The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Environmental Education

<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>EDU</td>
<td>2441</td>
<td>20722</td>
<td>1, 2003</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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Academic Group: FOEDU
Academic Org: FOE002
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 070100

STAFFING
Examiner: Jerry Maroulis
Moderator: Jon Austin

RATIONALE
Children need to develop appropriate environmental attitudes, including a sense of respect and responsibility for the natural environment and our overall place in the complex web of life. Thus, early and appropriate environmental education is imperative if present potentially dangerous global trends of environmental deterioration are to be reversed. Teachers have a responsibility to contribute to the development of a knowledgeable, caring and skilled citizenry and in order to meet this responsibility they need to be educated about appropriate techniques, strategies and thematic approaches to the teaching of environmentally-based education and about the informative, but pervasive, effect of the media, especially visual modes of communication. These understandings need to be based on a solid grounding in environmental philosophies.

SYNOPSIS
In this course students will be introduced to ways of developing coherent environmental education curricula for schools, approaching controversial issues appropriately, making informed personal decisions about environmental matters and developing local environmental action projects. Through its principal themes, the course will aim to develop responsible attitudes and lifestyle choices, and a commitment to personal action for the environment through the development of a personal environmental ethic. The course is characterized by emphases on interdisciplinary processes, drawing upon various environmental philosophies, the use of experiential learning approaches, the exploration of values involved, and the development of active citizenship competencies and dispositions.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:
• demonstrate an awareness of the historical development of environmentalism both globally and in Australia;
• demonstrate an environmental literacy based on an understanding of the human-environment relationship including a personal commitment to the enhancement of environments;
• investigate the role of the popular media in environmental awareness;
• investigate the significance of sustainability in considering environmental futures;
• identify and analyse major environmental problems at various levels (local, state/national, international);
• demonstrate an understanding of the Queensland P-12 Environmental Education Curriculum Guide and Studies of Society and Environment Syllabus document;
• apply principles of active and informed citizenship to environmental education programs; and demonstrate the significance of education in empowering youth to transform current environmental practices.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Concepts of environment and environmental education; environmental ethics</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Progress and development and the role of technology and science in the environment</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Environmental issues (local, state/national, global)</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Curriculum issues and pedagogical approaches in environmental education</td>
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<td>5. Australian and global environmental politics; Media and the environment</td>
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<td>6. Action for the environment; Active and informed citizenship</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Social and environmental sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Personal and futures dimension</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.

(Only online from 1998)

Ecos, (333.720994P1).
(In print at USQ Toowoomba 1974 - 2002)

Journal of Environmental Education, (333.72P1).
(In print at USQ Toowoomba, 1993 - 2002)


(Toowoomba Only)


Papadakis, E. 1993, Politics and the Environment: The Australian experience, Allen & Unwin, St Leonards, NSW.
(Toowoomba Only)
(Toowoomba Only)


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>PROPOSAL PAPER</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>16 Apr 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAJOR ASSIGNMENT</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<td>05 Jun 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAMINATION (2 HOURS)</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>END S1</td>
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</table>

**NOTES:**

. Examination timetable will be available during semester.

**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 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. Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item. All assessment items must be submitted / attempted.

If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension of time, a penalty of 10% of the mark awarded by the examiner for the assessment item will apply for each working day late.