The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Communication, Technology and Policy

<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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<td>CMS</td>
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<td>21066</td>
<td>1, 2003</td>
<td>EXT</td>
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Academic Group: FOART
Academic Org: FOA004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 100700

STAFFING

Examiner: Julianne Stewart
Moderator: Karey Harrison

SYNOPSIS

Technological change has had major impacts upon the modes of transmission, processing and storage of information. This course explores the social and policy implications of developments in Australian (and international) telecommunications and broadcasting. Specific policy and technology themes and debates will be selected to illustrate the choices facing the information society. The course will also examine media discourses of communication technology.

OBJECTIVES

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

- place new communication technologies in social, cultural, economic and political contexts;
- understand the impact of new technology on government policy and planning;
- relate specific applications of information and communication technology to the range of policy institutions and actors;
- engage critically with media discourses of communication and information technology.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to Communication Technologies</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Concepts and Processes in Communication Policy</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Economic and Commercial Contexts</td>
<td>30.00</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.

Prometheus, (twice-yearly journal),
Communications Update,
ABAJ, Incorporating Cultural Policy, Media International Australia, (three-monthly journal).

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>165</td>
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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>ESSAY A OR ESSAY B*</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
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<td>NEWSFILE</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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NOTES:

* Students should do either Essay A or Essay B. Essay A is due 17/04/03 and Essay B is due 16/05/03

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Penalties for late submission of assignment: 10% per working day of the value of the marks on that assignment for the first 5 working days beyond which the assessment will be awarded a grade of zero. For further details on general assessment policy, see the section 'Essay Preparation' in your Introductory Book.

2. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the total mark for each assignment.

3. 60%-69% = Pass; 70%-79% = Credit; 80%-89% = Distinction and 90%-100% is a High Distinction. Students must obtain at least 60% to pass the course.