



ECH 400

Individual Educational Project

S1 External 2015

Institute of Early Childhood

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General Information

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| Unit convenor and teaching staff Catherine Patterson catherine.patterson@mq.edu.au |
| Credit points 3 |
| Prerequisites (39cp including (ECH218 or ECH228)) or admission to GDipAdvStEc or GCertTeach(8-12) |
| Corequisites 3cp from ECH or ECHE units at 300 level or above |
| Co-badged status |
| 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, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature
- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education
- Identify personal strengths in performance and learning
- Demonstrate a commitment towards improving professional performance and learning
- Integrate and synthesise prior knowledge and learning

General Assessment Information

Assignments may vary for students enrolled in particular programs.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Due |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| First assignment | 20% | 27 March |
| Second assignment | 35% | 1 May |
| Third assignment | 45% | 5 June |

First assignment

Due: **27 March**

Weighting: **20%**

An annotated bibliography of key readings

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature

Second assignment

Due: **1 May**

Weighting: **35%**

A synthesised review of relevant literature.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Locate, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature
- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education

Third assignment

Due: **5 June**

Weighting: **45%**

An analysis of implications of literature review

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education
- Identify personal strengths in performance and learning
- Demonstrate a commitment towards improving professional performance and learning
- Integrate and synthesise prior knowledge and learning

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 taped lectures. In ECH 400, you control your own learning and you should develop some personal strategies to make sure you remain focused on your study. Some strategies are listed below:

Learning journal

It is a good idea to maintain a learning journal as you progress through your study for this unit. 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 learning journal will 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 400, and a search of the literature is an important component of your study.

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/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

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

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to

handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education
- Identify personal strengths in performance and learning
- Demonstrate a commitment towards improving professional performance and learning

Assessment tasks

- Second assignment
- Third assignment

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify personal strengths in performance and learning
- Demonstrate a commitment towards improving professional performance and learning

Assessment task

- Third assignment

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, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature
- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education

- Integrate and synthesise prior knowledge and learning

Assessment tasks

- First assignment
- Second assignment
- Third 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, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature
- Demonstrate a depth of understanding of key aspects of early childhood education
- Integrate and synthesise prior knowledge and learning

Assessment tasks

- First assignment
- Second assignment
- Third 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 outcome

- Locate, evaluate and analyse relevant theoretical and research literature

Assessment tasks

- First assignment
- Second assignment