ECH 400

Individual Educational Project

S2 External 2014

Institute of Early Childhood

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Camilla Gordon camilla.gordon@mq.edu.au
Credit points 3
Prerequisites 39cp including (ECH218 or ECH228) or admission to GDipAdvStEc or GCertTeach(8-12)
Corequisites
Co-badged status ECH400 is co badged with ECH440
Unit description This unit enables students to undertake an independent study in a topic related to early childhood education. A list of approved topics may be obtained from the department prior to enrolment and topics may vary each semester. Students are required to complete a guided program of study related to their selected topic. Assessment may include a review of relevant literature and a paper examining specific issues.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

> Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
>
> Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
>
> Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Initial report	10%	week 2
First assignment	25%	week 5

Name	Weighting	Due
Second assignment	25%	week 7
Final assignment	40%	week 13

Initial report

Due: **week 2**
Weighting: **10%**

Contact your academic supervisor and agree on assignment details.
Submit a written record of the agreement to your academic supervisor so you are both clear on expectations for the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

First assignment

Due: **week 5**
Weighting: **25%**

Submit first assignment to your academic supervisor. This should be submitted via the unit iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Second assignment

Due: **week 7**
Weighting: **25%**

Submit second assignment to your academic supervisor. This should be submitted via the unit iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry

- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Final assignment

Due: **week 13**
Weighting: **40%**

Submit final assignment to your academic supervisor via the unit iLearn site

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Delivery and Resources
Learning in this unit

Some students enjoy the challenge of independent study, while others find it difficult to work to their own schedule without a weekly timetable provided in a unit outline, or a structure provided by recorded lectures. In ECH 440, you control your own learning and you should develop some personal strategies to make sure you remain focused on your study.

Unit Workbook

It is a good idea to maintain a Workbook as you work your way through your study. This is a personal record of your study, and entries may include responses to your reading, any quotes you would like to remember, new ideas or techniques you would like to try and questions for discussion with your tutor or other students. Weekly entries in your Workbook help maintain a steady focus on your study.

Readings

As there are no lectures, tutorials or on-campus sessions for this unit, your independent reading is a key component of your learning. The diversity of students' interests makes it impossible to cover the range of topics in a text or recommended readings. You must spend time searching for relevant information to complete your assignments. A wide range of original and creative thinking underlies the work you will complete for ECH 440, and a search of the literature is an important component of your study.

Unit Schedule

Individual education report develops over a period of 13 weeks.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Assessment tasks

- Initial report
- First assignment
- Second assignment
- Final assignment

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Assessment tasks

- Initial report

- First assignment
- Second assignment
- Final assignment

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Locate theoretical and research literature relevant to your choice of topic
- Demonstrate a depth of knowledge about the area of inquiry
- Identify the implications for the early childhood field

Assessment tasks

- Initial report
- First assignment
- Second assignment
- Final assignment