Description: Professional Studies 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>NUR</td>
<td>5550</td>
<td>10483</td>
<td>1, 2002</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 060399

STAFFING
Examiner: Cathy Rogers-Clark
Moderator: Graeme Browne

RATIONALE
This Masters level course is designed to facilitate synthesis of knowledge from previous studies as the basis for addressing the learning needs of the student, through a learning contract.

SYNOPSIS
This course is based on a negotiated learning contract between students and the course leader. The learning contract requires that students draw on their previous learning and identify their current learning needs. The students, in consultation with the course leader will agree upon learning objectives, available resources, learning processes and methods of evaluation.

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

- develop a learning contract, which identifies own learning objectives, resources, learning processes and method/s of evaluation; and
- achieve a level of knowledge and skills as negotiated in the learning contract.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to course - overview of course</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Learning Contracts: - learning contracts, scope and rationale - elements of a learning contract - timeline, objectives, strategies &amp; resources, what is</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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</table>
to be assessed, criteria for assessment - role of adviser in negotiated learning contracts - establishing a relevant learning need upon which to base a learning contract.

3. Addressing the Learning Needs of the Student: The student, in consultation and negotiation with the assigned staff adviser will, commencing in approximately week 3, address their learning needs according to the learning contract.

**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.

As the learning needs of each student are unique and addressed through individual contracts, there is no set text for the course.

**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.


**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>LEARNING CONTRACT</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>29 Mar 2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LEARNING CONTRACT REPORT</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>24 Jun 2002</td>
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<td>(see note 2)</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.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Attendance Requirements: It is the students' responsibility to actively participate in all activities scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or
required to be accessed by them to maximize their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2 Minimum Requirements to Pass the Course: To be assured of a pass in this course, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.

3 Assignments: The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must dispatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the dispatch date, if requested by the examiner. Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the examiner. 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. This policy may be found in the USQ Handbook, the Distance Education Student Guide and the Faculty of Sciences' Orientation Handbook for on-campus students. All students are advised to study and follow the guidelines associated with this policy. An assignment, submitted after the due date without an extension approved by the examiner, will attract a penalty of 20 percent of the assigned mark for each day (or part thereof) that the assignment is late.

4 Grading: Final grades for students will be determined by the addition of the marks obtained in each assessment item, weighted as in the Assessment Details and by considering the student's level of achievement of the objectives of the course.

5 If students are anticipating enrolling in the research component of their Masters Program, they need to discuss this with the Program Coordinator to determine the most suitable enrollment pattern.