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 <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>. Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Honours Dissertation A

<table>
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<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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENL</td>
<td>4005</td>
<td>62808</td>
<td>1, 2007</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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</table>

Academic group: FOART
Academic org: FOA003
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 091523

STAFFING

Examiner: Chris Lee
Moderator: Brian Musgrove

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in Program: BAHN

SYNOPSIS

This 2 unit course enables students enrolled in the Honours programme to commence their dissertation under supervision. The dissertation shall consist of a 12,000-15,000 word assignment on a topic chosen by the student and approved by the supervisor, and may be either the result of original investigation, or embody a critical appraisal or analysis of primary or secondary source material. This course will normally be followed by ENL4006 Honours Dissertation B.

OBJECTIVES

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

1. develop a research proposal, including defining a topic, developing a research design, incorporating an annotated bibliography and justifying a methodology;
2. undertake independent research, under supervision, on a proposed topic;
3. review the literature relevant to a selected dissertation topic;
4. develop an annotated bibliography into a full literature review;
5. apply and justify methodology appropriate to a research topic.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Proposal</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Literature Review</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3. Methodology

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>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>317.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervisor Consultation</td>
<td>13.00</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tr>
<td>INITIAL PROPOSAL</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>16 Mar 2007 (see note 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL</td>
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<td>05 Apr 2007 (see note 2)</td>
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<td>DETAILED PROPOSAL</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>18 May 2007 (see note 3)</td>
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NOTES

1. An initial proposal must be received and a supervisor allocated before students are confirmed into the honours dissertation course. Students successfully completing this course will normally be awarded the result of IIP and proceed to ENL4006 Honours Dissertation B. This assessment is aligned with Objective 2.

2. Preliminary Proposal and Literature Review. Students who obtain an unsatisfactory progress report at this stage may be advised against proceeding further. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 2, 3, 4 and 5.

3. Detailed Proposal and Draft Methodology. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

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:
See Note 5

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit Dissertations/Projects after the due date without prior approval or
documented medical circumstances, then a fail grade 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 meet the requirements of designated
examiners.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade for Part 1 of a
Dissertation/Project (where IIP is a possible grade) - If the research proposal and any
possible ethics application are approved and the student's progress report is deemed
satisfactory by the student's supervisor and the course examiner, the student will be awarded
an interim grade of IIP, indicating satisfactory performance in the course. When the
Dissertation/Project has been assessed in its entirety, the grade of IIP will be changed to
the final grade.

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 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) 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. (e) 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. (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 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).

10 Students are strongly advised to maintain regular contact with their supervisor.

11 It is imperative that Dissertation/Project students check with their supervisor(s) whether
they need to obtain ethics clearance for their Dissertation/Project.

12 Final results shall be awarded by the Honours and Postgraduate Committee of the relevant
department following receipt of the completed examiners' reports.

13 The dissertation shall be typed and bound and shall conform with the Faculty of Arts style
guide for the presentation of theses and dissertations.

14 Assessment of the dissertation normally shall be carried out by two qualified examiners,
at least one of whom is external to the University of Southern Queensland, and none of
whom is supervising the student for this thesis.

15 It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all chapter drafts, as well as the final
draft of their dissertation, be written in an acceptable standard of English expression. If
students' initial work is not of an acceptable standard, students will be encouraged to use
the services of a copy-editor, or to seek assistance from a competent writer of English. It
is not the supervisor's principal role to correct English spelling, expression or grammar,
although appropriate advice will be given. Dissertations or drafts of chapters of dissertations
that are not expressed to a standard of English expression acceptable to the supervisor
will be referred back to the student for correction, and will not be submitted for examination
until corrected. Students who fail to address this aspect of their dissertation risk failing
the course. Any expenses incurred in having drafts checked by copy-editors will be met
by the student. Please also note that while copy-editing may be carried out by someone
who is not the student, all the substantial content of the dissertation must be the student's
own work.