Description: Masters Project II

Subject       Cat-nbr  Class  Term  Mode  Units  Campus
FET           8661     62956  1, 2007  EXT  2.00   Toowoomba

Academic group: FOEDU
Academic org: FOE003
Student contribution band: National Priority Teaching
ASCED code: 070303

STAFFING
Examiner: Kaye Cleary
Moderator: Marian Lewis

REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: FET8801 or FET8602 (or negotiated equivalent) and 4 units of Study

OTHER REQUISITES
State law in Queensland (Australia) requires that all adults working/undertaking professional experience/researching with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland are required to possess a current suitability card (Blue Card). (See "Other Requirements" for further information.)

RATIONALE
An important outcome of study at the Masters level is that learners should be able to plan and execute independent projects which consolidate and build upon and apply the capabilities developed through their program of study. A 'capstone' project undertaken at, or towards, the end of the program is a suitable instrument for demonstrating these capabilities. This course enables students to synthesise the knowledge and skills developed in earlier courses of their program, into an approved professional project focused on a key aspect of their areas of interest/specialisations.

SYNOPSIS
Learners will, with guidance from a member of Faculty staff, plan and execute an independent project which is clearly related to their overall program of study. This two-unit project is intended to meet the needs of learners who wish to include a research or evaluation component in their Masters program by providing a venue in which a research or evaluation project can be undertaken to apply and/or extend knowledge developed in their program of study. The project should lead to the preparation of a substantial written report presented at an appropriately scholarly standard. This report may be presented in the format of a research-based paper for publication in an approved academic or professional journal. Project reports must reflect mastery of the content of current
literature and of knowledge and skills developed by the learner in his/her prior program. This course will operate on the basis of frequent individual consultation and feedback between the student and the staff member nominated as the study supervisor. Before enrolling in the course, students are advised to discuss the nature, processes and anticipated outcomes of the proposed study topic or activity with a Faculty member who might act as study supervisor. NOTE: Before enrolling in the course, learners should have successfully completed a course in methods for research and/or evaluation or be able to demonstrate to the course examiner that they have otherwise acquired such knowledge and skills. Where possible, students should have discussed the proposed project with the Faculty member who would act as supervisor, PRIOR to submitting their project proposal for this course. NOTES: 1. This course (FET8661) is available through INTERNET DELIVERY ONLY. There are NO print materials for this course. 2. For details of the technical requirements and accessing Internet study materials, please consult the following URL: http://usqconnect.usq.edu.au.

OBJECTIVES

The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item(s) that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective are shown in parenthesis. On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. demonstrate the ability to plan an in-depth, independent academic investigation, research/evaluation project or other such scholarly activity focused on a research question, issue or topic of significance to the student's field of study in his/her Masters program (Project Proposal)
2. demonstrate the ability to implement, refine and monitor the implementation of that plan (Project Progress Report)
3. demonstrate the ability to report the outcomes of that investigation in the form of either a formal report or paper for publication, which reflects appropriate academic standards of scholarship and presentation. (Project Report)

TOPICS

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>The topic of the project will be developed in collaboration with an academic supervisor approved and appointed by the course examiner.</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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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).

Depending on the nature of the study to be completed students may be required to purchase reference material.
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.

Supervisors will assist learners in developing a reference list.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study or Negotiation</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>with Supervisor</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>290.00</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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<tr>
<td>PROJECT PROPOSAL</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>13 Nov 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Progress Report</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>13 Nov 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT REPORT</td>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>13 Nov 2006</td>
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</tbody>
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NOTES
1. Due date for submission of assessments to be negotiated individually with the course examiner and supervisor.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the student's responsibility to communicate regularly with the nominated supervisor at agreed intervals, to complete all tasks agreed as required for satisfactory completion of the study 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 achieve 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 negotiated due date without prior approval of the Examiner then a penalty of 20% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each working day 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 complete and submit all of the summative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.

5. Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The course examiner is responsible for the awarding of the final grade for this course. Final project reports/papers developed for FET8661 will be examined initially by the student's supervisor. The supervisor will make a recommendation of a grade to the course
examiner who will normally accept the recommended grade once all the requirements for the course are completed. Where the course examiner has any doubts about the appropriateness of the grade recommended by the supervisor, and these doubts cannot be resolved through negotiation with the supervisor, the project will be assessed by a second assessor nominated by the course examiner in consultation with the supervisor. The course examiner will then decide the grade, taking into account both assessments.

6 Examination information:
There is no formal 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/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of request being made by the examiner. The student must retain this copy until the grade for this course has been finalised.

2 Student workload requirements are as required for the completion of the study and as negotiated between student and supervisor in the early weeks of the course.

3 Marking criteria will depend upon the nature of individual projects.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course.

2 Students will require reliable, ongoing access to email and to the internet to be able to complete the requirements of this course.

3 IMPORTANT NOTE: Working with Children: State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland*, obtain approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc..) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card) before commencing any practical components of this course. DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 UNLESS YOU POSSESS A CURRENT 'BLUE CARD'. For further information: http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html. *If you are undertaking practical experience outside the state of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.