in the examination component and 50% of the total marks for the course.
2. Higher grades will normally be awarded to students with higher aggregate marks and who have demonstrated a higher level of knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.
3. This is a Communication Bench Mark course and a major component of the assessment of this course will be associated with the demonstration of communication skills.
4. Students are to retain a verbatim copy of all assignment work submitted, for submission in the event that the original is lost or damaged. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner.
5. If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of up to 20% of the assignment total marks will apply for each working day late.
6. The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must submit the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the submit date, if requested by the Examiner.
7. 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.
8. The Faculty of Engineering and Surveying will NOT accept submission of hand written or typed assignments by facsimile, email or computer diskette. Students in remote locations who do not have regular access to postal services may be given special consideration.
9. 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 Course Leader's convenience.

10 A closed examination is an examination where the candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.

11 The Faculty of Engineering and Surveying does not offer supplementary examinations.

12 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.

13 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; IDSM (Incomplete Deferred Examination and Make-up).