The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.
The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>CMS</td>
<td>1008</td>
<td>63306</td>
<td>1, 2007</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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Academic group: FOART
Academic org: FOA003
Student contribution band: National Priority Nursing
ASCED code: 060301

STAFFING
Examiner: Jill Lawrence
Moderator: Eleanor Kiernan

REQUISITES
Co-requisite: MAT1008 and (NUR1120 or NUR1140)

RATIONALE
First year students accessing and participating in the new university culture need to become familiar with, engage, master and demonstrate a range of new languages and literacies if they are to persevere and succeed, both at university and in their future professional nursing practices. These literacies/languages include mainstream university and discipline-specific learning, academic and information literacies. This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to help students access, master and demonstrate the learning, academic, critical and information literacies, principles and skills required by the academic and scientific fields generally and by the Department of Nursing in particular.

SYNOPSIS
This course presents an introduction to the learning styles and practices and information, communication and academic practices which students need to develop and demonstrate if they are to perform competently at university, in the nursing discipline and in future professional nursing settings. In the course, students reflect on and develop their learning styles and critical practices, their information literacy and academic and communication practices as well as their capacities to develop and structure academic and scientific arguments. Their capacities to identify and critically analyse as well as develop sound academic arguments are also covered. As well students will commence building their professional portfolio.

OBJECTIVES
On completion of this course students will be able to:
1. Identify, reflect on and build an online profile of their learning and study characteristics (All items of assessment)
2. Reflect on and fine tune their learning styles and study practices to academic and nursing requirements and settings; (All items of assessment)
3. Analyse academic and nursing tasks and develop, structure and edit logically argued and valid academic/scientific arguments using written communication; (All items of assessment)
4. Develop a professional portfolio; (All items of assessment)

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning styles/practices (instant on-line profile of students learning and study characteristics): General self-efficacy (10 items) Proactive attitudes (11 items) Proactive coping skills (11 items) Kolb's Learning Style (48 items) or Index of Learning Styles (44 items) Approaches to learning and preferences for different types of courses and teaching (74 items) Strategic flexibility questionnaire (21 items) Conceptions of knowledge (42 items) Personality (50 items) Use of communication technologies in studies (15 items) Study Process Questionnaire (42 items) Numeracy and computing inventories (Assessment item 3)</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information literacy: article selection review and critique</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written communication in academic and nursing contexts</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective and critical thinking, logic and argumentation</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional portfolios</td>
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</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).

There is no set text for this course. Students are required to have access to the course web site, which will contain all study materials.

**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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorials or Workshops</td>
<td>18.00</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTICLE REVIEW/CRITIQUE</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>13 Apr 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROPOSAL/DRAFT NUR1120,1140</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>04 May 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>25 May 2007</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>(see note 3)</td>
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</table>

**NOTES**

1. This assessment item relates to Objectives 2, 3 & 4.
2. This assessment item relates to Objectives 2, 3 & 4.
3. This assessment item relates to all of the Objectives.

**IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the student’s responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) 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. For this course, normal class attendance consists of one 2 hour tutorial every 2 weeks.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.

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 aggregate of the weighted marks / 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

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments on the Toowoomba campus must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. Assignments at the Wide Bay campus must be lodged at the front office assignment slot at A block. (c) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner’s convenience. (d) 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. (e) 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. (f) 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. (g)
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
derer 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).

10 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should
be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The
course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this
information.)

11 Students will require access to email, internet, and to USQ Connect for this course

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Students who have successfully completed the Excell intercultural program will be granted
an extra 5 marks.

2 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should
be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The
course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this
information.)