The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description: Independent Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic group:** FOART  
**Academic org:** FOA004  
**Student contribution band:**  
**ASCED code:** 120505

**STAFFING**
Examiner: Craig Burgess  
Moderator: Dianne Jones

**REQUISITES**
Pre-requisite: JRN2003 or JRN2005

**SYNOPSIS**
This course provides students with an opportunity to gain professional newsroom experience under the guidance of working journalists. Students fulfil a minimum of three internship placements with journalism and media organisations. Students must enrol in this course in semester 1, but may complete the requirements at any time in the year.

**OBJECTIVES**
On completion of this course students will have:

- the ability to apply knowledge and skills obtained in other journalism courses in several industrial environments, and;
- a level of professional expertise that would be sufficient to justify their employment as final-year journalism cadets.

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Provincial, weekly newspaper experience</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Metropolitan and/or broadcast experience</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:**
ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical Experience</td>
<td>160.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REPORT ONE</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>33.00</td>
<td>02 Mar 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPORT TWO</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>33.00</td>
<td>02 Mar 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPORT THREE</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>34.00</td>
<td>02 Mar 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES:
1. ALL REPORTS DUE ON OR BEFORE 16 JULY 2004.
2. ALL REPORTS DUE ON OR BEFORE 16 JULY 2004
3. ALL REPORTS DUE ON OR BEFORE 16 JULY 2004

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's responsibility 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 be assured of completing each assessment item satisfactorily a student must submit all of the items of summative assessment by the due date and achieve on
each the minimum specified standards outlined in 4 (Requirements for a pass in
the course).

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a
penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each
of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative
assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in
relation to the objectives of the course by obtaining at least 50% of the total
weighted marks for all summative assessment.

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 exam for this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course.
However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted
by a date set by the examiner.

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/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ
Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 (a) 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. (b) Students must retain a copy of
each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24
hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) 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 such as
documented ill-health. (d) Students who have undertaken all of the required
assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified
objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the
temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). 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. (e) Students
who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to
complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply
to defer an assessment in the 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); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Students must have passed all other compulsory journalism courses in the major to receive an ungraded pass for this course.
2 Correct English is essential in Journalism. Errors of spelling, grammar and punctuation will be penalised when assignments are marked. Severe deficiencies could mean failure in the course.