Description: Special Topics in Psychology

<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>PSY</td>
<td>3210</td>
<td>24523</td>
<td>2, 2003</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS005
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 090701

STAFFING
Examiner: Nola Passmore
Moderator: Gerry Tehan

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: USQ69100 or PSY1010

OTHER-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: A second pre-requisite will depend on the topic under study.

RATIONALE
Psychology is a very broad discipline, covering many topics and issues that are not directly addressed in the current course offerings. This course provides students with an opportunity to pursue special studies in such an area.

SYNOPSIS
This course provides students with an opportunity to pursue a topic of interest not covered in depth in other course offerings. These studies typically include coursework similar to that offered in other courses, though variations are possible. The topics will be chosen by staff members and the offering of the course will be subject to the availability of staff. The topics may change from semester to semester. A list of topics and supervisors will be available from the examiner prior to the commencement of each semester. In some semesters, there may be no topics on offer. Students must obtain approval from the examiner before enrolling in the course.

OBJECTIVES
General objectives to be met by all students undertaking this course. Students will demonstrate:
• wide knowledge of past research, theory and techniques relevant to the topic chosen;
• ability to evaluate, synthesize and integrate past research and theory in the topic area chosen;
• specific objectives will be developed for each student in consultation with the supervisor.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Topics will differ depending on the course of study. Supervisors will</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>distribute specific topics to their students.</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.

Texts or reading materials specific to the topic may be prescribed by the supervisor.

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.

Students will be directed to certain reference materials specific to their topic of study by their supervisor.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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>APPROVED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>31 Oct 2003</td>
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NOTES:

1. Refer to Important Assessment Information #9 for information about assessment details and due dates.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures and tutorials) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for the first day late and then a penalty of 5% for each additional week or part of a week late.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must submit all of the summative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the available weighted marks for those items. Students who do not qualify for a Passing grade may, at the discretion of the Examiner, be assigned additional work to demonstrate to the Examiner that they have achieved the required standard. It is expected that such students will have gained at least 45% of the total marks available for all summative assessment items.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
   There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/SECARIAT/calendar/Part5/ or in the printed version of the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 Assessment details will vary depending on the topic being studied. The assessment program will be determined by the Supervisor but will require the Examiner's approval. The Supervisor will advise the student and the Examiner of the assessment programme in writing by the end of Week 1 of the semester. This will include: (a) a description of the work to be undertaken by the student; (b) the assessment item(s), their weighting and due dates. The last day of the last teaching week in semester would usually be the latest day for submission of an assessment item unless prior approval had been granted by the Examiner. The following cut-offs will be used to determine grades in the course: 85% HD, 75% A, 65% B, 50% C. Students
obtaining less than 50% will fail the course. The availability of make-up work will be at the discretion of the supervisor in consultation with the examiner.

10 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.

11 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner.

12 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.

13 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.

14 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.

15 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.

16 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.

17 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. The following temporary grade may be awarded: IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up).